

Access Class 2011 European Championships

Site visit to Circolo Vela Gargnano – October 2010

Circolo Vela Gargnano, situated in Bogliaco on the western shore of Lake Garda in Italy, has lodged an expression of interest to host the 2011 European Access Class Championships from Monday 23 to Saturday 28 May next year.

While there is no existing Access Class Association in Italy, there has been significant growth in activity and interest generated with both the Federazione Italiana di Vela and Lega Navale since an Access Sailing distributor was appointed in December 2009. There are currently 3: Access 2.3, 5: Access 303, 3: Liberty and 1: SKUD 18 in Italy and it is anticipated that a further 1-2 SKUD 18 and 6-8 Access 303s will be delivered by early 2011.

It is hoped that hosting the European Championships will assist to expedite the establishment of a National Access Class Association within 12 months.

Schedule

Dates of other events that need to be considered include:

April 22-29 FRA – SOF ISAF World Cup (SKUDs) HYERES

May 14-15 POR – APCA Selection Trials (South Portugal)

May 23-28 ITA – Proposed European Championships at Circolo Vela Gargnano

June 5-11 GBR - Sail For Gold ISAF World Cup (SKUDs) WEYMOUTH

June 10-12 POR - Nationals (North Portugal)

June 11-12 GBR - Access Class UK National Championships Frensham Pond SC

June 24-26 FRA - Nationals in Moisson Lavacourt (training June 21- 23)

June 25 – July 4 GRE – Special Olympics World Games Sailing

July 1-8 GBR – IFDS Worlds (SKUDs) – WEYMOUTH

The CVG dates are targeted at avoiding the peak holiday season to ensure accommodation is more available and less expensive. Volunteers are also more readily available and the regular club racing program is quieter.

Organising Authority

CVG is affiliated with FIV and would form an Organising Committee with persons responsible for race management, onshore logistics, hospitality, and accommodation & transport. IACA VP Championships, Zoltan Pegan, would be included in all email correspondence. Eddie Linthout (the Access Sailing distributor) would act as the de-facto national class representative on the organising committee.

Event

It is proposed that competition include Access 2.3 single person, Access 303 single and two person, Liberty and SKUD 18 (sailed with two centreline seats). The single person and two person divisions would be grouped into two fleets with each sailing two races per day over 4 days. It is anticipated the event would attract 30-40 entries from 6-8 nations.

Proposed Schedule

Monday May 23 – Registration & Measurement

Tuesday May 24 - Registration, Measurement, Practice Race & Welcome

Wednesday May 25 - Racing

Thursday May 26 - Racing

Friday May 27 - Racing

Saturday May 28 – Racing & Presentations

Event Management

The club has an experienced group of Race Management Volunteers supported by professional staff who have conducted a large number of national and world championships along with the annual Centomiglia regatta. The club has sufficient Race Management Boats, Inflatable Safety Boats & Personnel. A group of approximately 20 CVG volunteers would ensure that 8-10 people were available as Shore Volunteers each day

Race Officials

The Principal Race Officer would be Carmelo Paroli (ITA, IRO) who was recently PRO for the IFDS Blind Match Racing World Championships. The club would provide a Protest Committee for the event with an experienced Chairman. An experienced local measurer is available to manage or assist with event equipment inspection and measurement.

Competition Boats

As the number of boats available for charter by non-Italian crews may be limited, it is hoped that the majority of competitors will provide their own boats. If necessary, approaches will be made to France, Hungary and the UK for additional boats. Loan / Charter arrangements will be coordinated by Eddie Linthout.

CVG propose clearing the dinghy park and ramp for use by the Access 2.3, 303 & Liberty classes during the regatta. A fixed pier 30-40cm above water level will be constructed on the southern side of the ramp, extending approximately 8 meters. A C-Crane will be mounted on the dock. Additional floating pontoons (not suitable for wheelchairs) will be added to provide additional places to tie up boats temporarily. It is worth noting that the water level in May will be approximately 45cm higher than in attached the photographs taken in October.

A number of options are available for the SKUD 18s which have a "wet" regatta. The Homerus harbour is approximately 500m from the club and can accommodate 5 SKUDs (would require installation of a C-Crane, pontoon and ramp to facilitate good access). The "old harbour" is about 300m from the club, has space for 2 SKUDs and is reasonably accessible. There is space for about 5 SKUDs alongside (and 10+ on European moorings) adjacent to the crane within the club marina. Final details of the SKUD docking arrangements are still to be finalised.

Competitor Amenity

The club will provide a Welcome / Information pack at registration, along with a lunch, food & beverage service. The upper and lower levels of the club are wheelchair accessible and the one wheelchair accessible toilet will be augmented by demountable accessible toilets. There are shower (not wheelchair accessible) & change facilities available.

Accommodation & Transport

Public transport to Gargnano is via bus from Brescia which is served by trains. The closest airports are Brescia, Verona, Bergamo & Milano. There are a range of low and medium cost accommodation facilities in Bogliaco, the village in which CVG is situated. There are several accessible rooms. There is a camping park within 1km of the club. A short distance away in Gargnano, Toscolano & Maderno there are a greater range of accommodation types and larger number of accessible rooms.

Social Program

The club will conduct a Welcome Function, Mid Event Social Activity and Presentation Function at a minimum.

Key Documents

The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions will be prepared in cooperation with the Class. It is aimed to have the NOR ready for publication in December providing confirmation of the event is forthcoming by the end of October.

Finance & Sponsorship

The Club will be seeking sponsorship for the event but has indicated entry fees would be €120 for single person classes and €200 for two person classes.

Summary

I believe that Circolo Vela Gargnano are capable and enthusiastic about conducting an excellent regatta and that holding the Class European Championships in Italy would provide a timely boost to the development of the class and establishment of a national association.

David Staley

October 12, 2010



CVG Staff & Volunteers with Eddie Linthout



CVG Café deck & marina



Training Room (Sail Measurement)



Jury Room



Accessible Bathroom



Bogliaco Town Square (& old harbour)



Dinghy Park



Dinghy Ramp



Homerus Harbour



Homerus Harbour



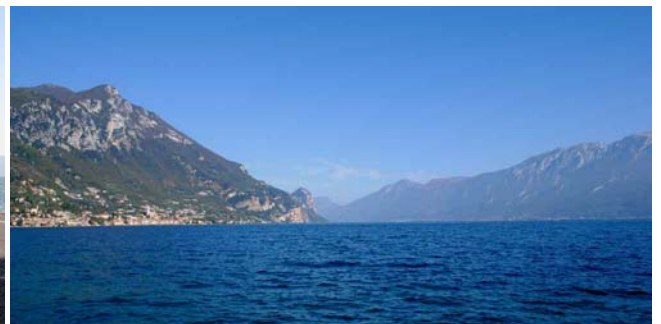
Old Harbour



Old Harbour



Club Marina (SKUD location?)



View from Dinghy Park