



## **420 Junior European Championships 2025 Team Selection Policy**

ISSUED: January 2025

### **1. Introduction and Aims**

- 1.1.** This policy describes the process for the selection of the British Team to compete at the 420 Junior European Championships ("*Junior Euros*") 20th-27th July 2025 in Matosinhos, Portugal.
- 1.2.** The "*Selection Process*" is defined as everything included in this document that relates to the selection of sailors by the British International 420 Class Association ("*the Class*") to represent Great Britain ("*GBR*") at the 2025 420 *Junior Euros*.
- 1.3.** The *Class* collaborates with the Royal Yachting Association ("*RYA*"), in order to fulfil the aim of the RYA's World Class Youth Programme.
- 1.4.** The aim of the *Selection Process* is to select the sailors who will best represent the *Class* at the *Junior Euros* considering the following aims:
  - to give eligible 420 sailors a fair chance to qualify for the British team
  - to maximise the medal-winning potential of the British team
  - to provide effective development opportunities, international regatta exposure and coaching to aid the development of promising 420 youth sailors
  - to create the best environment to optimise the experience for those selected

### **2. Independent Selection Committee**

- 2.1.** The *Class* appoints an independent group of selectors (the Independent Selection Committee or "*ISC*").

The *ISC* will comprise:

Ian Walker (Chair)  
John Meadowcroft  
Lucy Bennett  
RYA representative

- 2.2.** The *ISC* will oversee the *Selection Process* and recommend sailors to the *Class* for team selection.



- 2.3. The *ISC* has authority delegated by the *Class* Management Committee to take decisions on all matters concerning the Selection Process. The *ISC* will act in its sole discretion in interpreting the provisions of this policy and will make whatever decisions it deems necessary providing they align with the aims of the *Selection Process* outlined in 1.4.
- 2.4. In exceptional circumstances the *ISC* may award discretionary team places if they believe that this best achieves the aims of the *Selection Process*.
- 2.5. Should you wish to correspond with the *ISC* you can do so by email to the chair - [ian@familywalker.net](mailto:ian@familywalker.net). Any requests should be made in a timely fashion and as soon as any issues or concerns first come to light.
- 2.6. *ISC* decisions will be published on the *Class* website.

### **3. Team Composition**

- 3.1. The maximum number of selected pairings will ordinarily be twenty. Two additional team places are available to teams that qualify as Under 15s (max possible team size in this instance would be twenty-two pairs). These will be selected from the Selection Ranking list, after any discretionary places (if any) have been awarded. The team will consist of:
- 3.2. Eight team places will be awarded to:
  - 3.2.1 the two highest ranked U17 pairs
  - 3.2.2 the two highest ranked mixed pairs
  - 3.2.3 the two highest ranked female pairs
  - 3.2.4 the two highest ranked male pairs.
- 3.3. Team places will be awarded to the next twelve pairs regardless of age or gender but subject to clause 8.1.
- 3.4. A maximum of two team places may be awarded to eligible Under 15 pairs subject to clause 8.1.
- 3.5. The team composition may be subject to change at the discretion of the *ISC*.

### **4. Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for selection sailors must:

- 4.1. Be eligible to compete for Great Britain at the relevant Major Event:
  - 4.1.1. For the U19 *Junior Euros*, each member of a pair must be aged under 19 on the 31st of December 2025 (i.e. born in 2007 or later)



4.1.2. For the U17 *Junior Euros*, each member of a pair must be aged under 17 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2025 (i.e. born in 2009 or later)

4.1.3. For the U15 *Junior Euros*, each member of a pair must be aged under 15 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2025 (i.e. born in 2011 or later)

- 4.2. Be ordinarily resident in Great Britain, the Isle of Man or Channel Islands at the time of the Selection Events and at the time of the Major Event for which they are being selected.
- 4.3. Be members of *the Class* and the RYA.
- 4.4. Be compliant with World Sailing (WS) eligibility according to WS Regulation 19 at the time of entry for the Major Event.
- 4.5. Enter the Qualification Events together as a pair and remain in the same configuration of helm and crew as the entered pair for the Selection Series.
- 4.6. Comply with Section 9 (Sailor pairing substitution).

