

Notice of Selection

RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad 2014/15 and RYA International Competition support 2014

Introduction

Twelve BIC Techno UK Junior Squad places will normally be offered. The squad will normally comprise both the 6.8 and 7.8 rigs, however the overall number and exact breakdown will be determined by the Selectors and may vary according to the ability of competitors taking part in the indicator series. The first two places will normally be offered to the top ranked 7.8 boy and girl (aged under 16 on 31st December 2014) on completion of the indicator series. Two places will normally be offered to the top ranked 6.8 boy and girl (aged under 14 on 31st December 2014) on completion of the indicator series.

It is our intention to award the top ranked 7.8 boy and girl from the UKWA Cup Series (aged under 16 on 31st December 2014) a squad place if they are not already selected from the above criteria. However, this decision will be at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

Please note that in order to be eligible for international events in 2014, 6.8 and 7.8 sailors shall be aged under 14 and under 16 respectively on the 31st December 2014.

Any remaining BIC Techno UK Junior Squad places will be offered at the discretion of the Selection Committee, to sailors who in their opinion have demonstrated the best prospects of progressing to the RYA UK Youth Squads and winning medals for RYA Team GBR at major international competitions in the subsequent years.

The Selectors expect sailors to make every endeavour to attend the indicator events, in order that they can make objective decisions having seen sailors compete against each other at the key events.

Support

Sailors selected to be part of the 2014/15 RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad will receive the following support:

- Invitation to subsidised race training weekends and half term camp(s). These take place at a number of venues around the UK and are delivered by the RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad Head Coach and other additional specialists and coaches.
- Benefit from a specific needs based training programme.
- Have the opportunity to access remote coaching support from the UK Junior Squad Head Coach.
- The opportunity to purchase discounted UK Junior Squad clothing.
- Receive transitional advice regarding their progression into Youth Sailing from the UK Junior Coach and RYA Single Handed Pathway Manager.

Whilst the RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad programme is heavily subsidised by the RYA, some parental contribution towards the costs of coaching, venues, coach boats, accommodation and food is required.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for the BIC Techno UK Junior Squad 2014/15, sailors shall normally be aged under 16 on the 31st December 2014. However, in extremely exceptional circumstances sailors who do not meet the age criteria may be invited at the discretion of the Selection Committee (these sailors would be ineligible to compete internationally in the OD Techno classes).

In addition, RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad sailors must be resident in Great Britain, hold or be eligible to hold a British passport and be eligible to represent Great Britain in the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship.

If you wish to be considered for a place in the RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad, your equipment must conform to the UK (RYA) National Class rules for the BIC Techno class at the indicator events. Therefore with respect to the change down for 7.8 sails, the international rules state that only the BIC Techno 6.8 can be used in international events.

With respect to the change down for 6.8 sails, the International AGM in 2008 agreed that the BIC 5.8 should be developed as an alternative change down to the existing option, which is to use any 5.5 sail with two or less Cams. The AGM also agreed that this decision would be reviewed annually with regard to a possible decision to make the BIC 5.8 a One-Design (sole option) change down. The 5.5 option remains internationally and will remain in the UK for at least 2014.

Sailors may not accept a RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad place if they have accepted a place in another RYA Squad.

Selection Criteria and Procedure

Clear and objective selections are an important principle for the Techno squad programmes, however, in the Techno class this is challenging because sailors often compete at different events on different rigs. Additionally we recognise that young sailors are often inconsistent and inevitably progress at different rates, due to differing rates of emotional and biological maturity.

Therefore, whilst a proportion of the squad places will normally be offered on a ‘first past the post basis’, the remaining places will be offered at the discretion of the Selection Committee who are empowered by the UKWA/TCA and the RYA to make such decisions in the context of the aims of the programme.

Those places offered to the highest ranked sailors on the basis of results, will be allocated according to a ranking system using the results from the UK Junior Squad Indicator Series 2014.

(Indicator events for RYA Zone squad places are regionally based, details of which can be found at www.rya.org.uk/go/zones, under the ‘zone squad selection policy’).

