

## WYA National Squad Selection Policy 2010 - 2011

### Foreword

The WYA (Welsh Yachting Association) is the RYA (Royal Yachting Association) Council for Wales and is committed to feeding the pathway to British World Class Sailing.

The WYA has appointed a "Performance Coaching Group" who will oversee the Selection Committee.

Discretion may be exercised in exceptional circumstances, however by setting out a clear and straightforward selection policy; sailors can identify their targets and work towards them.

### Introduction

Selection to the 2010 - 2011 WYA National Squads will be determined by the Selectors appointed by the WYA who select the sailors, who in the selector's opinion will have the best prospects of progressing to GBR Squads and winning medals for Wales and GBR in the future.

A high proportion of Welsh National Squad places will be allocated to sailors on the basis of their national ranking in the indicator series and class ranking. Places may also be awarded on a discretionary basis.

### Eligibility

The criteria for selection to the Welsh National Sailing Squad are as following:

At least one of:

1. Born in Wales
2. Welsh Parentage (parent or grandparent)
3. Live in Wales (2 years residency required)

And

4. Member of a Welsh Sailing Club

To be eligible for selection, a sailor must also meet the age criteria in the matrix below and be eligible to compete for Great Britain in the Olympic Games.

WYA Selectors may decide to involve older sailors within Welsh National Squad training, sailors falling into this category are encouraged to apply and could be eligible for a discretionary place.

### Selection Criteria

Welsh National Squad places will be allocated based on a sailors results from the following events:

#### Optimist:

1. Inland Championships: [May]
2. National Championships: [August]
3. End of Season Championships: [October]

Discretionary Places may also be awarded using results from any GBR ranking or any of the following events: -

Welsh Schools Championships 03<sup>rd</sup> 04<sup>th</sup> July – Mumbles Yacht Club

Welsh Youth & Junior Championships: 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> September, Pwllheli SC

<b>Squad Profile 2010 - 2011</b>	<b>Age Profile (31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010)</b>
Places awarded to any GBR Junior or Intermediate Squad sailor	Not Applicable
6 sailors by GBR ranking who are not selected for a GBR Squad	Under 14
A maximum of 6 places on the discretion of the Selection Committee	Under 14

**Topper:**

1. Inland Championships: [May]
2. National Championships: [August]
3. GBR Selection Events – Nationwide Event 2 [5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> June, Derwent] 3 [10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> July, WPNSA] 4 [11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> September - Largs] (2 out of three will count)

Discretionary Places may also be awarded using results from any GBR ranking or any of the following events: -

<b>Squad Profile 2010 - 2011</b>	<b>Age Profile (31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010)</b>
Places awarded to any GBR Junior or Intermediate Squad sailor	Not Applicable
6 places by GBR ranking who are not selected for GBR Squad	Under 14
A maximum of 6 places on the discretionary of the Selection Committee	Under 14
A further 2 places in exceptional circumstances maybe awarded outside this criteria. These places will normally be awarded to girls	Under 15

Welsh Schools Championships 03<sup>rd</sup> 04<sup>th</sup> July – Mumbles SC

Welsh Youth & Junior (Zone) Championships: 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> September, Pwllheli SC

**Laser 4.7**

The following events shall be used by the selection committee as indicator events

1. Laser National Championships – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August, Mounts Bay
2. UKLA Laser Ladder Events – 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> September, Blithfield
3. RYA South Zone Championships – 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> September, WPNSA

<b>Squad Profile 2010 - 2011</b>	<b>Age Profile (31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010)</b>
Places awarded to any GBR National Junior Squad sailor	Not Applicable
A maximum of 6 places on the discretionary of the Selection Committee	Under 15
A further 2 places in exceptional circumstances maybe awarded outside this criteria. These places will normally be awarded to girls	Under 16

Note: Although the Laser 4.7 is a Junior class, the training may run alongside the WYA Laser Youth Squad. In case of low numbers selected sailors may be invited to sail within the W.Y.A National Laser Radial Squad.

### Junior Double-handers:

WYA will consider applications from junior sailors who can show results from National (British) level competition in their chosen Junior Double-handed class. (e.g. Class National / Inland Championships). Supported pathway Junior Double-handers are Mirror, Cadet & Feva.

Applications will also be considered from sailors with top results in another Junior Class (singlehanded) wishing to make a transition to a double-handed pathway. Please list all relevant results on the application.