## 5. Registration of interest

For a pair to be considered for selection they must register their interest by completing the 2025 Junior European Team Selection request form. This will be published on the *Class* website and should be completed prior to the end of Q1..

## 6. Qualification Events ('Qualifiers')

The Selection Series will consist of the following Qualifiers:

- (1) Q1 (Rutland SC - Inlands) – 15/16th March 2025
- (2) Q2 (Royal Southern YC) – 29/30th March 2025
- (3) Q3 (RYA Youth Nationals, Plas Heli) - 12th-18th April 2025 **(NON-DISCARDABLE IF A PAIRING IS ELIGIBLE TO SAIL IN THIS EVENT - SEE 7.2)**

Dates and venues may be subject to change, and this will be communicated to sailors via the *Class* website.

## 7. Selection Ranking List ('Ranking')

- 7.1. A *Ranking* will be made using the overall finishing positions of Q1, Q2 and Q3. The Ranking will include any boats entered in any of the Qualifiers irrespective of whether they are eligible under section 4 or not. The boat with the lowest cumulative score wins and the pairings will be ranked accordingly.



- 7.2. For pairings that are eligible to compete in the RYA Youth National Championships (Q3), a pairing's *Ranking* score will be created by adding the overall finishing position at Q3 to their best overall finishing position at **either** Q1 or Q2. For clarity this means that only two *Qualifier* results will count towards the *Ranking*, but you must count the result of Q3. A pairing will only need to count one overall finishing position from either Q1 or Q2. Any competitors that do not meet the RYA age limitation and are therefore ineligible to compete in Q3 will need to count their overall finishing positions at Q1 and Q2. If either of these events do not meet the minimum number of races required by 7.3 or they are unable to compete at these events for any reason, the pairing will need to make a request to the ISC under 2.4.
- 7.3. For the overall standings of a *Qualifier* to be counted as part of the *Ranking* there must be a minimum of three races completed. If fewer than three races are completed the results of that *Qualifier* will not count towards the *Ranking*.
- 7.4. If any of the *Qualifiers* do not have a minimum of three completed races, then the *Ranking* will be created using the overall finishing positions in the other two *Qualifiers*. If two of the *Qualifiers* do not have a minimum of three completed races, then the *Ranking* will be created solely from the one valid *Qualifier*.
- 7.5. For the purposes of the *Ranking*, a pairing that does not compete in a *Qualifier* will score points equal to the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in whichever *Qualifier* has the most entries.
- 7.6. Following a request, the *ISC* may decide to amend a pairing's scores in the *Ranking*, award average points, or make any similar decisions if they feel that this best meets the aims of the *Selection Process*.
- 7.7. Any ties in the *Ranking* points will be broken in favour of the pair with the better overall finishing position in Q3. If this does not separate a tie for any reason, then it will be separated in favour of the pair with the better finishing position in Q2 (sea venue).

## 8. Selection Procedure

- 8.1 In order to be considered for selection a pairing must finish in the **top 50% of the entries on the *Ranking***. Any pair that does not meet this criteria will only be offered a team place by the *ISC*, when, in consultation with the *Class*, the *ISC* feels the sailors have exhibited the correct levels of skills and capabilities as required to compete at a premier international event and their selection helps fulfil the aims of the *Selection Process*.
- 8.2 The *ISC*'s intention is to select the highest eligible pairs based upon the *Ranking* outlined in Section 7 whilst taking into account the performance standard in 8.1.



When considering offering team places to those outside of the top 50% of the entries on the *Ranking* the *ISC* may consider the age / gender make-up of the team and selection may not therefore directly match the overall *Ranking* results.

- 8.3 If for any reason it is felt that the *Selection Process* has been compromised, team selection will be undertaken by the *ISC* taking into account any of the following factors: race results from completed Qualifiers, past 420 event performance and feedback from the 420 Class or RYA coaches.
- 8.4 For the avoidance of doubt and notwithstanding any other provision in the *Selection Process*, the *ISC* reserves the right to revoke a nomination once made or to choose to nominate fewer than the available number of team places.
- 8.5 If one or more pairs decline their places in the *Junior Euros* team, then the selectors may nominate replacement eligible pairs in the context of the principles outlined in Section 1.

