

CURRICULUM VITAE

LUCA PANCALLI

He was born in Rome on April 16th 1964. He has a law degree and became a lawyer. He has engaged in sport since he was a child. He was a pentathlon national junior athlete until the age of 17 when, during an international competition in Wien, he fell off the horse causing himself a medullar injury which entailed the loss of the full control of his lower limbs. Despite this accident, after a full rehabilitation period, he started again to practise sport at a top level. He participated in four Paralympic Games, from those of 1984 at Stoke Mandeville to those of 1996 in Atlanta, competing in swimming with excellent results, proved by the amount of seven gold medals won, which entailed four gold medals for athletic valour and the Golden Collar for Sports Credits, that are recognitions conferred by the Italian Olympic Committee in various years. However, the sports activity went in hand with his commitment for the disability policies. During the years 1988 – 1992 he was a parliamentary collaborator, working on various bills on disability matters; he is still the person in charge of the disability policies, at a national level, for the Italian Workers Union (UIL) and member of the National Committee for Disabled to the Prime Minister's Office. He is entrusted with managerial tasks at the main national organizations for disabled people.

In 1996, after having participated in his last Paralympic Games as an athlete (where he won two gold medals and three silver ones), he retired from competition and was elected Vice President of the Italian Sports Federation for the Disabled (FISD) and then, on december 16th 2000, he was elected President. On June 2001, he was appointed Officer of the Republic by the President of the Republic, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. At the beginning of this year (February 2005) he has been elected as President of the new born National Paralympic Committee.