### Youth Classes

WYA Youth Class squads are for sailors competing at an elite level. These squads are likely to be smaller than the junior squads and be the sailors who are already in GBR Squads, or have the future potential to make GBR level Youth squads.

### Laser (Radial and Standard rig):

1. The National Laser ladders
2. UK Youth Championships: [April]
3. UKLA UK National Championships: [August]

Discretionary places maybe further awarded to sailors with top results in a junior class or have shown significant potential in the laser class from the:

Welsh Schools Championships: [3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> July, Mumbles]

Welsh Youth & Junior Championships: [25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> September, Pwllheli SC]

### Youth Doublehander:

WYA will consider applications from sailors who can show results from National (British) level competition in their chosen Youth Doublehanded class. Recognised Youth Doublehanders are 420 and 29er. Applications will also be considered from sailors who demonstrate top level results in their junior class and are making the transition to Youth level sailing with potential to reach GBR squad level within their youth career.

### Target Squad Sizes

Squad sizes will vary depending upon the strength and depth of talent in each particular class. However approximate indicative numbers are shown below:

Optimist	Topper	Laser 4.7	Laser R&F	Junior Doublehander	Youth Doublehander
Max 15	Max 15	Max 8 Boats	Max 10 Boats	Max 4 boats	Max 6 boats

More focus is given to Junior classes as this is where we need to invest in potential. Youth sailors will need to have already shown evidence of talent.

Sailors may be invited to attend on a “trial” basis if the selectors are not certain of ability.

A sailor cannot be a member of more than one Welsh National Squad

## Welsh National Squad age profiles

The following table shows the typical age composition at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010

Optimist	Topper	Laser 4.7	Laser R&F	Junior Doublehander	Youth Doublehander
U14	U14	U15	U18	U15	U18

The reason for the lower age limit is to allow the progression down the pathway to RYA, GBR Squads. In exceptional circumstances the selectors may consider applicants outside this age range. Sailors who have gained places in GBR Squads (no matter what age) will automatically qualify for a place in the Welsh National Sailing Squad.

## Discretionary Places

Discretionary places will be determined by the Selection Committee and may be offered to sailors who:

- Fall outside the age criteria
- Due to exceptional circumstances fail to achieve automatic selection
- Any other reason the Welsh High Performance Manager and Head Coach feel are appropriate.

When allocating any places the selection committee will take into consideration the following factors:

- Performance criteria listed above
- Age and potential
- Performance in another class
- Factors affecting results
- Attitude and behaviour
- Class ranking list
- Height and weight
- Goals and aspirations
- Other factors the selection committee considers appropriate

## Application

Sailors wishing to be considered for a Welsh National Squad place should complete an online application form at [www.ryaracingevents.org.uk](http://www.ryaracingevents.org.uk) Applications should be made by 19<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

## Welsh National Squad Benefits

Sailors selected to join WYA National Squads will access a range of benefits:

- National Squad training weekends run by a high level class coach
- Squad clothing
- Support at selected National Events
- Access to Travel Grant for attending Squad Training
- Possible access to WYA Boat Provision scheme
- Possibility of application to further grants
- Possible selection to Welsh teams such as Twiname event
- Support to gain coaching qualifications
- Access to gym facilities through "Gold Card" schemes
- Access to sports science support

In return sailors are expected to:

- ❑ Attend all the National Squad training weekends (normally spread over weekends between November and May).
- ❑ Become a junior member of the RYA.
- ❑ Commit to the agreed training programme which will include: fitness training, training diaries and on the water training.
- ❑ Commit to the competition programme agreed by the Welsh High Performance Manager and Squad Head Coach.
- ❑ Abide by the Squad rules

Although the Welsh National Squad Programme is supported and subsidised by Sports Council Wales, some costs need to be met and there will be a charge for each weekend. Most National Squad training weekends will be residential at the National Watersports Centre – Plas Menai.

### Selection Committee

The Selection Committee shall comprise of the Welsh High Performance Manager, the Head Coach of the class and will be subject to the approval of the WYA Performance Coaching Group.

There will be no appeals against the selection criteria and the decisions of the Selectors. By submitting a Welsh National Squad application form the applicants agree to this condition.

### Status

The Welsh Yachting Association (WYA)'s policies and procedures are subject to change from time to time, including variations required to comply with Sports Wales' directions on the investment of Exchequer and Lottery funding.

The WYA reserves the right to amend, supplement and/or discontinue at its absolute discretion, for whatever reason, any of its policies and procedures.

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Welsh Sailing  
Hwyllo Cymru

