



# Notice of Selection

## RYA British Youth Sailing

### 2020/21 RYA UK Youth Performance Squad Selection

### *(2021 British Youth Sailing Summer Team Selection)*

Version Details:	
Programme:	British Youth Sailing
Version:	12 (2020 COVID-19) version.
Element Name:	2020/21 RYA UK Youth Performance Squad & 2021 BYS Summer Team Support
Author:	Youth Racing Manager
Endorsement:	RYA Youth Racing Committee
Authorisation:	RYA Director of Racing
Date:	September 2020

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document sets out the squad, team or class-specific selection policy, practice, process, criteria and the responsibilities of individuals & organisations involved in the selection process for the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and the British Youth Sailing Summer Team.
- 1.2 The RYA British Youth Sailing programme normally runs for a twelve-month period with an RYA UK Youth Performance Squad selected at the winter selection point (normally September) and then reviewed in January. With a smaller British Youth Sailing Summer Team being selected after the RYA Youth Nationals (normally April). Appendix A is updated from time to time to reflect the relevant National & International Class Association calendars and relevant selection details.
- 1.3 This document supplements and should be read in conjunction with the British Youth Sailing “Programme Selection Policy & Procedures”, which is available from the RYA website. It consists of the following sections:
  - a) Aims of the Programme
  - b) Eligibility
  - c) Section practice
  - d) Selection process
  - e) Selection criteria
  - f) Appeals
  - g) Status
  - h) RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and British Youth Sailing Team Composition
  - i) RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and British Youth Sailing Summer Team Indicator Events
  - j) Application
- 1.4 Where class association World and European championships have a limited number of entries – ILCA 6 & 420 classes for example – the RYA has no remit to select sailors or teams to attend these events. This responsibility sits with the relevant UK Class Association and their qualification process and policies. In this situation this policy sets out which of these sailors may be in receipt of RYA support.
- 1.5 This document and any associated selections must be read in the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding uncertainty that results. The RYA will make every endeavour to ensure that sailors do not miss out on the opportunity for selection as a result of restrictions resulting from COVID-19, events being cancelled or moved at short notice and events clashing with nominated selection events.
- 1.6 In the event of either insufficient racing taking place or sailors being unable to attend enough racing before any selection point then the selectors will use their discretion which may include making no selections in that class.

## Appendices

- A. 2020/21 RYA British Youth Sailing supported events & anticipated RYA UK Youth Performance Squad sizes & selection process.
- B. Selection FAQ.
- C. 2020/21 Profiling.
- D. British Youth Sailing Values & Behaviours.
- E. British Youth Sailing Critical Success Factors.

## 2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

2.1 The overall aim of the RYA British Youth Sailing programme is to:

***“Develop & Retain the Best Racing Sailors in the World”***

2.2 In order to achieve the above, we aim to select squads & teams comprising those individuals and teams who are most likely to excel at dinghy, windsurf and kiteboard racing to receive additional coaching and support from the RYA and thereby:

- a. Create high performance environments that develop sailors to successfully transition into the BST (and other senior programmes) to meet the needs of the programme; and
- b. Make best use of RYA, funding partner and sponsor resources.

**Together the “Programme Aims”**

## 3. ELIGIBILITY

‘British Youth Sailing’ means all sailors U23 unless specifically covered by another RYA programme (the RYA British Keelboat Academy for example) therefore any sailor U23 on the 31st December 2021 may be considered for selection under the discretion of the selection committee.

**However normally, to be eligible for selection, sailors must:**

- 3.1 At the time of selection be eligible to compete for Great Britain at a World Sailing sanctioned event as defined in World Sailing Regulation 19.
- 3.2 For the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad (normally September selection but now after postponed RYA Youth Nationals 2020) be U18 on the 31 December 2020, with the exception of the below.
- 3.3 For the British Youth Sailing Summer Team (i.e. April selection); normally be aged U19 on the 31 December 2021 (individual event selections may differ to this), with the exception below.

In exceptional circumstances, sailors who do not comply with 3.1 may nevertheless be eligible and selected, if expressly confirmed by the RYA Youth Racing Manager. Such sailors will be required to carry GBR on their sails and may be required to sign a written declaration of intent to comply with 3.1.

