

NRDC-ITA SWIMMING SOCIETY

“Swimming is Like Flying...”

■ by LTC ITA A Matteo MANCINI
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...when you swim, it's like you had wings...The see is the same as the sky... Actually, you swim in the sky!”

Until few months ago, opening our wise page at the link of Sports Board, you could read about many sport activities brought officially into our Headquarters: Running, Sailing, Cycling, Ski&Snowboard, Rugby, just to mention some. Amazingly, one was still missing; probably the most practiced sport: Swimming.

Like in any other of the abovementioned activities, you always need somebody particularly fond of that specific sport, in order to give the necessary impulse. By coincidence, exactly when the idea of “swimming” was just arising, the final and decisive impulse arrived when Br.Gen. Puri was posted to NRDC ITA as Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) for Combat Service Support (CSS) Division. His competence and great passion for this sport made it possible to constitute a Swimming Society, born in September 2008 and organized as follows:

Aim of the Swimming Society is to develop and promulgate the swimming activity through the participation of its members in non-competitive events, and to facilitate interaction between military and civilian people in social and sporting environment.

The activity officially started in November, last year, at the “Manara” Swimming pool, in Busto Arsizio. At the beginning, there were some 40 members, attending either a biweekly course (according to the level of swimming skill) or a free-swimming, as desired. As at 10 March 2009, the number has increased up to some 120! And by the end of this year it is estimated they will reach the number of 200.

Very soon there will be an additional advantage for the members of the swimming society. They will be provided with a magnetic smart card that will allow each member, and his/her relatives, to use those

swimming pools which NRDC-ITA has a concession agreement with: Cassano Magnago, Solbiate Olona and Busto Arsizio, and hopefully Milan, in the near future. Everybody is enthusiastic of the swimming activity against all expectation.

Swimming means staying fit, but also (and not less important) building team spirit, raising our morale, knowing each other better. As a result of the great success of the initiative, the Swimming society has already set up a couple of social events, open to all members, and others are to come for consolidating the team spirit.

On 4th of June, the organization are going to arrange at “Manara” swimming pool a “friendly and funny competition” to celebrate the closure of the first year course activity, open to any member of this HQ. If we pass it, our HQ will be definitely ready to deploy as Maritime Component Command...



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