Normally four of the RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad 2014/15 places will be allocated according to rankings based on the UK Junior Squad Indicator Series 2014. The remaining places, where offered, will be awarded on a discretionary basis.

RYA UK Junior Squad Indicator Series ranking events:

Date	Event	Venue
21/22 June 2014	Cup 2	Bridlington
12/13 July 2014	Cup 3	WPNSA
23/24 August 2014	Cup 4	Pwllheli
13/14 September 2014	National Championships (mandatory)	Rutland SC

Sailors should attend the **UKWA / RYA Junior National Championships, plus at least two of the available three identified UKWA Cup events**, as above.

Members of the Selection Committee (or their appointed representatives) will normally attend some of the above events, in order to make discretionary selections based upon the matrix of criteria listed below.

Exceptional Circumstances/failure to attend Indicator events

The Selectors expect sailors to make every endeavour to attend the indicator events in order that they can make objective decisions, having seen sailors compete against each other at key events.

Where this is **impossible**, sailors may take the opportunity to notify the Selectors of the reasons why and seek dispensation, which will only be granted (retrospectively) in exceptional circumstances. Some examples of exceptional circumstances are: illness or injury which precludes sailing (medical diagnosis should be provided), bereavement or non-transferable academic commitments which directly impact on the grade of a nationally recognised qualification that sailors will be awarded.

Gear failure, breakage or the actions of another competitor are not considered exceptional, where appropriate, sailors should seek retribution via the normal processes of the racing rules of sailing.

Sending in a discretionary request does not imply acceptance of the reasons or the granting of dispensation by the Selectors. By electing not to attend an event, sailors accept the likelihood of this negatively impacting on their selection. Sailors are encouraged to seek medical advice and exercise common sense around competing with an illness or injury.

Sailors wishing to notify the selectors should do so in writing, together with any diagnosis or reasons via the Junior Racing Senior Administrator, at jules.smyth@rya.org.uk

Scoring

“RYA UK Junior Squad Indicator Series” will be scored by adding the best two overall finishing positions from the three identified Cup series indicator events plus, the overall finishing position from the UKWA / RYA National Junior Championships. The scores will be counted unaltered, i.e. including all competitors at the regattas. These event results will be used to create a ranking list that will be updated regularly and published via a link from the UKWA/TCA website. Further scoring details can be found on the UKWA Cup Notice of Race.

Discretionary Places

Discretionary places will be determined by the Selection Committee and may be offered to sailors who:

- In their opinion have demonstrated the best prospects of progressing to the RYA UK Youth Squads and the most potential to win medals for RYA Team GBR at international competitions in the subsequent years.
- Fall outside the age criteria.
- Fail to achieve automatic selection, possibly (but not exclusively) because they are new to the class, injured, or could not attend all indicator events.

When allocating discretionary places, the Selection Committee may take into consideration the following factors:

- Age and potential.
- Factors affecting results.
- Performance in the Indicator series.
- Attitude and behaviour throughout the series and during previous training.
- Class ranking list.
- Performance in other events.
- Goals and aspirations.
- Height and weight.
- Other factors the Selection Committee considers appropriate.

The Selection Committee may extend the selection process beyond the indicator series.

Selection Practice

For all squad places Selectors have the discretion to determine:

- The size of the squad, taking into account the target size.
- Which of the criteria to take into account.
- Who to select.

In making their decisions and exercising their discretions, Selectors are expected to:

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

By entering an event or activity that is part of this selection series, the competitors agree that the Selectors have such discretions.

Additional Sailors

Additional talented sailors may be invited to train alongside any of the above squads later in the training programme, at the discretion of the Selection Committee. This may be because existing squad sailors are unable to attend a specific session, or if talented sailors emerge from other programmes later in the process.

Selection Procedure (* see application and selection process diagram at the end of the policy)

The Techno Class has a wide range of training and competition opportunities to suit all abilities and ages, however this does make the application, selection and acceptance process inherently complex. Therefore, the RYA and the UKWA/TCA have worked hard to develop the most efficient and clear process.