In double handers, in order to help sailing partnerships stay together and allow sailors to progress at a rate consistent with the maturation of their 'academic' peers, sailors normally remain eligible for selection when:

- a. For **RYA UK Youth Performance Squad** (normally September selection but now after postponed RYA Youth Nationals 2020) when one member of the team is aged U19 on the 1 September 2020 and the other is aged U18, provided the older sailor was born between 1 September and 31 December inclusive.
- b. For **British Youth Sailing Summer Team** (i.e. April selection) when one member of the team is aged U20 on the 1 September 2021 and the other is aged U19, provided the older sailor was born between 1 September and 31 December inclusive.

Exceptionally for 29er (female), ILCA 6 (female) & iQFOiL (female) sailors, the age for selection for all selection points are raised to U21 on the 31 December 2021 by selectors' discretion.

For 29er, ILCA 6 & iQFOiL (female) sailors these would be additional places at the selector's discretion and not at the expense of youth world's age sailors.

**Attention is drawn to the World Sailing age of eligibility for Youth Sailing World Championships selection which means that sailors that do not comply with 3.1 – 3.3 cannot represent GBR at the Youth Sailing World Championships 2021.**

**Selection to the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and British Youth Sailing Team is conditional upon:**

- Full commitment to the programme unless specific permission has been granted
- Continuing to satisfy the eligibility criteria.
- Attending and engaging with profiling as set by British Youth Sailing Pathway.
- Adherence to the terms and conditions within the squad contract.
- Exhibiting behaviours consistent with the BYS values.

Any selection is subject to the prior compliance to and on-going conformance to any standards, expectations, charters and codes of conduct lay down by the RYA and its representatives.

#### **4. SELECTION PRACTICE**

The Selection Committee is appointed as per the British Youth Sailing "Programme Selection Policy & Procedures" and currently comprises of the following people, none of whom will have eligible children within the Youth classes:

- Chair of Selectors – Youth Racing Committee
- RYA Director of Racing
- RYA Youth Racing Manager

- RYA Pathway Head Coach
- RYA Performance Manager (Lead for Sailors in Education)

**The RYA UK Youth Performance Squad is normally selected annually at the winter selection point in September and then reviewed in January.**

**This selection will first be considered after the postponed 2020 RYA Youth Nationals.** If this is not possible then selection will next be considered by end December. If this is not possible then it will roll onto the RYA Youth Nationals 2021.

British Youth Sailing Summer Teams are normally selected at the April selection point. All sailors who wish to be considered for selection should apply, or reapply, at the September point. Any sailors that do not or cannot apply at this point can also apply at the April point.

**Selection or reselection is at the discretion of the Selection Committee and based upon meeting the sailing performance and physiological benchmarks as defined, irrespective of previous squad membership.**

**This applies for all sailors.**

In each class there are specified indicator events from which there are normally places allocated based on results, age criteria and the discretion of the Selection Committee.

As per table outlined below:

	<b>RYA UK Youth Performance Squad - Winter</b>	<b>British Youth Sailing Team - Summer</b>
<b>Time of year selections made</b>	September/October (2020) – after the postponed RYA Youth Nationals	April (2021) - after the RYA Youth Nationals 2021
<b>Purpose</b>	Select sailors for RYA UK Youth Performance Squad 2020/21	Select sailors for British Youth Sailing Summer Team for the Summer 2021
<b>Review Points</b>	January	June/July

## 5. SELECTION PROCESS

- 5.1 Selection of the sailors for inclusion in the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad or British Youth Sailing Summer Team will be determined by an independent Selection Committee - see 4 above. Their remit is to select sailors in order to:
- Best fulfil the Programme Aims.
  - Support the future aims of the British Sailing Team, and other senior development programmes
- 5.2 All selections are made at the discretion of the Selection Committee.
- 5.3 The process the Selection Committee will normally follow to select the squad/team is:
- 5.3.1 A number of places will normally be allocated by the Selection Committee based upon the highest ranked eligible sailors at the primary indicator event(s) using the indicative number of result-based places and the criteria listed in Appendices A, B, C.
- 5.3.2 Further places may be allocated by the Selection Committee based upon the indicative number of additional places listed in Appendix A and their consideration of the criteria listed sections 2, 3 & 6.
- 5.4 At the review points the Selection Committee may select sailors to join the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and or the British Youth Sailing Summer Team. Sailors may also be deselected from both squad and team at these points.

