



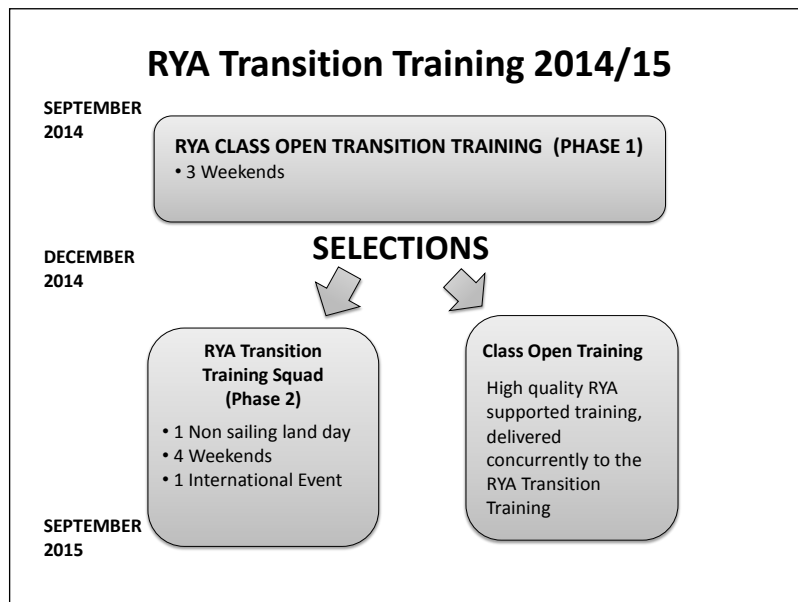
## 2014/15 RYA Transition Training Squad Programme Guidelines (Phase 1 & 2)

### 1. Introduction and background

This programme aims to:

1. **Initially** deliver a comprehensive foundation in the key skills and attributes required to make a successful transition into the RYA 'pathway' Youth classes.
2. **Subsequently**, support a number of sailors who have (initially) demonstrated the greatest progression and propensity to succeed in their chosen 'pathway' class in order to assist them to make a successful transition into the demanding RYA UK Youth Squad programme.

The programme provides education, support, tailored coaching, physical training, competition guidance, and international event support to fast track the development of essential relevant attributes to make a successful transition. These include: communication, fitness, boat handling skills, boat speed and racing skills. Physiology and sports psychology modules will also be included, as well as seminars for parents/guardians of sailors in the programme.



There will be Two Phases to the RYA training:

**Phase 1: RYA Class Open Transition Training** – usually comprising three open training weekends running from September to December 2014. These will be run by the relevant class association.

In December, on completion of phase 1 there will be a selection process to determine the composition of the RYA Transition Training Squad.

**Phase 2: RYA Transition Training Squad** – usually comprising a minimum four training camps, including a mandatory non-sailing land day and an appropriate International event, which will be selected specifically to develop relevant skills and International competition experience.

This phase will run from January to September 2015 (the conclusion of this programme coincides with the main RYA UK Youth Squad entry point which we would hope a number of Transition Training Squad sailors would progress into).



**Phase 2: Class Open Training** - Sailors **not** selected for the Phase 2 RYA Transition Training Squad will be encouraged to enter into RYA supported Class Open Training programme which is scheduled to run alongside the RYA Transition Training Squad, from January to September 2015.

The relevant Class Association will be empowered, given guidance and financial support to deliver an agreed Open Training Programme during Phase 2. The relevant associations have been contracted by the RYA to provide open training programmes and coach an agreed programme/syllabus for the (majority of) young sailors that will/have not been selected for the RYA Transition Training Squad, in order to build upon and complement their Phase 1 training (RYA Open Transition Training) and aid their successful progression in their chosen youth class. It is intended that many of the contracted class association coaches should (where possible) also be regular coaches within the RYA Youth programme.

## 2. Classes

The classes for RYA Transition Training are as follows:

- Single handed dinghy (Laser Radial) – girls and boys
- Double handed conventional dinghy (420) – all boy or all girl crews (exceptionally mixed crews)
- Doubled handed asymmetric dinghy (29ers) - all boy, all girl crews or mixed crews (open)<sup>1</sup>
- Windsurfer (Neil Pryde RS:X 8.5) – girls and boys

At RYA Transition Training level mixed crews are eligible in the 29er class, but may usually only be invited in the 420 Class in exceptional circumstances.

Each class will be looked at on an individual basis year on year, as to the viability of running an RYA Transition Training Squad.

