

## **Notice of Selection**

### **RYA/John Merricks Sailing Trust (JMST)**

### **Single-handed boats/boards for OnBoard, Team15, Clubs and Centres**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. In 2013, the John Merricks Sailing Trust agreed to donate up to 50 single-handed pathway boats/boards over a period of 5 years (normally up to 10 per annum) to the clubs/centres of promising young sailors who may not normally have the financial backing or opportunity to progress within the sport.
- 1.2. The John Merricks Sailing Trust have agreed to extend that support for an additional 3 years by donating a further 30 boats over the period 2018-2020.
- 1.3. Upon selection, the RYA will donate the boat/board to the club/centre which the young sailor represents at the relevant British Youth Sailing Regional Junior Championships on the proviso that the club/centre will insure the equipment and make a free loan to the selected sailor for their primary usage for a period of two years, at which point the custody of the boat/board will revert to the club/centre in order for them to use as part of their club fleet to get additional young sailors afloat and developing their skills.
- 1.4. The boats/boards will be offered at the discretion of the Selection Committee, who will short-list a small number of sailors from each of the BYS Regional Junior Championships and then invite those sailors to submit further information and justification via a written process to assist the Selection Committee with their deliberations to select the sailors who in their opinion will best fulfil the aims of the programme defined by the JMST.
- 1.5. The boats/boards are restricted to the RYA singlehanded Junior Recognised classes which are: RS Tera, Optimist, Topper, Laser 4.7 and BIC Techno 293OD. The JMST/RYA will supply the most appropriate equipment to develop the sailors' skills and experience based on that individual's age, ability, and geographic location as well as their current height and weight.
- 1.6. Normally, the selection committee will aim to shortlist three young sailors from each BYS Regional Junior Championships, and subsequently select at least one young sailor from each of the 7 RYA Regions and 3 Home Countries.

#### **2. Eligibility**

- 2.1. In order to be eligible to receive a JMST OnBoard single-hander sailors should normally:
  - 2.1.1. Not own their own equipment, nor have the use of family owned equipment,
  - 2.1.2. Not have been a member of any RYA or Class Association regional or national squad.

### 2.1.3. Be aged:

2.1.3.1. Under 15 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020 (i.e. 14 years of age or younger) for all sailors. It is intended that the JMST/RYA will supply the most appropriate equipment to develop the young sailors' skills and experience based on that individual's age, ability, and geographic location as well as their current height and weight. This will be determined at the discretion of the Selection Committee and the RYA National Performance Manager. Indicatively this means it is likely that successful sailors will be:

2.1.3.2. Under 12 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 for RS Teras and Optimists,

2.1.3.3. Under 13 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 for the Toppers and,

2.1.3.4. Under 14 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 for the Windsurfer and Laser 4.7 Class.

2.1.4. Attend their relevant local BYS Regional Junior Championships. (the "Indicator Event"). **It is not necessary to compete in the same class as equipment is requested for, though sailors may consider it desirable and are welcome to discuss their choice of equipment with their local Regional Performance Manager.**

2.1.4.1. In 2020 the Indicator Event takes place on the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> of September, concurrently at eight venues around the United Kingdom.

2.1.4.2. Competitors must enter on-line or by paper. Visit the RYA website for more information on the Indicator Event.

2.1.4.3. If the Indicator Event does not go ahead as planned due to the COVID-19 pandemic, then an alternative method of seeking eligibility will be communicated on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.

2.1.5. Be a member of the RYA.

2.1.6. Submit any information the Selection Committee request during the short-listing process using the official short-listing form, together with any associated references.

2.1.7. Commit to developing their skills within the sport, and aspire to progress into the RYA Racing programmes by participating fully in regional class association racing and race training programmes.

2.1.8. Attend the subsequent year(s) Indicator Event as their eligibility allows.

2.1.9. Be resident in Great Britain, hold or be eligible to hold a British passport and eligible to represent Great Britain.

2.1.10. Have participated within development programme(s) of an RYA affiliated club, Team15 centre or OnBoard club or centre or class association.

