



Notice of Selection

RYA/John Merricks Sailing Trust (JMST)

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

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Commencing in 2013, the John Merricks Sailing Trust has 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. Upon selection, the RYA will donate the boat/board to the club/centre which the young sailor represents at the relevant RYA Zone/Home Country 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.
- 1.3. 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 RYA Zone/Home Country Championships and then invite those sailors to submit further information and justification via a written process to assist the committee with their deliberations to select the sailor who in their opinion will best fulfil the aims of the programme defined by the JMST.
- 1.4. The boats/boards are restricted to the RYA Junior 'Pathway' classes which are: Optimist, Topper, Laser 4.7 and BIC Techno 293OD. 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.
- 1.5. Normally, the selection committee will aim to shortlist 3 young sailors from each of the 9 RYA Zone & Home Country Championships, and subsequently select at least one young sailor from each of the 6 RYA Zones and 3 Home Countries though this depends on the selectors assessment of the number and quality of sailors (and their application) as identified during the selection process.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. In order to be eligible to receive a JMST OnBoard single-hander young sailors should normally:
 - 2.1.1. Not own their own equipment, nor have the use of family owned equipment,
 - 2.1.2. Not have participated in an RYA recognised dinghy Junior Class National Championships (including regatta fleets), or 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 31st of December 2015 (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 Single-handed Pathway Manager. Indicatively this means it is likely that successful sailors will be:
 - 2.1.3.2. Under 12 on the 31st December 2015 for Optimists,
 - 2.1.3.3. Under 13 on the 31st December 2015 for the Toppers and Windsurfers, and
 - 2.1.3.4. Under 14 on the 31st December 2015 for the Laser 4.7 class.
- 2.1.4. Attend their relevant local RYA Zone & Home Country Championships and compete and register their eligibility for the programme during registration. **It is not necessary to compete in the relevant class(es) outlined above, though competitors may consider it desirable and are welcome to discuss their choice of equipment with their local High Performance Manager.** In 2015 the event takes place on the 26th & 27th of September 2015, concurrently at 9 venues around the United Kingdom. Competitors **must** enter on-line by the 20th September 2015. For information on your local area visit: www.rya.org.uk/racing/events and click on RYA Zone Championships.
- 2.1.5. Submit any information the selection committee request during the short-listing process using the official short-listing form, together with any associated references.
- 2.1.6. 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.
- 2.1.7. Attend the subsequent year(s) RYA Zone & Home Country Championships as their eligibility allows.
- 2.1.8. Be resident in Great Britain, hold or be eligible to hold a British passport and eligible to represent Great Britain.
- 2.1.9. Have participated within development programme(s) of an RYA affiliated club, Team15 centre or OnBoard club or centre or class association.

3. Selection Criteria and Procedure

- 3.1. Members of the selection committee will attend the nominated indicator event in order to short list sailors,
- 3.2. Upon short-listing, sailors will be invited to apply for the use of the boat/board,
- 3.3. Applications will be judged on the basis of the selection committee being satisfied of:
 - 3.3.1. Demonstrative commitment from the sailors club/centre to support the aims and requirements of the programme,
 - 3.3.2. Demonstrative commitment from the young sailor, and their family, to undertake activity, which includes regional travel to further the development of sailing skills,
 - 3.3.3. The sailor demonstrating promise or commitment to sailing and to sail racing,
 - 3.3.4. The sailor demonstrating the prospect of competition success in the RYA Junior programmes.

3.4. **Additional selection criteria:** Members of the Selection Committee (or their appointed representatives) will normally attend some of the indicator event, in order to make discretionary selections. When exercising their discretion in making selections, they may take into account the following factors:

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

4. Selection Practice

4.1. For all selections, selectors therefore have the discretion to determine:

- 4.1.1. the number of sailors to be short-listed, taking into account the target size.
- 4.1.2. whether or not to offer to allocate/donate a boat/board at all.
- 4.1.3. which of the criteria to take into account.
- 4.1.4. who to select.
- 4.1.5. In making their decisions and exercising their discretions, Selectors are expected to:
 - 4.1.6. use their own expertise and experience.
 - 4.1.7. rely on their own observations of the competitors, together with the observations made by other individuals, such as class coaches and class representatives.
 - 4.1.8. By entering the RYA Zone and Home Country Championships 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 be made up the local JMST OnBoard singlehanded selection committee (or their appointed representatives) which normally consists of:

- 5.1.1. The local RYA High 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.

6. Application, Entry Fees and Measurement

6.1. Sailors should be members of the RYA, and register their eligibility by submitting the form on-line or by submitting a written declaration of compliance to the eligibility criteria at the indicator event registration. Once short-listed all applicants should return the requested information by the deadline which will be outlined in the correspondence.

7. Notification

7.1. Applicants 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.

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.

8.2.2. bias/undue influence.

8.2.3. some other misconduct.

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. The full Appeals document is available on request from the RYA Racing Operations Manager.

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.

Final: July 2015