



RYA Northern Ireland Team Racing Programme Selection Policy 2024 - 2025

Selection for the 2024-25 RYA Northern Ireland Team Racing Squad will be determined by Selectors appointed by the Performance Committee, Pathways Officer and will be the sailors who, in their opinion, will have the best prospects of progressing within their chosen pathway and are committed to the sport. The selectors will normally consist of the Team Racing Head Coach, Chair of Performance Committee, Performance Manager and Pathways Officer. Proposed selections will be presented to the Performance Committee who will provide further input as appropriate.

Team size will consist of 6 sailors selected to compete as well as opportunity for a further 4 spaces available for reserves. Only two sailors who are currently members of the RYA NI performance squad already will be allowed on the selected team, however current performance squad sailors will be eligible for reserves.

Athletes may be invited to attend some or all of the RYA NI Team Racing training in a 'Train Alongside' role. This may be because existing team athletes are unable to attend a specific session, or if suitable athletes emerge from the RYA Northern Ireland programmes after the selection date. Alternatively, athletes may be invited in order to help progress current team members. Team places may also be allocated against other factors as detailed in the 'Selection Criteria' section. Applicants must be committed to following the Irish Sailing Pathway or RYA British Sailing Team Pathway.

Eligibility

To be eligible for selection, an athlete should meet the age criteria below. We will only accept applicants who have a primary place of residence, and their primary sailing club must be situated in Northern Ireland. RYA NI Selectors may decide to include out of age athletes within Team training at their discretion. Athletes falling into this category are encouraged to apply and will be eligible for consideration for a discretionary place subject to evaluation under the criteria laid out within this document. Athletes competing should be committed to the appropriate physical prep in order to complete successful in their class and for competition.

- Team size will consist of 6 sailors selected to compete as well as opportunity for a further 4 spaces available for reserves. Only two sailors who are currently members of the RYA NI performance squad already will be allowed on the selected team, however current performance squad sailors will be eligible for reserves.
- Team must consist of 3 girls and 3 boys to complete a squad.
- At least 2 members must be aged 16 and under on 31st December 2024 and all team members be aged 19 or under on 31st December 2024 AND still attending second level education in 2024 (i.e. the Elmo Trophy is not aimed at University Students).

Indicator Events and Squad Camps

The indicator events will be based on the open training events for the 2024-25 RYA Northern Ireland Team Racing Squad. Indicator open training events will be used to supplement to supplement the decision-making process and used in consideration of team selection. Consideration may also be given to all round performance and personal application out with the listed indicator open training events, including but not exclusively limited to, National and International events or Regional competition.

Indicator Open Training Events	Dates
Team Racing Open Session 1 - SLYC	March 2 nd 2024
Team Racing Open Session 2 - BYC	March 16 th 2024
Team Racing Open Session 3 - SLYC	April 6 th 2024
Team Racing Open Session 4 - BYC	April 20 th 2024
Team Racing Open Session 5 - SLYC	May 11 th 2024
Team Racing Selection Weekend - BYC	May 24 th and 25 th 2024

Selected Squad Camps	Dates
Team Racing Squad Camp 1 – Invitation only	June 1 st + 2 nd 2024
Team Racing Squad Camp 2 – Invitation only	June 15 th + 16 th 2024
Team Racing Squad Camp 3 – Invitation only	July 6 th + 7 th 2024
Team Racing Squad Camp 4 – Invitation only	July 13 th + 14 th 2024
Team Racing Squad Camp 5 – Invitation only	August 10 th + 11 th 2024
Elmo Trophy Event – invitation only	August 31 st – September 1 st 2024

Selection Criteria

When considering Team selection (Including “Train Alongside”) the Committee will consider the following factors:

- Performance at indicator training events
- Age
- Age adjusted ability level
- Factors affecting results
- Attitude and behaviour
- Height, weight, and physical competence
- Goals, aspirations, and personal development plan
- Programme of racing and training
- Skill development across the programme
- Other factors the Selection Committee consider to be appropriate

Exceptional Circumstances or Failure to Attend Indicator Events Sailors that are either:

1. Unable to attend the open training indicator events, due to exceptional circumstances.
2. Would like to make the Selectors aware of any exceptional circumstance which could be considered during the selection process, Notify the RYA Northern Ireland Pathways Officer by email, including any relevant reasons as to why you could not attend.

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Selection Practice Selectors have the discretion to determine;

- The size of the team (only applicable to reserves)
- Which of the criteria to take into account
- Who to select

In making their decision and exercising their discretions Selectors are expected to;

- Use their expertise and experience
- Rely on their observation of the competitors, together with the observations made by other individuals, such as team coaches and class representatives

By entering an event or activity that is part of the indicator training series the competitors agree that the Selectors have such discretions. The Selectors may extend the selection process beyond the series.

The Selectors shall comprise of the RYA Northern Ireland Pathways Officer, Performance Manager, the RYA Northern Ireland Head Coach and a nominated member of the RYA Performance Committee. The decision of the Selectors shall be ratified by the RYA Northern Ireland Performance Committee.

Application for Performance Team

Sailors wishing to be considered for a Performance Team place must complete the online application form. Applications should be completed by 12 noon on the 1st April 2024 online through the RYA Northern Ireland Cognito form page which is available on the RYA Northern Ireland Website.

Notification of Applications

All applicants will be notified in writing by email as soon as is practically possible after completion of the selection weekend. Successful sailors' names may be published on the RYA Northern Ireland website or on our social media platforms, shortly after receiving team acceptance forms from the selected sailors. It is not our policy to publish this information before this time.

Appeals

There will be no appeals against the published selection criteria or the actions of the Selectors, provided they follow the selection criteria. By entering the selection process sailors agree to this condition.

The grounds for appeal are limited to allegations of:

- Failure to follow due process
- Bias or undue influence
- Some other misconduct

The criteria for appeal may not include any alleged error of judgement of the Selectors.

Should an appeal still arise then it should initially be submitted in writing to the Performance Committee through the RYA Northern Ireland Office within 5 days of the selection being announced.

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The RYA reserves the right to amend, supplement and/or discontinue at its absolute discretion, for whatever reason, any or all of its policies and procedures.