The factors that the Selection Committee will normally take into consideration are:

- Results progression.
- Continued engagement with profiling and physical development.
- Adherence to the Eligibility criteria detailed in section 3.

### 5.5 **2021 British Youth Sailing Summer Team Selection**

The Selection Committee has full discretion when awarding places within British Youth Sailing Summer Teams.

Places within British Youth Sailing Summer Teams will ordinarily be awarded following the selection point in April.

The likely size of any British Youth Sailing Summer Teams and the likely notification date is outlined in Appendix A.

Unless otherwise stated, or unless the eligibility criteria for the regatta differs, where an age category is mentioned as part of the results-based criteria for international events, this shall be assumed to be as of 31 December 2021.

Additional support may be provided for other events identified later in the year as appropriate. This will be dependent on available funding and resource at that time.

## **6. SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Selection Committee have full discretion within the remit of fulfilling the programme aims when making their selections.

The Selection Committee will ordinarily only select sailors that have successfully completed profiling as set by the Pathway Sports Science Team.

The Selection Committee will normally use one or more of the following criteria to select sailors, in accordance with the British Youth Sailing “Programme Selection Policy & Procedures”:

- Performance at the Primary Indicator event.
- Performance at the Secondary Indicator event(s).
- Performance at other events.
- Performance at a significant international regatta.
- Performance at major national events/training.
- Age, height and weight.
- Coach feedback.
- Attitude and behaviour at the events in the series and during previous training.
- Mitigating Factors affecting results.
- Class ranking lists.
- Anticipated squad dynamics.
- Any other factors the selectors consider relevant to fulfilling the Programme Aims.

The Selection Committee may review any available fitness testing data, as well as data and information provided as part of the application process.

Any relevant reports from coaches and class associations

## **7. APPEALS**

No legal action may be taken arising from a decision made by the Selectors.

Any appeal relating to the selection process will be conducted in accordance with the RYA Racing Department Selection Appeals Policy. A copy of this document is available on request from the RYA Racing Operations Manager.

## 8. STATUS

The Royal Yachting Association (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. 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.

## 9. RYA UK YOUTH PERFORMANCE SQUAD AND BRITISH YOUTH SAILING SUMMER TEAM COMPOSITION

Appendix A outlines the intended RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and British Youth Sailing Summer Team sizes, number of places and team support offered.

For the avoidance of doubt: all selections, squad sizes and composition will be determined by the Selection Committee, however this document outlines the clear intent of the Selection Committee, and the principles they follow.

9.1 There are 9 Class disciplines that correspond with the Inshore Olympic Classes;

- iQFOiL (Female)
- iQFOiL (Male)
- ILCA 6 (Female)
- ILCA 6 (Male)
- 420 (Mixed)
- 29er (Female)
- 29er (Male)
- Nacra 15 (Mixed)
- Kiteboard (Mixed - relay)

Indicative squad size per discipline is normally 6 boats/boards.

9.2 In addition, there is the Olympic Class discipline ILCA 7 (Male) that may be supported.

9.3 Selection is based upon the quality of sailors and the needs of the programme at the point of selection. The selectors may exercise their discretion to not select a full squad or any squad dependent on what the programme needs and the desire to maintain quality.

9.4 In the 29er class, whilst there are no specific open team criteria, mixed teams will be considered for selection against the performance of the all male or all female boats at the discretion of the Selectors.

9.5 In the Nacra 15 Class, whilst there are no gender specific team criteria, all male & all female teams will be considered for selection against the performance of the mixed boats at the discretion of the Selectors.

9.6 In the 420 class the Selectors preference would be to select equal number of male and female sailors but recognise the complexities of mixed and gender specific teams and International competition eligibility and this is not always possible.

