



RYA Scotland Institute Support Selection Policy

Introduction

Selection to the RYA Scotland Institute Support Programme will be determined by Selectors appointed by the Performance Committee and will be the sailors who, in their opinion, will have the best prospects of progressing to the Podium Potential Pathway (P3) Podium Potential (PP) and Podium (P) Squads.

The number youth athletes selected for the programme will vary depending upon the strength and depth of talent currently in the GBR P3, PP and P squads as well as the number of talented athletes in Scotland that are likely to progress to this level. The maximum Number RYA Scotland can select is controlled by **sportscotland** however RYA Scotland reserves the right to reduce the number receiving this support.

Institute Support is a progression from the RYA Scotland Elite and Development Teams, Athletes will normally be current GBR Youth Squad, P3, PP, P members or achieved results in the top 10% at a UK National, European or World Championships in the previous season.

A proportion of places will be allocated to boats on the relative merit of performance at key events. Places may also be allocated at the discretion of the selectors against factors such as potential.

Applicants must be committed to following the RYA Team GBR pathway.

Eligibility

To be eligible for selection, an athlete should meet the age criteria below. In addition an athlete shall hold or be eligible to hold a British passport, and be eligible to represent Great Britain in the Olympic or Paralympic Games. In exceptional circumstances, sailors who do not comply with this may nevertheless be eligible and selected, if expressly confirmed by the RYAS High Performance Manager. Such sailors will be required to carry GBR on their sails.

Athletes should also either have a primary place of residence in Scotland or have been through the RYA Scotland Youth and Junior Teams to be considered for the Institute Support.

Athletes should normally be current members of P, PP, P3, RYA Scotland Elite Team or achieved results in the top 10% at a UK, European or World Championships in the previous season.

Only athletes sailing recognised RYA Youth, Olympic or Paralympic classes will be considered for Institute Support. If athletes are currently sailing a recognised junior class as their primary class of competition they will not be considered for the programme, however results from junior classes may be used by the Selectors if an athlete is currently in the Transition 1 programme.

Athletes must meet the physical fitness benchmarks set by British Youth Sailing Pathway Sport Science Team.



Reselection to Programme

To be reselected to the programme athletes should continue to meet the eligibility criteria stated above and will need to demonstrate they have engaged sufficiently in the previous year.

Engagement will be measured by;

- Expected Vs actual attendance of supervised and non-supervised S&C sessions. (Above 80%)
- Expected Vs actual Completion of the VCP Training Application (Above 80%)
- Use of other programme benefits – Physiotherapy, Sports Medicine, Sports Nutrition & Sports Psychology.

Expected attendance will be agreed with the RYA Scotland HPM and the sportscotland lead S&C Coach, this will change throughout the year and take into account competition/training load, injuries, stage in the pathway.

Athletes who feel they may meet the eligibility criteria for Paralympic competition

RYA Scotland endeavours to keep those athletes who feel they may ultimately be eligible for the Paralympics within mainstream race and race training programmes for as long as is practically possible, as we consider this the most effective way to facilitate their development. Athletes are then either transferred across to the Olympic programme or the Paralympic programme, or invited to participate in both of them in parallel should this be considered most effective. Athletes or parents who would like further advice or feel they may meet the relevant criteria are encouraged to discuss in more detail with the RYA Scotland High Performance Manager.

Scottish Team Ages and Composition

Athletes should be 15 or over at time of selection. RYA Scotland aims to ensure that present and potential team members are treated on an equal basis irrespective of gender, disability, race, religious belief or social status. Team members will be selected on their ability or potential ability shown as stated in the discretionary criteria.

Indicator Events

Indicator events will be Class UK Championships, Class European Championships, Class World Championships, RYA Youth Championships, RYA Scotland Physical Profiling Day and UK Youth & Junior Squad Selection.

Where there is an overlap in dates between UK and International Competition the latter will be seen as the primary event.



Discretionary Criteria

When considering the discretionary criteria the selectors may take into consideration any of the following factors:

- Performance at indicator events
- Age and potential
- Age adjusted results
- Factors affecting results
- Attitude and behavior
- Application assessment
- Class ranking list
- Height and weight
- Goals and aspirations
- Programme of racing and training
- Other factors the selection committee considers appropriate

Exceptional Circumstances or Failure to Attend Indicator Events

Sailors that are either:

1. Unable to attend the indicator events, due to exceptional circumstances.
2. Would like to make the selectors aware of any exceptional circumstance which could be considered during selection,

Notify the RYA Scotland High Performance Manager by email, including any relevant reasons as to why you could not attend.

Email: tim.ellis@ryascotland.org.uk

Selection Practice

Selectors have the discretion to determine;

- The size of the team
- 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 series the competitors agree that the Selectors have such discretions. The Selection Committee may extend the selection process beyond the series.

The Selectors shall comprise of the RYA Scotland High Performance Manager, the **sportscotland** High Performance Manager and a nominated member of the RYA Scotland Performance Committee. The decision of the selectors shall be ratified by the RYA Scotland Performance Committee.

Application

There is no formal application process for the RYA Scotland Institute Support Programme, sailors will instead be invited by the selectors.

Notification

All applicants will be notified in writing by email in December of each year, either RYA Scotland or **sportscotland**. Successful sailors' names will be published on the RYA Scotland website 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:

- I. Failure to follow due process
- II. Bias or undue influence
- III. 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 Scotland Office within 5 days of the selection being announced.

admin@ryascotland.org.uk

The full appeals policy is available on request from the RYA Scotland Office.

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.