In 2014, the intention is for Techno sailors to apply only for a generic Techno Squad place. For clarity this means that you do not apply specifically to one or more squads but that the Selection Committee determine the most appropriate squad for you in light of your ranking, age and ability. Sailors will be updated as to the status of their application as and when each tier of selection (or phase) is complete via a selection update letter/e-mail. Please see Application and Selection Process Diagram attached.

The 2014/15 BIC Techno Squad selections will take place in two phases:

Phase One Selection of Phase One will take place at the culmination of the final UK Squads Indicator events (as above – WPNSA: 5th & 6th October) – the following squad will be selected from this ranking list:

- RYA UK Junior Squad.

Phase Two Selection for Phase two will take place at the culmination of the RYA Zone Squad Indicator events, after which the following squads will be selected (please note that there is a separate RYA Zone Squad Notice of Selection, which includes Indicator events to attend):

- RYA Zone Squads.

Please note that due to this process of application for a squad place in ‘a Techno Squad’ - applicants who are unsuccessful at gaining selection during Phase One Selections, but **who meet the criteria for Phase Two consideration (RYA Zone Squads)**, will receive a “**selection update**”/decision deferral letter at this point, which advises sailors that they will be considered for an RYA Zone Squad place in Phase Two.

For clarity, if a sailor is unsuccessful in securing a squad place at the Phase One selections, they **will automatically** be carried through to the Phase Two selections **providing** they meet the eligibility criteria for this application. Should sailors not wish to be carried forward then they should advise their local RYA High Performance Manager that they do not wish to be considered for a place in the Phase Two selection process for RYA Zone Squads.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will be made up of the BIC Techno Class Steering Group (or their appointed representatives), which currently consists of:

- RYA Single Handed Pathway Manager – Kirsty Bonar / Tim Hall
- TCA Chairman – Phil Bloodworth
- UKWA Chairman – Bob Ingram
- RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad Head Coach – Ali Masters

Application, Entry Fees and Measurement

Sailors must be members of the UK Windsurfing Association and members of the RYA.

Applications for the RYA BIC Techno UK Junior Squad 2014/15 should be submitted on-line between the 1st June and 15th September 2014 - for phase one applications (RYA UKJS) and before the last indicator date - for the RYA Zone squads.

Applications can be accessed via www.ryaracingevents.org.uk.

There will be no additional entry fee for the BIC Techno UK Junior Squad indicator Series. All boards must conform to the Class Association rules and measurements. Further details of the RYA Selection Policy is published on the website.

Notification

Applicants will be notified in writing by email as soon as is practically possible after the completion of the final indicator event, usually within 14 days. Successful sailor's names will be published on the RYA web-site once all attendance confirmation forms/contracts have been returned to the office – 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/undue influence.
- III. Some other misconduct.

