



Dear athlete,

Gran Fondo del Naviglio 2019 has been a great success with more participants than ever and strong public participation; a success witnessed by the flattering coverage by the media on the web and "social" platforms as well as the traditional channels.

For this we want to thank you: we owe to all you athletes with your participation and enthusiasm to give us the drive every year to organize an ever more beautiful Gran Fondo del Naviglio.

In many respects, we, the Terre dei Navigli Staff are very satisfied and proud of the result we were able to achieve, helped in this by the fundamental support of our "historical" partners.

In addition to the territorial Institutions whose boundaries we cross with the Gran Fondo, such as the Municipality of Cassinetta di Lugagnano, which we remember for the enthusiastic reception and logistical support for the 24.5 Kms race and the Municipality of Gaggiano, which historically supports the departure of the 14 Kms race, many are the Associations and friends that make "our" Gran Fondo possible.

CAF Onlus, fundamental for the logistic contribution and for the refreshment on arrival; the Italian National Association of Sailors, which hosts us in its headquarters at the arrival and provides experience, people and support boats; the Canottieri San Cristoforo rowing association, which in addition to hosting the start of the 2 kms, follows you all in the water with canoes and SUPs.

With all of them, every year we strain for improvements, paying attention to reports, advice and even criticism, when constructive.

This year we took special care of the aspect of safety in the water, going beyond the minimum requirements. S.O.G.IT, section of Gaggiano, was present in water and on land with rescue dog units, professional rescuers and the most suitable means to intervene promptly in case of need.

A vehicle specifically set up as an Advanced Medical Post was present in the Darsena, in addition to the medicalized ambulance of the past years.

We wrote "in many respects", because this year we unfortunately had technical difficulties in recording the race timing, which in turn had a negative repercussion on the determination of the rankings, causing delays and inaccuracies in the award ceremonies.

We know that for many of you, personal performance and satisfaction resulting from a good placement is rightly important: the Gran Fondo del Naviglio is not a competitive race, but it does not end with participation and fun alone.

This is why today we feel the duty to apologize to you; we discussed with the timekeepers for a long time and from the analysis of all the available recorded data a technical failure emerged, a failure that we were not able to identify during the frantic moments of the arrival.

We wish not to annoy you with technical details: in the attachment you will find a brief explanation by the timekeeper company and the final official rankings.

Some of you have been particularly penalized by this anomaly in the timekeeping: with these athletes we are in contact personally.

Finally, we inform you that a dispute is underway regarding the order of arrival of the 2 Kms female. This dispute does not concern our management of the arrival order, but the behaviour of some athletes.

Consequently, the order of arrival of the female 2 Kms. could change: we will contact only the female athletes of the 2 Kms when the situation is clarified.

Hoping to see you again at the starting blocks of the 2020 Gran Fondo del Naviglio,

we greet you with renewed friendship

10 settembre 2019

Il Presidente e lo Staff TDN – GFN 2019