



Notice of Selection

RYA Laser 4.7 UK Girls Squad 2016/17

Including 2017 season event support

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 and ultimately win medals for British Youth Sailing at major international competitions in the subsequent years. 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 Laser 4.7 is one of several RYA recognised classes of boat used by the Junior Squad.

The Laser 4.7 squad is organised into separate fleets for boys and girls. This Notice of Selection is for the girl's fleet.

The Laser 4.7 is part of the pathway for single handed sailors. Ideally girls use this class as a stepping stone into the Laser Radial, although it could also be a good place to gain experience and move into a double hander at an appropriate stage of development. The Laser 4.7 is also a good choice for girls who outgrow the Optimist, Topper or other Junior classes early.

Normally, up to 8 Laser 4.7 UK squad places will be offered for girls, 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.

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.

2. 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.
- A specific needs based training programme.
- Opportunity to access remote coaching support from the UK Squad Coaches.
- Opportunity to purchase discounted UK Squad clothing.
- Transitional advice regarding youth sailing 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 subsidised by the RYA, a 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 Laser 4.7 UK Girls Squad 2016/17, sailors shall be female and shall normally be aged under 15 on the 31st December 2016 and for the summer squad; under 16 on the 31st December 2017. However in exceptional circumstances, sailors who are under 17 in the competition year may be invited at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

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 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.



4. Selection Criteria and Procedure

Normally up to 3 of the 2016/17 Laser 4.7 UK Girls' boat places will be allocated according to a ranking system generated using the results from the indicator events referred to below. Up to a further 5 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 Laser 4.7 UK Girls Squad places:

Winter baser Squad programme

Event	Location	Date
UKLA 4.7 Ladder event	WPNSA	3 rd /4 th September 2016
RYA East Zone Championships 2016	Grafham Water SC	24 th /25 th September 2016

The selectors are also aware of the following International competitions

Laser 4.7 Europeans 2016	Crozon Morgat, France	June/July 2016
Laser 4.7 Worlds 2016	Kiel, Germany	August 2016

Sailors who have already competed in summer 2016 International competition and wish to consider continuing in the Laser 4.7 Class may be assessed for a place on the basis of their performance at the European or World Championships.

This programme normally starts at October half term with a further camp at February half term. Weekends of training may 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
UKLA Laser 4.7 Ladder event	Datchet	1 st /2 nd April 2017
RYA Laser 4.7 UK Squad indicator (run concurrently to the Eric Twinline Championship)	Rutland Sailing Club	6 th /7 th May 2017

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.



6. 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.

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 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.

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

7. 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 selection based on rankings in indicator events, 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.



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 Sarah.Parker@rya.org.uk

9. Selection Practice

For all Laser 4.7 Girls 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.

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.

10. 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.

11. Application, Entry Fees and Measurement

Sailors must be members of the UK Laser Association and should be members of the RYA.



Applications for the 2016/17 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 2016 for winter entry and 30th March 2017 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.

12. 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 RYA policy to publish this information before this time.

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

16. Policies

Please read this Notice of Selection 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>



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, Murcia, Spain	15-22 April 2017	All RYA UKJS 2016/17 sailors (winter squad)	RYA to provide coach support. Sailor to make all other arrangements. £100 (G) available	The grant will be offered to all of the 2016/17 winter squad sailors.	2 coaches
Laser 4.7	Laser 4.7 Youth World Championships, Nieuwpoort, Belgium	16-24 July 2017	All RYA UKJS 2016/17 sailors (summer squad) Sailors in UK Radial Youth Squads or other RYA programmes may be invited to join the team if appropriate for them to attend.	RYA to provide coach support. Sailor to make all other arrangements. £100 (G) available	The grant will be offered to all of the 2017 summer squad sailors.	2 coaches