



National Training Programme Accreditation

Preamble

This report is written following the inspection visits carried out in Italy from 27th October to 1st November and from 29th November to 1st December 2013, where FIV headquarters in Genoa have been visited, as well Italian National Olympic Committee facilities in Roma, and various Sailing Clubs or Sailing Schools located in Loano and Cagliari.

I would first like to sincerely thank the following people for their dedicated time and care, making the task smooth and easy, as well I would like to sincerely thank FIV President Carlo Croce and whole FIV staff for the warm welcome received in Italy.

- Dr Alessandra Sensini, member of Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) Executive;
- Dr Rossana Ciuffetti, Direttore della Scuola dello Sport in Roma;
- FIV Vice President Dr. Francesco Ettore;
- Dr. Pietro Sanna, Presidente Comitato III Zona - Sardegna
- FIV Secretary General and board members;
- Elisa Crosta, Personal Assistant to Mr Walter Cavallucci;
- Simonetta Rovelli, FIV Secretary in charge of coaches;
- Paola Massone, FIV Secretary in charge of sailing schools;
- Alberto "Ciccio" Rossi, Principal of Circolo Nautico Loano;
- Marina di Loano;
- Yacht Club Cagliari;
- Windsurfing Club Cagliari;
- Lega Navale Italiana Cagliari;

I would then like to address special thanks to Guido Ricetto and to Walter Cavallucci, FIV Board Members, for providing me with all needed support during my stays in Italy.

Picture: Simonetta Rovelli & Walter Cavallucci at FIV headquarters.



1. FIV National Programme Management Structure

1.1 The National Training Manager (NTM):



Guido Riccetto, elected Board Member representing sailing technicians, is in charge of monitoring FIV Training Programme, working closely with CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee).

He has been involved in training for years, mostly in his own Sardinian region, covering a wide range of sailing activities, from keelboat to dinghy, going through windsurfing, and he has been involved in most of the big events regularly organised by Yacht Club Cagliari and neighbour clubs.

No doubt he is fully conversant with all relevant parts of FIV National Training Programme, and he fully understands the implementation and control of items identified in the accreditation process.

Picture: Guido Riccetto, FIV, & Alessandra Sensini, member of CONI Executive.

1.2 Programme Management Structure



Even FIV is already gathering more than 106,000 members, Development is clearly a major aim for the Italian Sailing Federation, with particular attention on Training, and two important programmes have been pushed forward for the 2013-2016 term, Scuola Vela FIV focusing on improving the existing network of sailing schools, and the brand new project “VelaScuola” directly targeting the population of the young primary schools pupils, in close conjunction with Ministry of Public Instruction.

A strong management structure is in place, involving both National and Regional levels, FIV relying on 15 local Zones, for the best efficiency of the programme.



As described in 1.3 below, a dedicated staff is allocated at headquarters to FIV Training Programme management, when every regional Zone does monitor the sailing schools and training structures in its relevant area.

1.3 Systems, data and Records

Records of meetings and decisions regarding the management of FIV Scuola Vela Programme are kept in Genoa Headquarters, and suitable reference materials are used as appropriate to the country law, local regulations, safety, security, health etc..., and made available on FIV website at <http://www.federvela.it>, under 'Norme e regolamenti' tab.



FIV pay particular attention to laws and regulations compliance, and the seminar I had the opportunity to attend in Cagliari, together with FIV Vice President Francesco Ettore was a good example of the way Club Presidents and Principals are kept informed of new regulations to be implemented, fully competent lawyers being specially invited for such purpose.

Two dedicated secretaries are given the task of keeping full up to date records of all FIV appointed Coaches (see point 4. below) as well up to date records of the 400+ Sailing Schools registered by FIV.

Parallel to this, a system for recording and reviewing serious incidents (loss of life and serious injury) is in place.

2. MNA Accredited Training Venues

2.1 Conditions for Accreditation

Conditions of accreditation for clubs and sailing schools willing to join FIV Scuola Vela network are clear and appropriate, and duly published on FIV website. It is important to notice that, from 2014 and beyond, accreditation process will be linked to a quality certification system, more than likely to increase the value of Scuola Vela label.