## 3. Eligibility

To be invited to attend the full RYA Transition Training programme a sailor should **normally** be:

- Eligible to compete for Great Britain in the Olympic Games.
- Not a member of a 2014/15 RYA UK Youth, RYA UK Junior or RYA Zone Squads.
- A sailor who has not already participated in previous RYA Transition Training programmes.
- Under 16 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 (Under 17 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 for the Neil Pryde RS:X 8.5)

NB: In order to help sailing partnerships stay together, progress to senior competition, and to allow sailors to progress through the programme at a rate consistent with the maturation of their academic peers: sailors remain eligible for selection for the RYA Transition Training programme when a member of the team is 16 years of age on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014, provided that they were born between 1 September and 31 December inclusive. This is also applicable to singlehanded sailors. This is consistent with the RYA UK Youth Squad policy.

### Actions:

a) Sailors who wish to be considered for a place in the RYA Transition Training Squad must be a member of the RYA and apply on-line at [www.ryaracingevents.org.uk](http://www.ryaracingevents.org.uk) Applications will be open on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 and applications will close after the last class Nominated Indicator Event or last Phase 1 RYA Class Open Transition Training weekend, whichever is later.

b) Please note that sailors will also need to enter the three RYA Class Open Transition Training weekends (Phase 1) directly through the relevant class association.

<http://www.420sailing.org.uk/>

<http://www.29er.org.uk/>

[www.laser.org.uk](http://www.laser.org.uk)

<https://ukwindsurfing.com/>

Sailors will not be eligible to participate in any of the RYA Transition Training Squad camps (Phase 2) until a signed attendance confirmation form has been received by the RYA for all members of a boat's crew invited to attend.

Normally, the length of time a sailor can remain in the programme will be limited to 1 year.

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<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of mixed sex pairings differs between 420 and 29er as the 29er is an 'open' class, at the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship (i.e. options are boy-boy, girl-girl, boy-girl, or girl-boy combinations are acceptable) and the RYA are keen to embrace this development.



## Selection and Selection Criteria

**Selections for RYA Transition Training Squad (Phase 2)** will be made in November / December 2014 and will be based on the following criteria:

- Results from each class(es) Nominated Indicator Event.
- Result(s) from a race series to be held during the final weekend of the relevant Phase 1 RYA Class Open Transition Training.
- Eligibility criteria as above
- Participation during the 3 RYA Class Open Transition Training weekends running from September to December 2014 (Phase 1) and the nominated class indicator event
- Recommendations from the respective RYA UK Junior Squad Head Coaches, RYA UK Youth Squad Coaches and Open Training Coaches, and/or officers from the relevant Class Associations who may be asked to input on one or all of the following areas:
  - Performance, attitude and behaviour at relevant Junior Championships and during previous training.
  - Class ranking lists.
  - Training history.
- Performance at major international regattas at Junior level
- Age and future potential.
- Height and weight.
- Personal goals and aspirations.
- Performance in youth classes – competition and training.
- Any other factors the selectors consider appropriate.

Results from the identified events shall be used to compile a ranking list which will form the basis of the allocation of any results based places, as well as informing the selectors (in conjunction with the individual race scores where they believe it relevant) who will exercise their judgement for any discretionary selections in relation to the points listed above.

### Selection Practice

For all squad places, selectors have the discretion to determine:

- the viability of running a squad in each class.
- 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.

### Ranking Lists

The ranking list for Laser Radial\*, 420 and RS:X 8.5 classes will be calculated using the individual race scores from both the nominated indicator event and counter races run as part of the conclusion of the training programme as follows:

Laser Radial and 420	RS:X 8.5
<3 races = 0 discards	<5 races = 0 discards
3-5 races = 1 discard	5-9 races = 1 discard
6 + races = 2 discards	10+ races = 2 discards



### 29er Class Ranking list

The ranking list for the 29er class will be calculated by adding the overall finishing positions\* from both the nominated indicator event and a second event which is comprised of only the counter races which are run at the final phase 1 Open Training (November 2014). Discards will be applied to the counter races run as part of the conclusion of the Open Training programme, and the overall finishing position will be carried forward to form a ranking, as follows:

<b>29er</b>
<4 races = 0 discards
4-8 races = 1 discard
9 + races = 2 discards

\* Sailors who sailed within the Silver fleet will be ranked in order of overall finishing position at the nominated indicator event and the rankings will follow-on from the gold fleet positions, i.e. assuming a fleet size of 100 boats (as an example) with 50 boats in gold fleet and 50 boats in silver fleet, 1<sup>st</sup> in the silver fleet will have an overall finishing position of 51<sup>st</sup>, and so on.

