



### Secretariat

ILSE ● Im Niedernfeld 1-3 ● D-31542 Bad Nenndorf / Germany  
Phone: +49 (57 23) 955 500 ● Facsimile: +49 (57 23) 955 509  
E-Mail: [secretariat@ilseurope.org](mailto:secretariat@ilseurope.org) ● [www.ilseurope.org](http://www.ilseurope.org)

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### Distribution list:

ILSE Member Associations  
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### Message from the ILSE Sports Commission

There have been many comments on the EC Lifesaving in Italy in 2019. Please read the explanation below to hopefully get another view on the championships.

To set the record straight a few facts:

1. For the ILSE European Lifesaving Championships, ILSE has signed a contract with FIN, the Italian Lifesaving Federation, not ORION

ILSE is therefore dealing directly with FIN – FIN deals with ORION with whom they have a contract. Notwithstanding that arrangement, we liaise with ORION regularly on the issues that get raised. They are a good group of people who are keen to assist.

Detlev Mohr visited the Italian President in Rome in February and discussed the issues with him. He explained that all Italian Sports Federations, if they are hosting large international sporting events, are obliged under the Italian Council of Sports Rules to use a company such as ORION to manage the booking of accommodation, local transport and other package benefits. This done to:

- Reduce the workload on the hosting federation
- Reduce the financial risk to the hosting federation
- Prevent corruption

So, the Italian Federation is doing what it has to do. They have signed a contract with ORION for this purpose as they have used them before when hosting the World Swimming Championships and have a good working relationship with them.

Through the efforts of Detlev Mohr for the European Championships, we have worked hard with both FIN and ORION to make the process more flexible, more understandable and ensure that all attendees can take advantage of the benefits of the packages offered.

The text that we provided for the European Championships Circular issued recently, set out the additional flexibility now being applied by ORION. This includes the ability to request stays of less than 5 days which was a serious point of contention.

It should be noted that the price list that has been supplied in that ILSE Circular does include the price for B&B, Half Board and Full Board in various categories of hotel, so all options are catered for. The prices quoted are for a 5 night stay but ORION will happily discuss with the

#### Bank Account

Volksbank in Schaumburg  
(BLZ 255 914 13)  
Acc. No. 73 2501 9 800

#### IBAN

DE25255914137325019800  
**BIC**  
GENODEF1BCK

individuals concerned providing a package for less than 5 nights. They understand that this is what is required and have changed their approach on that.

The per person per night cost is not unreasonable and the teams get the advantage of the additional benefits that cannot be underestimated.

The package price includes:

- the cost of the individual entry fee to the Championships (team fees will be collected through the OrgaNet system)
- and the organisers have decided to give the lycra hi-vis vests to all for free now.

The full list of benefits is included in the ILSE Circular.

There have been comments about the campsite arrangements – those who are critical of this should understand that all campsites in the area should close around 20<sup>th</sup> September each year by municipal decree. However, ORION has negotiated that one campsite will now remain open so is now able to offer that as another option. Again this has been done because they understand that people want this.

Please take into account that ILSE had only one bid for the championships. The other option would be not to have a championship like in 2009. We are grateful to all of our member federations which like to host our championships. Unfortunately there are only a very few member federations which like to carry the load to organize and to host such a huge event. In the past the Italian federation has proved to be able to organize a high standard championship making the best performances possible.

I like to ask very kindly all these clubs and masters athletes to recognize the situation as it is. Please be polite and respectful to all representatives of FIN-S and the ORION company. They all do their best in our interest. We have to respect the regional and local situation in this part of Italy.

*Text composed by Bob Dekkers (chairman ILSE Sports Commission) with information used from John Martin (ILS Event Manager) and Dr. Detlev Mohr (President ILSE).*