- 9.7 The RYA will take all reasonable steps to ensure that a sailor who has a genuine and serious desire to identify in a different gender to that assigned at birth is able to participate in the RYA squad programme appropriate to their self-identified gender. For more information on the RYA's policy please contact the RYA Safeguarding and Equality Manager on 023 8060 4104 or e-mail [equality@rya.org.uk](mailto:equality@rya.org.uk)

## 10. RYA UK YOUTH PERFORMANCE SQUAD AND BRITISH YOUTH SAILING SUMMER TEAM INDICATOR EVENTS

Appendix A details the two categories of events which contribute to selection decisions, these are:

- **Primary**, which are used principally to allocate any results based places;
- **Secondary**, which can be used in conjunction with **primary** indicators to support any additional selections.

The Selection Committee will also use other national and international events to review the sailor's performance as appropriate.

## 11. APPLICATION

Sailors who wish to be considered for a place in the RYA UK Youth Performance Squad and British Youth Sailing Summer Team must apply on-line at <http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/youth-junior/Pages/hub.aspx>

Sailors who are offered a place must be a member of the RYA in order to accept.

Applicants will be notified in writing as soon as is practically possible after the completion of the final indicator event, and usually within 14 days.

## 12. BRITISH SAILING TEAM

The first element of the British Sailing Team is the British Sailing Squad (formally known as the Podium Potential Pathway or P3). The consideration for selection to the British Sailing Team is based on three criteria:

- Sailing Performance
- Profiling
- Values & Behaviours

The qualification matrix is published in the Olympic Classes handbook, available online and on request.

To help with a smooth transition, sailors may be supported in both the British Sailing Squad and Youth programmes through coaching and event support.

Once a sailor has been selected to the British Sailing Team, they will not take an RYA UK Youth Performance Squad place although they may be in receipt of British Youth Sailing support.

### **13. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please initially contact:

[Youthracing@rya.org.uk](mailto:Youthracing@rya.org.uk)

Alternatively please send an e-mail to the Youth Racing Manager at

[youthracingmanager@rya.org.uk](mailto:youthracingmanager@rya.org.uk)

## **Appendix A - 20/21 RYA BYS supported events & anticipated RYA UK Youth Performance Squad (Youth Squad) sizes & selection process**

Please see separate document

## Appendix B – Selection FAQ – RYA UK Youth Performance Squad (Youth Squad)

- Q1.** Do I have to attend the RYA Youth National Championships to be considered for selection?
- A1.** No but it is helpful. Clearly the Selectors need to have data on a sailor's performance in order to make an assessment as to their suitability for selection but they are also aware that for many reasons sailors may either not be able to attend or may choose not to attend. In this instance the selectors will use their discretion and consider the secondary events and other historical results/data if they judge them to be useful. The selectors' discretion may include selecting no squad in a class and deferring a decision until either January 2021 or the RYA Youth Nationals 2021.
- Q2.** What happens if these FAQ's do not address my question?
- A2.** Please submit written questions in the form that can be shared publicly to the email address [Youthraciing@rya.org.uk](mailto:Youthraciing@rya.org.uk) and the question and answer will be published.
- Q3.** What happens if the International event that I am intending to attend is cancelled with little notice can I still enter the RYA Youth Nationals?
- A3.** The RYA Youth Nationals are full, and a waiting list is in operation. You can be added to the waiting list and considered against any RYA Youth Nationals waiting list criteria. Please contact [racing.events@rya.org.uk](mailto:racing.events@rya.org.uk) for your entry to be considered.
- Q4.** What are the reasons that the selectors would accept non-attendance at the RYA Youth Nationals and still consider sailors for selection?
- A4.** Anything related to COVID-19; A local lockdown preventing travel or attendance, either having the symptoms of COVID-19 and awaiting a test or having a confirmed case, having to isolate because of someone in your immediate bubble either having symptoms or a confirmed case, choosing not to attend because of the need to shield for your personal health, choosing not to attend because of having to shield or protect someone vulnerable in your immediate bubble.  
An event clash because of a postponed International event that you would normally attend  
A clash with school term time.
- Q5.** What happens if the RYA Youth Nationals 2020 has to be cancelled because of COVID-19?
- A5.** The RYA will refund the fee and the selectors will exercise their discretion which may include selecting no squad for a period and continuing to provide support through the Class Association/s.
- Q6.** How will the RYA select if all the sailors are not at the same event?
- A6.** The initial intention is published in Appendix A then the selectors will exercise their discretion on a case by case basis. Example below:  
A sailor has an event clash with a major International regatta and would normally expect to attend and deliver an outcome result.

