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****SARDINIA SAILING CUP, INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME****

****KICK-OFF FOR AN INTERNATIONAL THREE-DAY PARA SAILING EVENT IN CAGLIARI****

****TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, AT MOLO ICHNUSA****

****A GRAND CELEBRATION TO MARK AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR****

****First Day Highlighted by Fresh Scirocco Winds and Training Ahead of Official Races****

Cagliari – The Inclusive Development Programme, the final major event of the 2024 Sardinia Sailing Cup dedicated to Para Sailing, has officially begun. In the waters of Su Siccu, athletes from five nations competed aboard Hansa 303 boats.

The weather conditions on the first day featured fresh Scirocco winds blowing between 10 and 12 knots.

Italy, Sweden, France, Great Britain, Austria, and Singapore: these are the nations that have gathered in Sardinia for this important sailing event.

From Cagliari, the focus extends to the 2032 Brisbane Paralympic Games. “The IDP in Cagliari, along with others held in different cities worldwide by World Sailing—the most recent in Singapore just weeks ago—aims to collect the necessary data required by the International Paralympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee,” explained Mirco Babini, coordinator of the Sardinia Sailing Cup. “We are close to achieving the goal of reintroducing sailing to the Paralympic Games in Brisbane 2032 after a long absence.”

The first day of the Inclusive Development Programme in Cagliari included various training activities at the Olympic Preparation Center of the Italian Sailing Federation at Molo Ichnusa and water-based training sessions.

The official opening ceremony featured speeches by Francesco Ettore, President of the Italian Sailing Federation, and Corrado Fara, President of the III Zone FIV, along with Mirco Babini, coordinator of the Sardinia Sailing Cup, and Hannah Stodel of World Sailing. Welcoming the athletes and coaches were Bruno Perra, President of the Regional C.O.N.I., Rossana Podda representing the Regional Department of Tourism, Handicrafts, and Trade, and Admiral Giuseppe La Rosa on behalf of the Italian Naval League.

During the morning, Hannah Stodel received a significant award to mark the second edition of the Inclusive Development Programme.

On the second day, Monday, November 25, the morning will be dedicated to preparation for the single races, which will take place in the afternoon, kicking off the Inclusive Development Programme Trophy.

The final day, Tuesday, November 26, will feature both single and double races. At 4:00 PM, Molo Ichnusa will host the award ceremony for the Inclusive Development Programme, bringing the curtain down on the 2024 Sardinia Sailing Cup.

“We are delighted to host the Inclusive Development Programme for the second year,” said Francesco Ettore, President of the Italian Sailing Federation, during the opening remarks. “I am happy to welcome all sailors from around the world to Cagliari. For our Federation, Para Sailing holds extraordinary importance, and our focus on related projects has grown significantly in recent years. The Para Sailing Academy has expanded throughout Italy, welcoming an increasing number of athletes and enhancing resources and expertise, thanks to an ever more specialized team. I would like



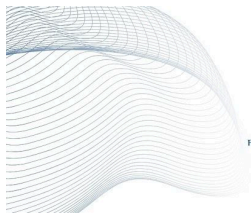
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to thank World Sailing, especially Hannah Stodel, for their constant and determined efforts in promoting Para Sailing.

I would also like to thank the President of the III Zone FIV, Corrado Fara, and above all, the coaches, athletes, and organizers for their work and enthusiasm, not only for this event but for all the activities. I strongly believe in this project: sailing can and should be a truly inclusive sport, one without barriers.”

“I am very happy to welcome all the sailors and coaches to Cagliari. Last year was an extraordinary experience, and I am even more pleased to see new athletes and coaches,” commented Corrado Fara, President of the III Zone FIV. “I would like to thank President Francesco Ettore for once again choosing Sardinia for this important event, and everyone involved in making it happen. We are truly proud to host this event.

Para Sailing is of great importance to the Federation, and here in Sardinia, we have clubs that are passionately dedicated to developing activities and fostering these projects. It is a great honor to see how sailing tangibly helps not only as a sport but also through its values.”

The Sardinia Sailing Cup kicked off on September 25 in Marina Piccola with the Italian Olympic Classes Championship and the Italian Para Sailing Championship. It continued in October with the iQFOiL European Championship, the Foil International Academy Trophy, and the WingFoil Racing World Cup.

The event is promoted by the Autonomous Region of Sardinia – Department of Tourism, Handicrafts, and Trade. The project results from collaboration between the Italian Sailing Federation, the III Zone FIV, and World Sailing, with support from the Municipality of Cagliari.

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