Sailing venues may apply in three different qualification levels, from “Nodo Piano”, to “Nodo Parlato”, and then “Nodo Bandiera”, a waiting category “Primi Bordi” (First tacks) aiming to allow centres not completely fulfilling the needed requirements to be encouraged and accompanied until they can be given full Scuola Vela title.

In the case of centres not remaining up to the required standard, FIV keeps the right to immediately suspend the given accreditation.

Parallel to this, it is to notice 4 main training centres, including Loano and Garda, are run under direct FIV supervision.

2.2 Administration

According to Italian Law and Regulations, Clubs are required to carry appropriate insurance, and to check clients for relevant medical conditions which might put them at risk. They also check and record staff qualifications, take up references for key instructors, and ensure that all instructors are fully aware of operating procedures.

Every accredited club or sailing school is requested to provide on a yearly basis a comprehensive activity report, directly feeding an electronic database, which makes task easier for FIV staff to get all relevant information and to produce accurate statistics.

Further to this, centres are also required to keep documentation accurate, and all visited centres do publish printed brochures, as well they publish properly updated websites (see for example <http://www.leganavale.it/portale/index.asp>, <http://www.windsurfingclubcagliari.org/>, <http://www.yachtclubcagliari.it/>).

2.3 Boats Used

Equipment used in FIV affiliated clubs is appropriate and fit for purpose, using a wide range of dinghies, multihulls, boards and keelboats, mostly relying on popular classes, such as Optimist and l'Equipe dinghies, as well Bic Techno 293 windsurf or Hobie Cat 16 multihull.





The 555 FIV initiative.

It is here to note that FIV, with the support of two proud sponsor companies, did initiate a contest in 2002, aiming to provide sailing schools with a very versatile open dinghy, safe, fast, robust and cheap, suitable for 6 children or 4 adults, likely to be used to develop team working by the trainees, as well to practice match racing or club fleet racing.

Contest was definitely a success, 15 designs being eventually presented, and project from Milanese architect Silverio de la Rosa being selected, and largely spread nowadays, a dedicated National Championship being held every year.



Sailing clubs use fit for purpose Keelboat boats too, such as J22s & J24s, Match Racing being pushed forward in order to retain 18 to 25 year old sailors in sailing during their university courses.

To sum up, all visited clubs presented useable and appropriately maintained boats, most of these centres having facilities for repair and maintenance.

Picture: Students preparing for Match Race session.

2.4 Equipment and Facilities



All affiliated clubs are required to have toilets, appropriate changing and washing facilities, as well they are required to have safe systems for handling and storing fuel, and to store chemicals and secure workshops appropriately.

All visited centres presented sufficient Personal Flotation devices in good condition, and in a variety of appropriate sizes, as well appropriate personal protective clothing were made available, when not the private property of the sailors.



2.5 Tuition System

A very comprehensive document, available on FIV website, presenting a progressive training framework for both Dinghy, Windsurf, Kiteboard and Keelboat, is providing sailing schools with a clear and easy to use tool, from a first approach, aiming to give trainees the taste of sailing, to more structured levels (basic, intermediate and advanced). (see Appendix document *Normativa 2014*).

2.6 Child Protection

Child Protection guidelines and procedures are complying with Italian national laws and requirements, and are fully applied.

2.7 Centre / Club audit System

Further to the yearly report mentioned in 2.2, Accredited Centres are requested to produce, they are regularly audited by adequately qualified inspectors through FIV Zone system, for revalidation purpose, and, as mentioned in 2.1, FIV keeps the right to immediately suspend the given accreditation in the case of centres not remaining up to the required standard.

3. Safety Guidelines and Procedures

Safety guidelines and procedures are matching with best standards and good practices, and do result in clear working methods and good risk management.

Identified coaches are responsible for safety supervision as well for the day to day maintenance of the equipment, and coaches are used to adapt their plans according to conditions afloat and ashore.

Centres do have incident response plans, and first aid material is made available at all times.