Selectors will consider their International result against the standard of competition and what Youth Squad Sailors have delivered in the past then make a corresponding decision.

IE if you are attending an International event and finish in the back half of the fleet then you should not expect to be selected for Youth Squad. If you finish in the top third then you may be considered and the top 10 more likely, with a medal being the most certain position. Any selection is dependent on the standard of competition.

- Q7.** Does selection for UK Youth Performance Squad make me an 'elite sportsperson' and therefore do I fall under the UK Government elite sports person COVID-9 dispensation.
- A7.** No, only members of the British Sailing Team (selected sailors in Olympic Class equipment) are considered as 'elite' in this context. Sailors over 16 in youth classes are not eligible.
- Q8.** The document is titled and refers to '*2021 British Youth Sailing Team Selection*' throughout however the detail of selection and for which events is not included in Appendix A. Why is this and when will this be shared?
- A8.** The principles of this are laid out and included but with such a high level of uncertainty surrounding the International competition environment the selectors do not feel confident to include anything more certain at this time. It remains the desire to select teams and sailors for support at the RYA Youth Nationals 2021 to compete internationally.  
Appendix A will be updated before the RYA Youth Nationals 2021.
- Q9.** Do I need to attend the primary and all the secondary events?
- A9.** No (please refer to previous answers (Q1 & Q4)). The more information the selectors have to inform their selections the better but attendance at events will be considered in the context of sailors' ability to attend (see Q4).
- Q10.** If my sailing partner has COVID-19 or the symptoms and can't attend training can I sail with a different partner?
- A10.** No, sailors are selected to Youth squad as teams and not individuals and substitution is not normally allowed. In addition, because of the mitigation required around COVID-19 it will be assumed that if one sailor has or potentially has COVID-19 then the other sailor will be excluded until either 14 days have passed or a they present a clear test.

## Appendix C- 20/2 Physiological Benchmarks

Physiological profiling is collated from non-elite research in athletic individuals of the same age and gender. These are considered the minimum level of physical performance for a UK squad sailor to give the best possible chance of progression through the pathway by increasing robustness and maximising effective time on the water through the following:

- Reduce days lost on the water due to chance of injury
- Reduce days lost on the water due to chance of illness
- Reduce fatigue – Increase effectiveness of time on the water
- Improve recovery – Accelerate learning
- Reduce decline in cognitive function over time
- Enable a more productive learning environment to maximise skill development
- Display positive behaviours in physical development to enable smoother transition to the greater demands of the Olympic classes or into new classes that have different physical demands

To be eligible for selection on to RYA UK Youth Performance Squad or Summer Team Support, sailors must attend and complete one profiling session per year and engage proactively to progress their physical development.

The RYA reserves the right, to review profiling from time to time, based upon the recommendations of the British Sailing Team sports science team. Any changes would not be applied retrospectively to disadvantage any sailors who already profiled.

## Appendix D - British Youth Sailing Values & Behaviours

### **Passionately Ambitious**

#### ***'Be the best you can be'***

Youth – Committed to your programme

BST P3 – Hunger and desire to improve your performance through prioritisation

### **Curiosity**

#### ***'Fascination with the process of learning'***

Youth – Experimenting with different ways of learning

BST P3 – Motivated to learn from all experiences

### **Courage and Determination**

#### ***'Never give up'***

Youth – Embrace failure in order to ultimately succeed

BST P3 – Strive to bounce back after a set back

### **Ownership**

#### ***'Take responsibility'***

Youth – Take responsibility for your actions

BST P3 – Manage your own programme

### **Respect and Integrity**

#### ***'Doing the right thing'***

Youth – Exhibit sportsmanship

BST P3 – Exhibit professionalism

## **Appendix E - British Youth Sailing Critical Success Factors**

### ***“Develop & Retain the Best Racing Sailors in the World”***

#### **Critical Success Factors**

- 1 Create fast sailors in all conditions.
- 2 To develop mentally and physically robust sailors that do not break down.
- 3 To develop excellent non-dependent decision-makers.
- 4 To develop sailors that excel under extreme pressure.
- 5 To nurture passion, professionalism and a performance mind-set.