



Club de Vela
Ballena Alegre
Sant Pere Pescador
Costa Brava



FINALIST



CLUB DE VELA LA BALLENA ALEGRE

Clean Regattas Certification – Submission Report (Platinum Level)

Event: GWA Youth World Championship – Costa Brava 2025

Organization: Club de Vela La Ballena Alegre

Level Requested: Platinum

Overview

The 2025 GWA Youth World Championship hosted at Club de Vela La Ballena Alegre was a world-class sporting event and a showcase for sustainability, inclusion, and environmental education. Building on years of experience, we integrated the 2030 Agenda into every event dimension, making it a real-world example of how a sailing championship can drive positive environmental and social impact.

1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles

We have multiple KMO refill stations and distributed signage to promote reusable bottles. Water was also served in eco-certified bottles at high-temperature zones.

****SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production****

2. Provide Water Refill Stations

High-traffic areas had chilled, filtered water stations to ensure hydration and minimize waste.

****SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation****





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3. Eliminate Plastic Straws

Plastic straws were completely banned. All vendors signed compliance agreements.

****SDG 14 – Life Below Water****

4. Serve Local and Organic Food

All food was locally sourced (KM0), supporting the regional economy and reducing carbon emissions.

****SDG 2 – Zero Hunger / SDG 13 – Climate Action****



5. Compost Food Waste

Organic waste was collected and composted using on-site infrastructure, in partnership with local services.

****SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production****

6. Use Reusable or Compostable Serveware

Only compostable or reusable containers were permitted.

****SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production****



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7. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Signage

Color-coded, multilingual bins were deployed and monitored daily by volunteers.

****SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities****



8. Divert Waste from Landfill

We introduced reuse initiatives like wetsuit downcycling workshops and donated gear to youth programs in collaboration with INDIGO.LIFE – ROPE PROGRAM , reusable wetsuits will be send to the South American Optimist Championship 2026.

****SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production / SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals****





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9. Reduce Paper Use

All documentation was digital, including registration, schedules, and results.

****SDG 13 – Climate Action****

10. Use Paper Alternatives

When printing was essential, FSC-certified or recycled paper was used.

****SDG 15 – Life on Land****

11. Host a Green Team

Our animation and event staff formed the Green Team, enforcing sustainability practices and educating participants.

****SDG 4 – Quality Education****



12. Publicise Sustainability Efforts

We used social media, on-site signage, press releases, and a dedicated webpage to amplify impact.

****SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals****

<https://clubvela.ballena-alegre.com/en/default/races/race-newsitem/text/GWAYOUTHWINGFOILWORLDCHAMPIONSHIPCOS TABRAVA2025-en/>

13. Post Event Report

A visual summary and media coverage, including a video summary of our impact, complement this report. The video highlights already include a reference to this action. This report of actions carried out will be published on the club's website once the final Clean Regatta certification has been confirmed. Appropriate promotion will follow to ensure visibility.

****SDG 13 – Climate Action****



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<https://clubvela.ballena-alegre.com/en/default/races/race-newsitem/text/GWAYOUTHWINGFOILWORLDCHAMPIONSHIPCOSTABRAVA2025-en/>

14. Involve Kids and Youth

Workshops for youth included: Cuttlefish regeneration, Foil reuse lab, Freestyle/judging seminars.

****SDG 4 – Quality Education / SDG 14 – Life Below Water****



15. Offer Sustainability Education

Daily seminars featured expert speakers and athletes on topics like: Wing construction, Ocean health, Freestyle rules.

****SDG 4 – Quality Education / SDG 13 – Climate Action****





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16. Inclusion and Equity Programs

We co-hosted a special event with the Cruyff Foundation for children with disabilities and ensured accessible event infrastructure.



****SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities / SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being****

<https://clubvela.ballena-alegre.com/en/default/races/newsitem/text/ClubdeVelaLaBallenaAlegreandtheCruyffFoundationReaffirmTheirCommitmenttoInclusionandSailing.-en/>

17. Use Low-Carbon Transportation



On-site accommodation for 90% of attendees eliminated car use. Bikes were used throughout the venue.

****SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities / SDG 13 – Climate Action****



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18. Protect Natural Areas

Working with Parc Natural dels Aiguamolls secured protection for dunes and nesting areas of Kentish plovers.

****SDG 15 – Life on Land****



19. Use Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products

We comply fully with eco-cleaning standards for all boat and venue cleaning.

****SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation****

<https://www.ballena-alegre.com/costabrava/vacaciones-responsables/>

20. Align with a Sustainability Code of Ethics

All teams and staff committed to the code of ethics, equity, and environmental awareness.

https://clubvela.ballena-alegre.com/uploaded_files/Document_117447_20250629234340_en.pdf

****SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions****

21. Leadership Actions (Platinum level)

Our platinum-level innovations included:

- Cuttlefish regeneration & release project,
- Wetsuit downcycling workshops with Indigo Life (ROPE Program),



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- Sustainable medals crafted from upcycled materials,



- Beach waste audits by youth volunteers,
Publicly accessible sustainability project available on our website for
climate education. <https://clubvela.ballena-alegre.com/en/default/races/race/text/-sustainable-experience-sailing-events-as-a-sustainable-awareness-tool-en>

****SDG 12, 13, 14, 17****

Conclusion

Through consistent and measurable actions aligned with the UN 2030 Agenda, the GWA Youth World Championship – Costa Brava 2025 sets a benchmark for what sustainable sports events can achieve. From zero single-use plastics to innovative reuse programs, and from youth education to biodiversity protection, this event reflects our long-term commitment to people, planet, and performance.

Acces to images and videos

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1L8fRBuUIGKEaU7WrFxr3LyFWiVs2S6-q?usp=share_link