Phase 2 selections may include sailors who have not attended phase 1 training (this is particularly likely in the case of a Southern hemisphere junior class worlds taking place over Christmas) and allocated to sailors at the discretion of the selectors.

### Nominated Class Indicator Events

Class	Event	Dates	Venue
Laser Radial	Inland Championships	25 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Rutland SC
29er	29er Grand Prix	25-26 October 2014	Datchet Water Sailing Club
420	End of Season Championships	22-23 November 2014	Grafham Water Sailing Club
RS:X 8.5	RYA National Ranker/UKWA Cup Event	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Stokes Bay

Invitations to the RYA Transition Training Squad are conditional upon full commitment to all training requirements and an ongoing, monitored personal competition and training programme. Sailors will be expected to undertake significant personal sailing and training as well as recommended class and RYA events, indicators and other open training.

### 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 Youth Racing Senior Administrator, at [Sara.Turner@rya.org.uk](mailto:Sara.Turner@rya.org.uk)



#### 4. RYA Transition Training Group Sizes

Approximate anticipated numbers to be invited to attend phase 2 RYA Transition Training are as follows, though this may vary depending on the age and ability of applicants and those participating in the indicator series:

Class	Boy (boats/boards)	Girl (boats/boards)	Total (boats/boards)
Laser Radial	Min 2 (including top 2 ranked U16's as 31/12/14)	Min 2 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/14)	10-12
29er	Min 2 (including top 2 ranked U16's as 31/12/14) Boys, or mixed crews	Min 2 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/14) Girls.	8-12
420	Min 2 (including top 2 ranked U16's as 31/12/14)	Min 2 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/14)	8-12
RS:X 8.5	Min 1 (including top ranked U17 as 31/12/14)	Min 1 (including top ranked U17 as 31/12/14)	4-6

All selection decisions and final numbers invited will depend upon the standard of sailors as deemed appropriate by the selection committee. Sailors may be invited to attend some or all of the RYA Transition Training. This will depend upon individual progress of the sailors invited, and sufficient flexibility exists to allow additional talented sailors to be included in the training should they emerge later in the programme.

#### 5. Notification

It is anticipated that invitations to join the RYA Transition Training Squad for Phase 2 will be sent out in December 2014 upon the conclusion of both the phase 1 training and indicator event, usually within 14 days. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified, and a list of invited sailors will also be published on the website when all the relevant paperwork has been received, it is not our policy to publish information before this time.

#### 6. Selection Committee

The Selection Committee is appointed by the RYA Youth Steering Group, and currently consists of the following (or their appointed representatives):

- The relevant RYA Transition Training Class Head Coach
- RYA Single Handed Pathway Manager
- RYA Double Handed Pathway Manager
- RYA Youth Racing Manager

#### 7. Fees and Payment

The programme is highly subsidised by the RYA who finance the coaches, support staff, coach boats and administration costs of the RYA Transition Training programme which comprises both the RYA Class Open Transition Training and the RYA Transition Training Squad, however a parental contribution is required. This contribution may vary depending on class.

#### 8. RYA Transitional Squad Training Dates

The dates for this RYA Transitional Squad Training programme will be available on the RYA website at [www.rya.org.uk](http://www.rya.org.uk) – Racing – Youth and Junior – Squads – Transition Training.

#### 9. Sailors who feel they may meet the eligibility criteria for Paralympic competition

The RYA endeavours to keep those sailors 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. Sailors 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. Sailors or parents who would like further advice or feel they may meet the relevant criteria are encouraged to discuss in more detail with the relevant RYA Manager.

## **10. Status**

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA)'s policies and procedures, including these Conditions, 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.

## **11. 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 5 days of the selection being announced. The full Appeals document is available on request from the RYA Racing Operations Manager.

## **12. Further Information**

If you would like to discuss any aspect of these selection guidelines further, please try the following contacts:

1. **RYA Pathway Manager (Single Handed) – Tim Hall (Maternity cover until October 2014)**  
Direct Line: 07901 822844 Email Address: [tim.hall@rya.org.uk](mailto:tim.hall@rya.org.uk)
2. **RYA Pathway Manager (Double Handed) – Roy McCubbin**  
Direct Line: 07717 495581 Email Address: [roy.mccubbin@rya.org.uk](mailto:roy.mccubbin@rya.org.uk)
3. **RYA Youth Programme Senior Administrator – Sara Turner**  
Direct Line: 02380 604173 Email Address: [sara.turner@rya.org.uk](mailto:sara.turner@rya.org.uk)