



SARDINIA SAILING CUP  
DAY 6, IQFOiL EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP  
THE POETTO CROWNS TARNOWSKY AND PELEG AS CHAMPIONS  
ITALY CELEBRATES IN THE U23 WITH MANOLO MODENA

*The winners were awarded the Zigantes Trophies, depicting the faces of the Giants of Mont'e Prama, symbols of a strong, courageous, and ancient Sardinia.*

Cagliari – A splendid sunny day and good wind accompanied the final day of the 2024 iQFOiL European Championship, with highly competitive races in the Gulf of Angels marked by a light Mistral wind. The title of iQFOiL European Champion was claimed by Polish athlete Pawel Tarnowsky, followed by the British Andy Brown and Matthew Barton. In the U23 podium, Italy celebrated with Manolo Modena (Circolo Surf Torbole), who left behind British Finn Hawkins and Dutch Max Castelain.

Among the women, the victory went to Israel's Daniela Peleg, followed by Norway's Maya Gysler and Polish athlete Anastasya Valkevich. There was only one change on the U23 women's podium, with the third place going to another Israeli athlete, Tamar Steinberg.

During the award ceremony, the top finishers were presented with the Zigantes Trophies, sculpted by artist Daniele Pinna, featuring the faces of the Giants of Mont'e Prama. The athletes gathered in the amphitheater of Marina Piccola were briefly introduced to the importance of these statues in Sardinia's ancient culture. The new champions were awarded by Olympian Marta Maggetti, III Fiv Zone President Corrado Fara, Sardinia C.O.N.I. President Bruno Perra, local authorities, Raimondo Mandis representing the Sardinia Region's Department of Tourism, Crafts and Trade, Michele Boero, president of Cagliari's Sports Commission, and Windsurfing Club Cagliari President Roberto Festa.

"I am very happy, and my thoughts go to my family," commented the new iQFOiL European Champion Pawel Tarnowsky from the waters of Poetto. "I want to thank my team and everyone who believes in me. From a weather perspective, this week wasn't easy; the races were very technical." The women's final was also very challenging, with young athletes trying to use the Mistral to win gold. "It was a tough and technical race, and I'm very happy with this result," said champion Daniela Peleg, 20, who earned a fourth place at the iQFOiL International Games & U23 World Championships but won a silver in 2022. A big surprise also came from Norway's Maya Gysler, silver in this European Championship and at the last U23 World Championship.

"During the final moments of the race, I thought, 'Don't make a mistake in these last few meters, and you'll take home the U23 European title,'" commented Manolo Modena (Circolo Surf Torbole). "It's a fantastic feeling; it's the first time I've climbed to the top step of the podium in an international competition. I'm very happy."

**IQFOiL OPEN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP**



**04 - 11 OCTOBER 2024**

**CAGLIARI - MARINA PICCOLA**

SARDINIA - ITALY 

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ASSOCIATO DEL TURISMO, AFFARI ESTERI E COMMERCIO



"We thank the iQFOiL Class for trusting in the III Zone and the city of Cagliari," commented III Zone President Corrado Fara. "We also thank the Windsurfing Club of Cagliari for their collaboration in organizing this regatta. We are very satisfied with the outcome of this major event, which took place in Cagliari in terms of hospitality, management, and technical expertise, guaranteeing a bright future for major sailing events in Cagliari."

"We are extremely pleased with the great success of the iQFOiL European Championship 2024," commented Sardinia Sailing Cup coordinator Mirco Babini. "Once again, Cagliari has exceeded expectations, showing excellent hospitality and logistical capabilities. Marina Piccola is the nerve center of the Sardinia Sailing Cup, and we now look forward to two more events: the Foil International Academy Trophy of the Next Generation Foil Academy powered by Luna Rossa, and the WingFoil Racing World Cup Italy."

The packed Sardinia Sailing Cup calendar, which began on September 25 with the Italian Olympic Classes Championship – Edison Next 202, followed by the iQFOiL European Championship 2024, will continue on October 15 with the Foil International Academy Trophy of the Next Generation Foil Academy powered by Luna Rossa, featuring the Waszp Foil class and directed by federal coach Alessandra Sensini. From October 16 to 20, the WingFoil Racing World Cup Italy will take place, with over 70 participants, a number that could still increase. The event is recognized by World Sailing as a Special Event.

In the third week of November, the International Development Programme will take place, with days entirely dedicated to international Para Sailing. Once again, the waters of Su Siccu will host these extraordinary regattas.

The event is promoted by the Autonomous Region of Sardinia – Department of Tourism, Crafts, and Trade.

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### **Open iQFOiL European Championship - Men 1- Pawel Tarnowsky POL**

- 2- Andy Brown GBR
- 3- Matthew Barton GBR
- 4- Joost Vink NED
- 5- Luca di Tomassi ITA (Fiamme Gialle)

### **Open iQFOiL European Championship - Women**

- 1- Daniela Peleg ISR
- 2- Maya Gysler NOR
- 3- Anastasya Valkevich POL
- 4- Shahar Tibi ISR
- 5- Tamar Steinberg ISR

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### U23 iQFOiL European Championship - Men

- 1- Manolo Modena ITA (Circolo Surf Torbole)
- 2- Finn Hawkins GBR
- 3- Max Castelein NED

### U23 iQFOiL European Championship - Women

- 1- Daniela Peleg ISR
- 2- Maya Gysler NOR
- 3- Tamar Steinberg ISR

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At this **Sardinia Sailing Cup** Drive link, for the exclusive use of journalist colleagues, you can find videos, photos, and useful press releases:

<https://tinyurl.com/mrczs4en>

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