

HKSF SELECTION GUIDELINES
HKSF National Youth Sailing Team 2024-2025
Selection Guidelines for HKSI Supported Classes
29er and ILCA 6
Final, Issued 30.8.2023

1) General

The membership of the National Youth Team will be renewed on an annual basis (from 1 April of each calendar year to 31 March of the next calendar year). The youth teams are from 29er and ILCA6 classes, ILCA4 is no longer with HKSI and now with clubs. The selections for the year will consist of two parts; sailors will be selected either through their results in named events and or ranking in the classes specified below (Part 1), or invited at the recommendation of the National Coach with HKSF High Performance Committee's/Council's endorsement (Part 2). In all cases final selection will be confirmed following a physical assessment and an interview assessment.

2) Aims

These selection guidelines are established to achieve the following:

- a) to have a fair and open selection on an annual basis, aiming to result in sailors being selected of high compatible performance levels.
- b) to identify and select young sailors at least 14 and under 22 years of age in the year of selection with potential to achieve outstanding results at the following events:
 - Sailing-World Championships
 - World Sailing Youth World Championships
 - Class World Championships
 - Class Asian Championships
 - Asian Games & Olympic Youth Games (when applicable) *
 - China National Games
 - 1st China Student Youth Games Finals.
- c) to provide these young sailors with high performance training.
- d) to prepare these young sailors, when invited, to further their athletic career as full-time sailors at a senior level in preparations for Asian and Olympic Games.
- e) to create a “pooling” of talent for those who that have not yet not achieved selection to encourage their continued attempts in the following year.

*HKSAR Passport Required.

3) Eligibility

In order to be eligible for selection a sailor must:

- a) be under 22 years of age ('at the end of') the year of selection, ie in the year prior to joining the team meet other criteria as set out in these guidelines; and
- b) be a member of HKSF; and
- c) have a suitable physique for to perform at a high level in the class they compete in; and
- d) be a holder of a HK Permanent ID card with not less than 7 years residency and be eligible to represent HK in international competitions (as specified in the respective NOR).
- e) Note; in exceptional circumstances at the National Coach's recommendation with HKSF High Performance Committee's/Council's endorsement, sailors outside these limitations may be considered for inclusion in the National Youth Team.

4) National Youth Team

a) Composition:

Ideally places available would be split as closely as possible to a 50% gender allocation, provided performance levels warrant this. Not all places are guaranteed to be filled.

b) Method of Selection:

PART 1 – Sailors will be selected through a Selection Event (See APPENDIX A)

PART 2 – Additional sailors may be invited at the recommendation of the National Coaches with HKSF High Performance Committee's/Council's endorsement *.

In both cases final confirmation of place being offered will be subject to a physical assessment and an interview.

- The physical assessment shall be carried out by HKSI staff.
- The interview shall be carried out by a panel composed by the National Coach; the sailor's coach; one member of the HKSF High Performance Committee.

* This part of the selection guidelines is designed to ensure continuity and a long-term approach covering the following situations (but not exclusively those listed):

- inability of some of the existing National Youth Team sailors to participate in the Selection Event due to entry in overseas competitions and training camps;
- Where some sailors that are deemed to have high potential to achieve future success in major competitions, but have not yet achieved such results reflecting this, the following criteria may be considered:
 - the results in the Selection Events and other local and/or overseas events;
 - observed outcomes in HKSF Future Heroes and Indicator Training
 - the sailors' potential for further development as observed by their coaches (which includes desire to improve performance, training commitment, attitude and behaviour, recorded attendance, and current performance level);
 - taking care of equipment;
 - ability to sail competently around the course.

5) Single-handed Class - ILCA6 (max. 9 places)

a) Part 1; Selection by Results (max. 5 places)

Selection for the 5 places in the National Youth Team in the single-handed classes by results will be as follows:

- The top 5 eligible sailors who finish in the top 1/3 of the ILCA 6 fleet at Selection Event and are under 22 years of age in the year of the selection will be guaranteed a place in the National Youth Team for the coming year starting 1st of April. At least 1 sailor must be of the opposite gender and to be guaranteed a place he/she needs to get into top half of the Hong Kong Open ILCA6 Ranking;

b) Part 2; Invitation by Coach Recommendation (max. 4 places)

- An additional [4 places may be allocated at the National Coach's recommendation with HKSF High Performance Committee's/Council's endorsement.

