



Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Section 1: overview of governing body endorsements for Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting categories of the points-based system

This page provides a brief explanation of the endorsement requirements a sport governing body has agreed UK sponsors of Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting categories of the points-based system must show.

The Tier 2 (Sportsperson) category is for elite sportspeople and coaches who are internationally established at the highest level and whose employment will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport at the highest level in the UK, and who will base themselves in the UK.

The Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting category is for sportspeople - plus their entourage where appropriate, and coaches who are internationally established at the highest level in their sport, and/or will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport in the UK.

Sport governing body is one recognised by one of the home country sports councils like Sport England. Every governing body must be approved by the Home Office before they are included in [Appendix M](#) of the Immigration Rules.

The application process explained: migrants applying to come to the UK under either of the sporting categories above need to be sponsored by an organisation that has a sponsor licence under Tier 2 (Sportsperson) or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting.

If you wish to sponsor such migrants, you must have a sponsor licence. Before you apply to the Home Office for a licence you must be endorsed by the governing body for your sport. This endorsement confirms to the Home Office that the application for a licence is from a genuine sports club (or equivalent) that has a legitimate requirement to bring migrants to the UK as sportspeople. Once licensed, you can assign certificates of sponsorship to a sportsperson or coach with a job offer that allows them to apply for leave to enter or remain in the UK. Each individual must also have a personal endorsement from the governing body for their sport before you assign the certificate of sponsorship.

The list of governing bodies and the tiers for which they are currently approved by the Home Office is in [Appendix M](#) of the Immigration Rules.



Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Approved governing bodies will work within the Home Office [code of practice for sports governing bodies](#) and must comply with any immigration regulations, UK legislation and the principles of the Points Based System as detailed on the [GOV.UK](#) website.

Length of endorsement

Governing body endorsements should be issued for a period appropriate to the period of approval for sponsorship or the tier under which the migrant's application is being made, that is:

Type of application	Tier	Length of endorsement
Sponsor	Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and/or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting	4 years from date of issue
Migrant	Tier 2 (Sportsperson)	For an initial maximum period of 3 years, with a further extension of a maximum period of 3 years. If the contract is for fewer than 3 years, it will be issued for the length of the contract.
Migrant	Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting	For the length of the contract or up to a maximum of 12 months, whichever is the shorter period.

Change of employment

If a migrant is intending to change employer, their new employer must request a new governing body endorsement. The endorsement can be issued for the length of the contract or to the maximum period permitted within the category, whichever is the shorter. The new employer must assign a new certificate of sponsorship to the migrant to allow them to apply to the Home Office for new leave to remain. Leave to remain must be granted before the migrant can start work with the new employer.



Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Salary

The salary should be agreed as part of the contract between the migrant and the sponsor. This and the other conditions of employment should be at least equal to those normally given to a resident worker for the type of work undertaken.

Supplementary Employment

Migrants are eligible to undertake supplementary employment under the Home Office supplementary employment regulations. The supplementary employment section of the [Tiers 2 & 5: guidance for sponsors](#) has more information on this.



Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Section 2: requirements

This page explains the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) requirements for sailing, windsurfing and powerboating under the Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting categories for the 2016 to 2017 season. The requirements apply to the UK.

Consultation

The following requirements have been agreed by the Home Office following consultation between the RYA, RYA Scotland, RYA Northern Ireland and RYA Cymru Wales.

Review

The requirements will be reviewed in March of each year.

Length of season

The main sailing season in the UK runs from March to September; however those working for the RYA and affiliated organisations may be involved in training, competition and international events taking place throughout the year.

Requirements

The table below shows the endorsement requirements for sponsors and migrants.

Category	Requirement
Sponsor Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting	Requests for endorsements will only be accepted from the: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RYA• RYA Scotland• RYA Northern Ireland• RYA Cymru Wales• organisations affiliated to the RYA whose objectives include managing teams or coaching competitors at international level Organisations will be required to provide satisfactory evidence of their constitution, rules or articles of association, their employment policies or coach contracts, policies relating to safety, equality and safeguarding (where applicable), codes of conduct and disciplinary procedures.

Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Category	Requirement	
<p>Migrant</p> <p>Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and/or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting</p>	<p>Coach</p>	<p>Governing body endorsements will be available to individuals if they meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the individual is either qualified to RYA Racing Coach Level 3 or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the RYA Coach Level 3 qualification as confirmed by RYA • has at least 3 years' experience working with world class athletes • has a proven track record working with elite athletes in delivering World and Olympic medals <p>The sponsor must provide evidence of the individual's previous coaching experience at World Class level, and detail how their employment will make a significant contribution to the development of athletes and podium success along with a copy of the individuals CV.</p> <p>The individual must be able to communicate effectively in English - both written and spoken.</p>
<p>Tier 2 (Sportsperson) and/or Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Creative and Sporting</p>	<p>Non Coaching Managerial</p>	<p>Governing body endorsement requests for the following non-coaching managerial roles, will be considered on a case by case basis if, in the RYA's view, the role will make a significant contribution to the development of the sport at the highest level in the UK:</p>

Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Category	Requirement	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • performance director • programme manager • team manager <p>Applicants for managerial roles will need to satisfy the requirements set out under the coaching role above and demonstrate all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must be able to demonstrate that they have worked for at least 2 years in a non managerial role • current and comprehensive knowledge of sailboat racing at all levels, specifically Olympic, Paralympic and Pathway Classes • understanding of international sailing competition • understanding of the demands of international level sailors <p>Endorsement requests should include a statement explaining why it is appropriate not to fill the post with a UK or EEA citizen or other settled worker.</p>

Further information

This information is available on the [RYA](#) website.

For any queries relating to the requirements or the endorsement process please contact:

Head of Finance and Administration



Royal Yachting Association (RYA) governing body endorsement requirements

Email: dave.strain@rya.org.uk

Telephone: 023 8060 4110

Information on visas and immigration is available on the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website.

Dispute handling procedures

Endorsement requests will be considered by a panel comprising the RYA Chief Executive, Performance Director and Head of Finance and Administration.

Records of all endorsement decisions will be maintained by the RYA Head of Finance and Administration and made available to the Home Office on request.

Appeals or disputes will be referred to the RYA Board whose decision will be final.