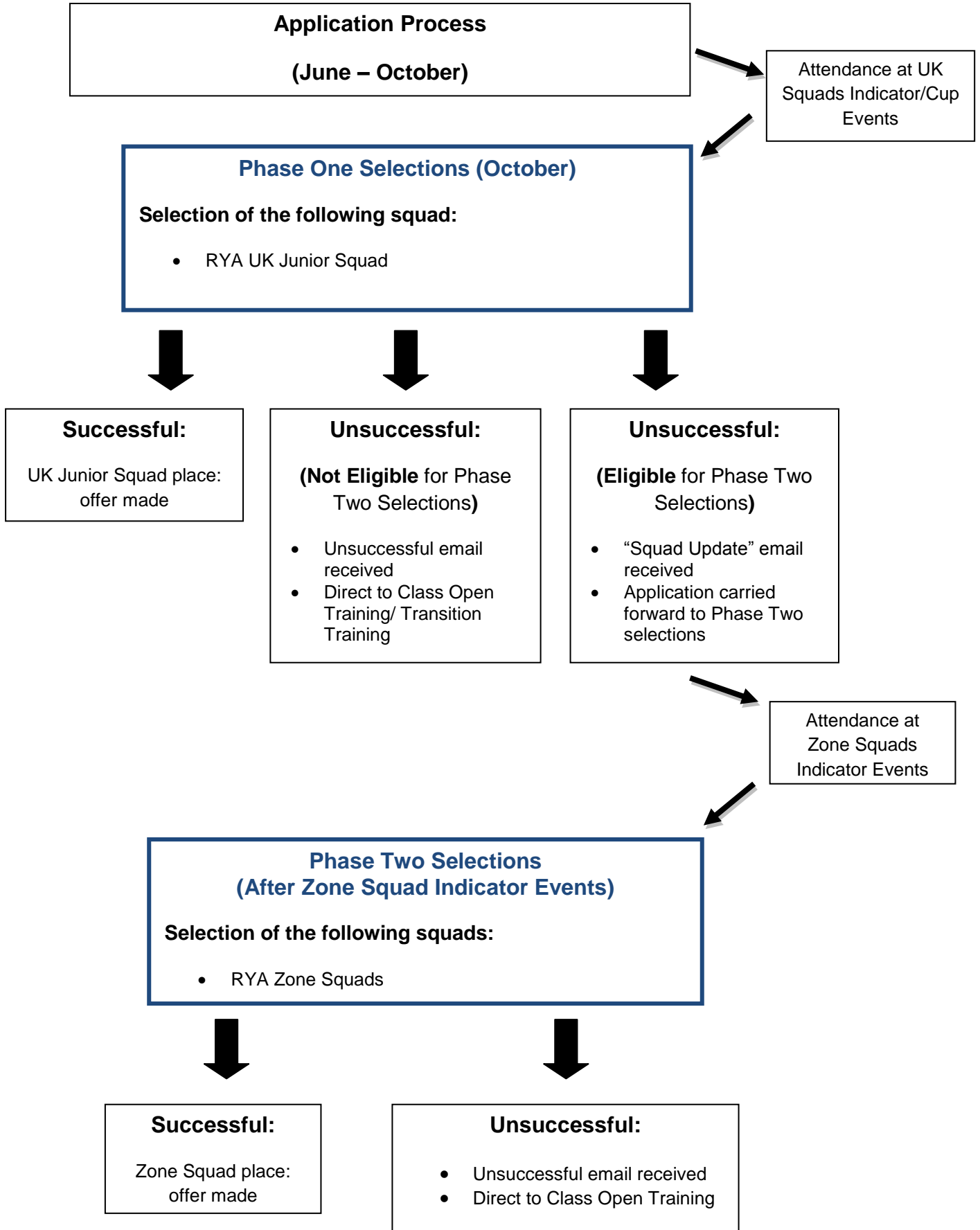
The criteria for appeal may not include any alleged error of judgement of the Selectors. Should an appeal still arise, then it should be submitted to the Racing Manager within five days of the selection being announced. The full Appeals document is available on request from the RYA Racing Operations Manager.

Status

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.

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.

RYA BIC Techno Squad Application Process Diagram



RYA International competition support 2014:

Class	Event	Date	Sailors to be supported	£££ - Grant (G) / Parental contribution (PC)	How selected / Trip arrangements	Main Qualifiers to be attended for selection:	No. of RYA Coaches
Techno	World Championships, Brest, France	19 th -26 th July 2014. Pre-training expected to commence on 16 th July.	Residential trip for five sailors Non-residential trip for another 5 sailors	£600(PC) to cover transport, accommodation, food, coach support. Sailor pays (and organises) entry fee Non-residential trip. Sailors make own arrangements.	Residential trip for five sailors (top 2 7.8 boys and girls, plus top 6.8 sailor). All sailors must be U17 at 31/12/14. For non-residential trip – 5 places discretionary based. RYA intends to offer coach support (1 coach) for sailors outside these teams in conjunction with Class Association.	UKWA Cup 1, Christchurch and Inlands 2, Rutland (Marathon event not included in series)	2
Techno	European Championships, Garda. Italy	20-27 April 2014	All RYA UK Junior Squad (2013/14) sailors.	Non-Residential trip. Sailor makes own arrangements.	Sailor makes all arrangements. RYA provides coach support.	UKJS 2013/14 Sailors.	2

Scoring

The following discard system will be used for the 2 events to select sailors for the Techno Worlds. This allow for sailor inconsistency and varying conditions (normally, there will be a maximum of 14 races):

14 races or more	3 discards
10 – 13 races	2 discards
5 - 9 races	1 discard
4 races or less	0 discards