

President's letter 2004



Dear friends,

let me say "another wonderful sailing season for the FD Class".

The 2004 races season started on last January with the Worlds in Melbourne, great organization, big fleet, good weather.

It was a wonderful event which confirmed the good promotion of the Class, collecting 55 teams coming from 3 Continents and 12 Countries.

Moreover, during the Worlds in Australia, it was awarded the "Lady FDTrophy" for the first time; that prize will be awarded to a women or mixed team to every World Championship.

Best congratulation to the Dutch team, winner of the first edition and my best wishes to all the women FD teams.

With regard to the FD fixtures, reported in the FD Bulletin 150/2004, there are reported 96 events to show the interest and the good feeling between the sailing clubs of each Country and IFDCO to host the FD races.

Again, the participation of the FD teams to the World Cup and the Euro Cup represents a good result and a wonderful chance to attract the FD sailors to attend to races abroad.

Finally, the participation of more than 90 teams to the Worlds in Warnemunde, on last August, represents a very good result.

Let's me thank the FD sailors, the sailing clubs, the IFDCO Officers and the FD National Secretaries, to advertise and promote the FD Class and the race activity.

With regard to the technical aspects, the adoption of the carbon spar since 2005, will represent a new step in the development of our high-performance dinghy.

Like every news, it will require training and development, but the weight and the performance of the carbon mast, will allow a easier trimming and sailing, especially to the light crews and will increase the performance of our boats.

With regard to promotion and advertisement, as I already said many times, I consider that topics very important to project the Class into the future.

According to my feeling, the IFDCO GC agreed my proposal ; so, now I'm looking forward to reach the goal of a gentleman agreement for a sponsorship of the Class.

I strongly believe that such a agreement will give a better promotion to our Class in every kind of activity; moreover will allow to help the young and new sailors to attend easier and more often to the FD events.

Now, I'm already thinking to new projects and to the FD sailing season 2005; but while I'm dreaming, I wish you and your family Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2005.

Cheers,

Alberto Barengi