

**CHAIRMAN REPORT****1. 2024 ACTIVITY**

Another busy but productive year for EurILCA.

We had 1630 sailors participating in our European championships. The EurILCA Master Series and EurILCA Europa Cup also had a huge attendance.

European championships were all at the maximum capacity that the clubs could host sailors.

All of this was done in coordination with the organisers and the EurILCA Team.

EurILCA is continuing to provide good services to our members and keep the European region running with efficiency.

I would like to thank all the members of the Executive committee (Gisele, Alan, Virginia and Zlatko) and Burçu who put many hours into the class in their duties.

All the Executive committee members have tried their best to be present at events like EurILCA Europa Cup, EurILCA Masters Series, European Championships and of course their national events

Once again, the secretary Lucie, bookkeeper Nils, our community manager Agustin Arguelles and Thom Tow, our official photographer have provided an excellent service to EurILCA.

Lucie is doing an excellent job by handling all the emails received by the office, coordinate with all the executive officers all the events, organizing the EAGM, managing the website eurilca.eu, all the entries for events and updating information, taking care of the jurys, class representative, technical committees etc..

Special thanks also to Charlotte who has built the entry system and follows it up regularly with updates as well as dealing with any problems that may arise with EurILCA entry system.

A special mention to Gisèle for her hard work and time spent because doing the accounting is a big job and time consuming.

A big thanks to all the district officers for their voluntary work and time given to the Class. Their efforts within their districts continue to contribute to the success of the Class.

2. EURILCA EUROPA CUP

There were 10 Europa Cups planned this year. We still have one to run in Malta and one in Croatia this December.

Zlatko and I are regularly in contact regarding the Europa Cup and other subjects.

Lucie is managing the series and has entered all the results. She also sends the results to World sailing for the Olympic classes to give points to the sailors for the World Sailing Rankings.

3. THE RANKING FOR THE EURILCA EUROPA CUP

The EurILCA committee proposes giving prizes to the winners of each of the overall categories like we did in the previous years as we had a significant number of participants in our Europa Cup series. A sail was offered to the first of each overall ranking in 2024. Thanks to partners such as ILCA builders like Devoti Sailing and Nautivela who give us a discount to buy the sails. Sails will be offered again in 2025 for the 2024 ranking.



4. THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

We have now introduced a EurILCA class representative at each European championship. We also had 2 event measurers at big Europeans. In addition, we are also doing site visits prior to European championships.

A special thanks goes out to the organisers of European Championships whom we had contact with intensively prior to the event. A lot needs to be done from the time the contract is signed right up until the actual event.

Tracker systems for sailors were appreciated by both the sailors and coaches. There is a cost for EurILCA, but it is a good service for sailors. Bibs were sponsored by SailCoach and CharterBoat this year. We made bibs for each European championship and they are given to the sailor at the end of the event, except for the masters where we are not using bibs or trackers.

We have offered a EurILCA key ring to each sailor and coaches attending the European championships this year (apart from the seniors).

We are now using numbered EurILCA flags for the coaches.

We also had Miranda Jakelic who did the scoring at the Senior Europeans and ILCA 4 Europeans.

We are now trying to have our team come to events in order to provide a better service for the sailing.

You have seen in one of the submission from the executive committee that we are proposing a new category (U 23) at the Senior Europeans for the 2 Olympic classes.

5. EURILCA MASTERS SERIES SERIES

Alan and I are regularly in contact as Alan is managing the EurILCA Masters series with success.

Alan is running the EurILCA Masters Series in coordination with the Master Coordinator from the concerned district.

Augustin has designed a new logo for the EurILCA Masters Series which we use every year with the date updated.

All results are online on the website Eurilca.eu.

The EurILCA Master Series 2025 is on line already and Lucie will be in charge of this. Alan will do the prize giving presentation of the 2025 EurILCA Master series in Callela, Spain next May 2025. 6 Sails (3 for ILCA 7, 3 for ILCA 6 (x2 men / x1 women) will be drawn between the participants of the 2024 with the support of Devoti Sailing who provide the sails at a reduced price. Alan will explain it in his report.