## 9. Sailor pairing substitution.

- 9.1. The intent is that pairs sail the *Qualifiers* and are selected as a consistent pair (i.e. same helm and crew throughout). Only results achieved with the same crew will count towards the *Ranking* position.
- 9.2. Any crew substitution during a *Qualifier* will be subject to the Sailing Instructions and Jury governing that event.
- 9.3. Sailor pairing substitutions between events will only be considered by the *ISC* in **exceptional circumstances** which are likely to be **beyond the sailors' control**. Any requests must be made to the *ISC* as soon as possible after the pairing becomes aware of the situation.

## 10. Terms of membership

It is a condition of participation that sailors:

- 10.1. Agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of the Team (which will include details of any team logistics and financial contributions), any published code of ethics and conduct, and the rules and regulations of the *Class* and the *RYA*.
- 10.2. Agree to the extent reasonably practicable to participate in the package of training, racing and physical preparation sessions that the *Class* and the *RYA* will propose for the preparation of competitors for each event.



- 10.3. In the event of a sailor not complying with these conditions, then the selectors reserve the right to withdraw the nomination of that pair.
- 10.4. If a pairing splits after accepting a place on the team and one member of the pair still wishes to attend the *Junior Euros*, then they should apply to the *ISC* for dispensation. The *ISC* reserves the right to withdraw the team nomination. The *ISC* decision will be reached in consultation with the *Class* and will be based on the impact that it will have on the team or any other pairing that may have wished to compete.

## **11. Announcements and place acceptance**

- 11.1. Where possible the names of those sailors nominated for the teams will be announced at the end of the final Selector event. Any later selection decisions will be announced upon completion and will be posted on the *Class* website.
- 11.2. It is the intention to publish a briefing document as well as holding meetings outlining all known details of the *Junior Euros* at the Selection Events. All prospective team members and their parents are invited to attend these meetings.
- 11.3. Sailors nominated for the team will be required to either accept or decline their place(s) by the date and time published in the offer letter. An initial deposit payment via bank transfer of £250 per sailor per event should be made to the *Class* bank account (to be advised in the briefing document).
- 11.4. The deposit is strictly non-refundable. In addition, any costs (e.g. accommodation or travel) incurred by the *Class*, on behalf of team members who have accepted places after the Selection Series must be met by those team members.
- 11.5. In the absence of receiving this payment for both sailors in a pair, it shall be deemed that the places are not accepted, and the places may be offered to another boat in the ranking list.
- 11.6. It is intended that the *Class* will organise entry, team kit and coaching for the team. Transportation of boats and pastoral care will be the responsibility of the parents as a group. Travel and accommodation will be organised by the individual or as a group. The *Class* will assist with the organisation. Details will be in the briefing documents. Further estimated costs for each event will be communicated via the event briefing documents, along with payment stages and deadlines.
- 11.7. Balance of the costs of the *Junior Euros* Team must be paid to the *Class*, by both sailors, no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of the *Junior Euros*. Failure to pay on time will result in the *Class* cancelling the pair's entry to the event with the event organisers. The sailors will remain liable for their share of any costs that have been incurred or committed to by the *Class*.



## 12. Appeals

12.1. By entering the Selection Series sailors agree to the published Selection Process. Appeals will be limited to allegations of:

- Failure to follow due process
- Failure to consider any relevant considerations
- Bias/undue influence
- Some other misconduct

**For the avoidance of doubt an alleged error of judgement of the Independent Selection Committee does not constitute grounds for appeal.**

12.2. Any appeal should be made in writing to the *Class* Chair ([420classoffice@gmail.com](mailto:420classoffice@gmail.com)), stating the grounds for appeal, within 7 days of the *ISC* announcing its decision. If the grounds for appeal are upheld the *Class* Committee will remit it to the *ISC* for further consideration. Any further decision made by the *ISC* will be final.