



Notice of Selection

RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad 2016/17

1. Introduction

The RYA British Youth Sailing Pathway is a performance programme to develop and retain racing sailors who can represent the sport at the highest levels. The Zone Squads are the entry point into the programme and organised by class of boat and also on a regional basis. The Junior Squads are the next level up from the Zone Squads and organised by class of boat and on a national basis. The Cadet is one of several RYA recognised classes of boat used by the Junior Squad.

Normally up to eight boat places will be offered for the RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad however this number may vary according to the overall ability of competitors taking part in the indicator series and not simply the relative ability of such competitors. Places will normally be offered to boats where the helm is under 15 in the year of application.

At senior level male and female sailors race in separate fleets. However at Junior Squad level sailors usually race in mixed fleets. Mixed crew compositions are also permitted. In order to prepare for the future the RYA aspires to select an equal proportion of boys and girls into the Junior Squad and an equal proportion of boats with male helms and boats with female helms.

2. Support

Sailors selected to be part of the 2016/17 RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad will normally receive the following support:

- Invitation to subsidised race training camps.
- A specific needs based training programme.
- Opportunity to access remote coaching support from the UK Squad Coach.
- Opportunity to purchase a discounted UK Junior Squad clothing.
- Transitional advice regarding youth sailing from the UK Junior Squad Coach and RYA Double Handed Pathway Manager in order to assist progression into the RYA UK Youth Squad.

Whilst the RYA Cadet 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.

3. Eligibility

In order to be eligible for the RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad 2016/17, helms and crews shall normally be aged under 15 in the year of application.

In addition Cadet UK Squad sailors must be resident in the United Kingdom; hold or be eligible to hold a British passport; and, eligible to represent Great Britain in the Youth Sailing World Championships.

All applicants must be members of the RYA.

Helms may not accept an RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad place if they have accepted a place in another RYA Squad.

4. Selection Criteria and Procedure

Normally up to six boat places of the 2016/17 RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad places will be allocated according to a ranking system generated using the results from the indicator events referred to below. Up to a further two boat places (known as "discretionary places") may be allocated based on other factors (see below).



5. Indicator Events

The following events will be used as indicators for RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad places

- **Cadet Class Inland Championship**
Grafham Water SC 17-18 September 2016
- **RYA Zone Championship**
Grafham Water SC 24-25 September 2016

The RYA reserve the right to add further indicator events if the Selection Committee deem it necessary.

6. Scoring

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

The total number of races sailed at the indicator events will determine whether any worst scores will be excluded from this calculation (i.e. discards), as follows:

- When fewer than 4 final races have been completed, a boat's final series score will be the total of her race scores.
- When 4 to 8 final races have been completed, a boat's final series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- When 9 or more final races have been completed, a boat's final series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores

The net points will then be used to rank the competitors where the competitors are listed from first to last (lowest net points first).

If in the view of the selectors any of the race are deemed unsatisfactory, then the level of subjective/discretionary selection may be increased.

7. Discretionary Places

Discretionary places may be offered by the Selection Committee to boats where the sailors:

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

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.

8. 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.

Sailors wishing to notify the selectors of exceptional circumstances/failure to attend indicator events should do so in writing, together with any diagnosis or reasons via the Youth Racing Senior Administrator, at: Nicola.Paton@rya.org.uk.

9. Selection Practice

For all RYA Cadet UK Junior 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.

10. Selection Committee

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

- RYA Double Handed Pathway Manager (Selection Committee Chairman).
- RYA Single Handed Pathway Manager.
- Cadet Class Association Chair.

11. Application, Entry Fees and Measurement

Sailors must be members of the UK Cadet Class Association and the RYA.

Applications for the 2016/17 RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad should be submitted on-line at <http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/youthjunior/squads/junior/Pages/Selection.aspx>, which will be open from 1st August 2016, All applications must be submitted before the last indicator event.

There will be no additional entry fee for the RYA Cadet UK Junior Squad indicator Series. All boats must conform to the Class Association rules and measurements. Further details of the RYA selection policy is published on the website.



12. 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 website once all attendance confirmation forms/contracts have been returned to the office. It is not RYA policy to publish this information before this time.

Whilst the RYA value the tremendously important contribution crews make, our experience has shown that there are frequent crew changes at this level. We use our best endeavors to avoid any unnecessary confusion/upset which may arise from the RYA being given inaccurate information about current pairings.

13. 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.

14. Para Competition

The RYA endeavors to keep those sailors who feel they may ultimately be eligible for Para Racing 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 a Para programme or the Para training and racing 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 criteria are encouraged to discuss in more detail with the relevant RYA Manager.

15. 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.

16. Policies

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

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