4. Coaches

FIV Training programme relies on a strong four level coach qualification system, clearly defining who teaches whom and who teaches what, and facilitating a steady transfer from Participation to Performance. See appendix document *“Normativa e Programmi Corsi di Formazione 2013”*

Every level is referred to clear skills, including First Aid certificate and, even Motor driving licence in Italy is mandatory only over 40 hp, applicants have to demonstrate their ability to safely drive a motor boat during their training session, prior to get any qualification level, and annual National or Regional updating seminars are regularly put in place.

As already mentioned in 1.3 above, FIV is keeping true record of active qualified coaches, and 2013 numbers were as follows:

- Amongst 7,000 registered coaches, 2,035 are considered as active, having paid their annual fee, spread into:
 - o 1,600 First level coaches;
 - o 302 Second level coaches;
 - o 111 Third level coaches;
 - o 22 Fourth level coaches.
- Related to the following qualifications:
- o 641 dinghy
 - o 213 Kiteboard
 - o 141 Windsurf
 - o 103 offshore

Considering there are 735 registered clubs, of this 400 running training courses, FIV is providing sufficient qualified coaches available to deliver the NTP, making it perfectly sustainable, and it is to notice that n° of registration, as well personal details, are published on FIV website, and then available for information to any Italian club willing to recruit coaches.

5. The National Syllabus

Until recent days, Syllabus could vary from one Zone to the other, but President Croce and FIV Board decided, parallel to “Scuola Vela” programme implementation (see 1.2), to use ISAF Training documents as a reference, so there is no concern nor question here.

Appropriate training reference materials are made available, FIV publications already existing for dinghy sailing, windsurfing, Match Racing, Racing Rules, etc..., and it is to notice FIV is currently translating into Italian all Training documents mentioned above.

Just to mention the link towards FIV Under 16 and Under 19 programs, aiming to retain youngsters into the competition scheme.

It is then to notice that a special and promising school time programme has been put in place in 2008, allowing 22,000+ pupils to be introduced to sailing.

6. Participant Standards Achieved

FIV is keen to assess that participants are achieving the required levels at each stage of training, and is prepared to use the standard logbooks proposed by ISAF for this purpose, those too being currently under translation.

7. Communication

It is to stress the high quality of FIV website, whose content does permit anyone to find the right information, from spotting a training centre close to your location to preparing an Olympic campaign, simply by clicking on the right tab ...

Apart from this, National and Regional Seminars and Conferences are organised at least on a bi-yearly basis, in order to keep the whole training community perfectly aware of last developments of the programme.

8. Conclusion

FIV Scuola Vela National Training Programme strengths:

It is first to stress again the clear will from FIV Executive to look forward proposing a new training scheme responding to new expectations, and likely to address a larger but zapping audience, relying on new delivery formats, as well ensuring national uniformity in teaching methods, and giving value to the clubs involved in the process through a recognised quality brand.

It is then to congratulate FIV for their efforts in implementing the VelaScuola programme dedicated to primary school pupils, making all of them potential lifetime sailors, for the best future of sailing.

It is eventually important to note the eco friendly sailor charter published by FIV, Decalogo Ecovelist, FIV being really keen to make new (and ancient) sailors aware of both environmental and sustainable development issues (see appendix).

Suggested paths:

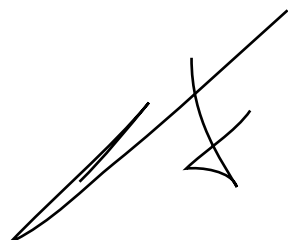
It is only to encourage FIV to keep on their efforts in translating into Italian language all Training material published by ISAF, so joining a worldwide community, sharing the same tools, references and values.

Recommendation:

Following the inspection visits made in Italy from 27 October to 1st November 2013 and from 29 November to 1st December 2013, and based on all relevant information given there, it is clear that FIV "Scuola Vela" National Training Programme fully complies with all requirements published by ISAF.

I would then highly recommend for FIV "Scuola Vela" National Training Programme to be granted ISAF Recognised Training Accreditation for Dinghy, Multihull, Keelboat, Kiteboarding and Windsurfing.

15 December 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long diagonal stroke, identifying the signatory as Olivier BOVYN.

Olivier BOVYN

ISAF Training Inspector