6) Double-handed Class - 29er Class (max. 10 places – 5 teams)

a) Part 1; Selection by Results

Selection for the 6 places (3 teams) in the National Youth Team in the double handed classes by results will be as follows:

- The top 3 eligible teams who finish in the top 1/3 of the 29er Class fleet at the Selection Event and are under 22 years of age in the year of selection will be guaranteed a place in the National Youth Team for the coming year starting 1st of April. At least 1 boys'/mixed team and 1 girls' team must be guaranteed a place provided that such team gets into top half of the selection trial.

Part 2; Invitation by Coach Recommendation (max. 2 Teams)

- An additional 2 teams may be invited at the National Coach's recommendation with HKSF High Performance Committee's/Council's endorsement.

7) Annual Program

a) Time of Selection

Selection for physical assessment and interview will take place based on the respective class annual year ranking as it stands after completion of selection trials. Sailors selected will attend physical and interview assessment before 30th November 2023, with confirmation of selection targeted by the 15th December. Selected sailors will receive National Youth Team status for one year from 1st April of the following year until 31st March of the year after.

8) Probation Period

All first time National Youth Team sailors will initially be invited for a 3-month or longer period of probation starting from the 1st of April. At the end of the probation period, an assessment will be made by the coaching staff considering the following:

- a) Level of performance;
- b) Potential for further improvement;
- c) Ability to sail competently in 20 knots of wind;
- d) Attendance and punctuality;
- e) Contribution to team work.

If the assessment is satisfactory the National Youth Team status will be extended until the end of the year. The period of probation may be extended if the assessment is unsatisfactory or membership cancelled at the discretion of the coaching panel. The coaching panel shall consist the National Coach and direct coaching staff.

9) Benefits

National Youth Team members will be eligible for on-the-water and physical training under HKSI coaches. Team members will also be expected to attend local and overseas training camps organised under the National Team Programme.

10) HKSI Scholarships

Those with potential for further improvements to represent Hong Kong at the World Sailing and Class Youth World Championships, with high performance levels, a consistent level of performance at national/international level, commitment to elite training, supported by family/school, and a minimum 15 hours of training per week (over 4 days) may be awarded HKSI Scholarships in the Youth Team which may

include financial support for participation in overseas training camps and intensified coaching. These Scholarships may be awarded at the National Coach's recommendation with HKSF High Performance Committee's endorsement and require monthly submission of a training log.

11) Regional/Development Teams

Sailors who are not selected for the National Youth Team but are young enough and have the potential to improve their performance and to be selected in future years, are encouraged to continue sailing in their club programme and/or regional teams.

12) Existing National Team members

Some existing National Team members, who may not have participated in enough Selection Events due to participation in overseas competition and training, may not have a year ranking. The National Coach with HKSF High Performance Committee's endorsement, will then base invitation on the coaches' recommendations on the sailors' performance and results to grant his/her National Youth Team status for one more year, at their discretion.

13) The Final Decision and Appeal Mechanism:

The selection report will be submitted to the HKSF Selection Committee by the National Coach for its endorsement. The final endorsing authority is HKSF Council. Any appeals must be directed to the HKSF Council in a timely fashion, as soon as possible after the outcome of the selections has been announced. At its discretion the HKSF Council may appoint an Appeal Working Party to decide on the validity of the appeal and the outcome.

APPENDIX A Selection Events

For both classes (29er & ILCA 6) there will be only one selection event on 30th September to 2nd October 2023 at HKSF Little Palm Beach Sailing Centre.

Note - The selection series will be scored in accordance with Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) Appendix A – low points system. In the event of a ranking series tie refer to RRS Appendix A9