6. SPONSORSHIP AND BUILDERS

We have 3 European ILCA builder (Devoti, Nautivela, Ovington) partnerships to support our region. They are supporting our EurILCA membership card.

We could attach their names to some of our events and get the event supported in prizes for the sailors in the future.

7. MEMBERSHIP CARDS 2024

This service will continue to be provided free of charge for the European districts in 2025 as in the previous years. See the previous paragraph regarding the support of Devoti, Nautivela and Ovington.

The districts have entered the Excel file in the system on line so that their sailors can receive the electronic card directly in their email box.

EurILCA will not retain any data, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Lucie coordinates all this with Charlotte who is putting the system in place and Augustin, who designed the membership card. Every year.

This allows each district to provide their members with an electronic card.

This will save time and money for both the districts and EurILCA and make easy to control membership at regattas.



8. SUSTAINABILITY

Each organiser of a European championship signs a document which specifies making efforts to have a more sustainable event.

Enclosed you can read the great report from the sustainability officer from the 2024 ILCA 6 Youth Europeans in Bangor, Ireland.

The idea is to have the organisers of each European, and perhaps extend to EurILCA Europa Cup, have a designated sustainability officer at each event.

9. EURILCA PHOTOGRAPHER AND COMMUNITY MANAGER

This is part of our communication strategy and a necessity.

It is also an effective promotion for ILCA Sailing.

We have a bank of pictures called eurilcasmugmug (where everyone can find and download pictures of European championships. <https://eurilca.smugmug.com/>)

Thom Tow and Augustin attended all the Europeans and are also in charge of videos.

Thank you, Thom and Augustin for a fabulous job.

At each event, they work with the local press person for local and national news.

10. FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA: COMMUNITY MANAGER

Augustin Arguelles is doing a fantastic job as the EurILCA community manager.

Augustin has a wide knowledge of lots of social media and he is very responsive.

Congratulations to Augustin .

11. FINANCES

I would like to thank Gisèle for all the hard work she does. No one can imagine all the work and energy she puts in and the hours spent. Also Nils Palmeri as accountant for EurILCA.

I am in contact by phone and emails with her once a week to follow up.

As we were able to run all our European Championships at full capacity participation, in contrast to two years ago, we are running again a surplus this year.

Thus, we will be able to carry out more actions in 2025.

Many thanks to the auditors: Thomas Müller and Claudio Reynaud. Thanks also to Nils our bookkeeper who is also a well-known sailor in offshore racing and of course to Gisèle who has organised all that together with the accounts.

12. SOLIDARITY PROGRAM

At the 2018 EAGM, it was decided to start a solidarity program at the EurILCA 4 Youth European championship.

It was run and organised by Burçu very successfully one more time.

Burçu will prepare a special report about it.

Congratulations once more Burçu!

This year EurILCA spent even more money than the proposed budget to support it with more sailors and more coaches.

Thank you to the organisers of the 2024 ILCA 4 Europeans for their help in Slovenia.

We used the ILCA developing funds to partly support the solidarity program.

13. EURILCA TEAM RACING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Unfortunately, there was not much cooperation from districts to organize an event. However, Virginia will make a new proposal regarding a team racing event in Greece.

14. EURILCA .EU WEBSITE:

After 10 years of use and many improvements, it was time to change the design of the eurilca.eu website and update it to a more modern and practical version. A big thank to Charlotte Abadie and Eloise Sevin who are taking care of this project.

15. CONCLUSION

I think EurILCA offered a very good service this year to sailors and districts and we keep trying to innovate.

Our goal is to bring more sailors on the water and keep our events friendly.

What is very important, is to have our decisions made democratically and in the interest of the sailors. This is why the EAGM is very important for all of us.

I would like to thank once again all the people who worked and continue to work hard during their free time this year at their district level, national level or international level.

We are a big family and this is what makes it fun and enjoyable.

Thank you all.

Jean-Luc Michon