### 3. Selection procedure

3.1. Sailors wishing to be considered must first complete an online Declaration of Eligibility form before the closing date on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

3.2. Sailors who meet the Eligibility criteria set out in paragraph two will be short listed.

3.3. Short-listed sailors should return any additional requested information by any deadline which will be outlined in the correspondence.

3.4. **Selection criteria part 1:** Members of the Selection Committee (or their appointed representatives) will attend all or part of the Indicator Event, When exercising their discretion in making selections, they may take into account the following factors:

3.4.1. Age and potential.

- 3.4.2. Financial need
- 3.4.3. Factors affecting results.
- 3.4.4. Performance in the Indicator Event.
- 3.4.5. Attitude and behaviour throughout the Indicator Event and reports from club/centre coaches or officials during previous training.
- 3.4.6. Goals and aspirations.
- 3.4.7. Height and weight.
- 3.4.8. Other factors the selection committee considers appropriate.

### **3.5. Selection criteria part 2**

- 3.5.1. After the Indicator Event a further shortlist of Sailors will be drawn up. Sailors on the shortlist will be judged on the basis of the Selection Committee being satisfied of:
  - 3.5.2. Demonstrative commitment from the sailors club/centre to support the aims and requirements of the programme,
  - 3.5.3. Demonstrative commitment from the Sailor, and their family, to undertake activity, which includes regional travel to further the development of sailing skills,
  - 3.5.4. The Sailor demonstrating promise or commitment to sailing and to sail racing,
  - 3.5.5. The Sailor demonstrating the prospect of competitive or other success in the RYA Junior programmes.
  - 3.5.6. Sailors may be asked to provide further written justification or evidence of their ability to satisfy the selection criteria at this stage.
- Upon short-listing, sailors will be invited to submit a further application form

## **4. Discretion of the Selection Committee**

- 4.1. For all selections, selectors have the discretion to determine:
  - 4.1.1. the number of sailors to be short-listed, taking into account the target number of awards to be made.
  - 4.1.2. whether or not to offer to allocate/donate a boat/board at all.
  - 4.1.3. the respective weighting of each element of the selection.
  - 4.1.4. who to select.
- 4.2. In making their decisions and exercising their discretions, Selectors are expected to:
  - 4.2.1. use their own expertise and experience.
  - 4.2.2. rely on their own observations of the competitors, together with the observations made by other individuals, such as class coaches and class representatives.
  - 4.2.3. By entering the Indicator Event and registering their declaration of eligibility for this programme, the competitors agree that the Selectors have such discretions.

## **5. Selection Committee**

- 5.1. The Selection Committee will normally consist of:
  - 5.1.1. The local RYA Regional Performance Manager
  - 5.1.2. The local RYA Regional Development Officer
  - 5.1.3. A representative of either the local RYA Regional/Home Country Committee or the RYA Youth Steering Group.

or their appointed representatives

## **6. Notification**

6.1. Sailors will be notified via email as soon as is practically possible after the completion of the process (usually within 14 days of the date of deadline for submission of information). Successful sailor's names will be published on the RYA website once all confirmation forms/contracts have been returned to the office – it is not our policy to publish this information before this time.

## **7. Successful applicants**

Sailors and clubs who are successful will be required to enter into a contract with the RYA covering ownership, insurance and use of the awarded boat.

## **8. Appeals**

8.1. 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.

8.2. The grounds for appeal are limited to allegations of:

8.2.1. failure to follow due process or

8.2.2. bias/undue influence.

8.3. The criteria for appeal may not include any alleged error of judgement of the Selectors. Should an appeal still arise then it should be submitted to the Racing Manager within five days of the selection being announced.

## **9. Status**

9.1. The Royal Yachting Association's (RYA's) policies and procedures are subject to change from time to time, including variations required to comply with Sports Councils' directions on the investment of National Lottery funds and any changes to the funding allocation or remit agreed with the John Merricks Sailing Trust.

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

**Updated: June 2020**