



Notice of Selection

RYA Laser 4.7 UK Junior Squad 2015/16

Including summer 2016 event support

Introduction

Normally, up to 12 Laser 4.7 UK squad places will be offered, however this number may vary at the discretion of the selection committee according to the ability of competitors taking part in the indicator series. Normally we would aim to award at least three of these places to girls and three to boys. The first six places will normally be offered to the six highest ranked sailors, to include a minimum of two girls and two boys aged under 15 on the 31st of December 2015, on completion of the indicator series.

The remaining Laser 4.7 UK Squad places will be offered at the discretion of the Selection Committee to helms 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 major international competitions in the subsequent years.

Guidelines for composition of the squad

At senior level male and female sailors race in separate fleets. However at Junior level sailors usually race in mixed fleets. In order to prepare for the future, the RYA aspires to select an equal proportion of boys and girls into squads if the standard allows.

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 RYA Laser 4.7 UK Squad will normally receive the following support:

- Invitation to subsidised race training weekends and half term camps. These take place at a number of venues around the UK and are delivered by the RYA Laser 4.7 UK 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 Squad Coaches.
- The opportunity to purchase discounted UK Squad clothing.
- Receive transition advice regarding progression into Youth Sailing from the UK Squad Coach and RYA Single-Handed Pathway Manager.

Whilst the RYA Laser 4.7 UK 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 RYA Laser 4.7 UK Squad 2015/16, sailors shall normally be aged under 15 on the 31st December 2015 and for the summer squad; under 16 on the 31st December 2016. However in exceptional circumstances, sailors who do not meet the age criteria may be invited at the discretion of the Selection Committee (given the nature of the girls' single-handed pathway). If offered, these places will usually (but not exclusively), be offered to girls.

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The table below offers some more clarity:

Age	Boys	Girls
Under 15 in competition year	Up to 2	Up to 2
Under 16 in competition year	Up to 4	Up to 4
Under 17 in competition year	By discretion	By discretion
Under 18 in competition year	N/A	By discretion

In addition Laser 4.7 UK Squad sailors must be resident in Great Britain, hold or be eligible to hold a British passport and eligible to represent Great Britain in the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championships.

Helms may not accept a Laser 4.7 UK Squad place if they have accepted a place in another RYA Squad.

Selection Criteria and Procedure

Normally six of the 2015/16 Laser 4.7 UK Squad places will be allocated according to a ranking system using the results from the following indicator events:

Winter baser Squad programme

Event	Location	Date
UKLA 4.7 Ladder event	WPNSA	5 th -6 th 2015
RYA Midland Zone Championships 2015	Rutland SC	26 th -27 th September 2015

This programme normally starts at October half term with a further camp at February half term. Weekends of training take place in between these camps

Summer based International Team programme

The Squad is reviewed after the second summer selector to allow inclusion for some sailors transitioning from other Classes to ensure the best sailors are supported at the summer International competitions.

2 events are used to review performance at this time of year:

Event	Location	Date
RYA Laser 4.7 UK Squad indicator (run concurrently to the Eric Twiname Championship). This is the primary indicator.	Rutland Sailing Club	7 th -8 th May 2016
UKLA Laser 4.7 Ladder event.	Datchet Water Sailing Club	9 th -10 th April 2016



Members of the Selection Committee (or their appointed representatives) will normally be attending 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 Youth Racing Senior Administrator, at Sarah.Parker@rya.org.uk

Scoring

The ranking system will be compiled by adding together the individual race scores (including all competitors) from the indicator events.

Sailors are ranked for the winter based programme and also the summer review

There will normally be up to 12 races:

10 races or more	3 discards
7-9 races	2 discards
4-6 races	1 discard
3 races or less	0 discards

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 therefore 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 Committee

The Selection Committee will be made up of the Laser 4.7 Class Steering Team (or their appointed representatives) which currently consists of:

- RYA Single-handed Pathway Manager
- RYA Double-handed Pathway Manager
- UKLA Laser 4.7 Representative

The RYA Laser 4.7 UK Squad Head Coach will not form part of the selection committee, but will attend the meeting and advise on sailor development and selection.

The RYA Youth Racing Manager may be in attendance as an independent observer.



Application, Entry Fees and Measurement

Sailors must be members of the UK Laser Association and should be members of the RYA. Applications for the 2015/16 Laser 4.7 UK Squad should be submitted on-line via the RYA website, under 'British Youth Sailing' 'Latest News', which will open on the 1st of August 2015 for winter entry and 30th March 2016 for summer entry. All applications must be submitted by midnight of the last indicator event.

There will be no additional entry fee for the Laser 4.7 UK Squad indicator Series. All boats must conform to the Class Association rules and measurements.

Please read this in conjunction with the British Youth Sailing – Programme Selection Policy and Procedures by using the following link:

<http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/youthjunior/information/Pages/Policies.aspx>

Notification

Applicants will be notified in writing by mail 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 website 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.

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 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.

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 whatsoever reason, any or all of its policies and procedures.

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Class	Event	Date	Sailors to be supported	£££ - Grant (G) / Parental contribution (PC)	How selected / trip arrangements Grant (G) / Parental contribution (PC)	RYA Coach allocation
Laser 4.7	European Laser 4.7 Youth Championships, Crozon Morgat, France	Sat 2 nd to Sun 9 th July 2016 Pre training on Friday 1 st July 2016	All RYA UKJS 2016 sailors (summer squad)	RYA to provide coach support. Sailor to make all other arrangements. £100 (G) available	The grant will be offered to all of the 2016 summer squad sailors.	2 coaches
Laser 4.7	Laser 4.7 Youth World Championships, Kiel, Germany	Sat 30 th July to Sun 7 th August 2016 Pre training on Friday 29 th July 2016	All RYA UKJS 2016 sailors (summer squad)	RYA to provide coach support. Sailor to make all other arrangements. £100 (G) available	The grant will be offered to all of the 2016 summer squad sailors.	2 coaches