

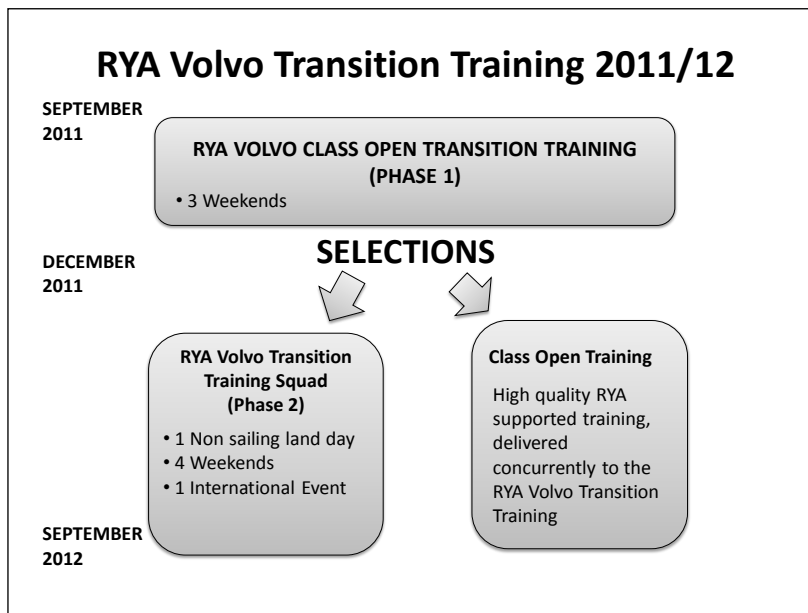
2011/12 RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad Programme Guidelines (Phase 1 & 2)

1. Introduction and background

This programme aims to:

1. **Initially** deliver a comprehensive foundation in the key skills and attributes required to make a successful transition into the RYA 'pathway' recognised youth classes.
2. **Subsequently**, support a number of sailors who have (initially) demonstrated the greatest progression and propensity to succeed in their chosen 'pathway' class in order to assist them to make a successful transition into the demanding RYA Volvo National Youth Squad programme.

The programme provides education, support, tailored coaching, physical training, competition guidance, and international event support to fast track the development of essential relevant attributes to make a successful transition. These include: communication, fitness, boat handling skills, boat speed and racing skills. Physiology and sports psychology modules will also be included, as well as seminars for parents/guardians of sailors in the programme.



There will be Two Phases to the RYA training:

Phase 1: RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training – usually comprising three open training weekends running from September to December 2011. These will be run by the relevant class association.

In December, on completion of phase 1 there will be a selection process to determine the composition of the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad.

Phase 2: RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad – usually comprising a minimum four training camps, including a mandatory non-sailing land day and an appropriate International event, which will be selected specifically to develop relevant skills and International competition experience.

This phase will run from January 2012 to September 2012 (the conclusion of this programme coincides with the main RYA Volvo National Youth Squad entry point which we would hope a number of VTTS sailors would progress into).

Phase 2: Class Open Training - Sailors **not** selected for the Phase 2 RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad will be encouraged to enter into RYA supported Class Open Training programme which is scheduled to run alongside the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad, from January to September 2012.

The relevant Class Association will be empowered, given guidance and financial support to deliver an agreed Open Training Programme during Phase 2. The relevant associations have been contracted by the RYA to provide open training programmes and coach an agreed programme/syllabus for the (majority of) young sailors that will/have not been selected for the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad, in order to build upon and complement their Phase 1 training (RYA Volvo Open Transition Training) and aid their successful progression in their chosen youth class. It is intended that many of the contracted class association coaches should (where possible) also be regular coaches within the RYA Volvo Youth programme.

2. Classes

The classes for RYA Volvo Transition Training are as follows:

- Single handed dinghy (Laser Radial) – girls and boys
- Windsurfer (Neil Pryde RS:X 8.5) – girls and boys
- Double handed conventional dinghy (420) – all boy or all girl crews (exceptionally mixed crews)
- Doubled handed asymmetric dinghy (29ers) - all boy, all girl crews or mixed crews (open)¹

At RYA Volvo Transition Training level mixed crews are eligible in the 29er class, but may usually only be invited in the 420 Class in exceptional circumstances.

3. Eligibility

To be invited to attend the full RYA Volvo Transition Training programme a sailor should **normally** be:

- Eligible to compete for Great Britain in the Olympic Games.
- Not a member of a 2011/12 RYA Volvo National Youth, RYA National Junior or RYA Zone Squads.
- A sailor who has not already participated in previous RYA Volvo Transition Training programmes.
- Under 16 on the 31st December 2011. (Under 17 on the 31st December 2011 for the RS:X 8.5)

NB: In order to help sailing partnerships stay together, progress to senior competition, and to allow sailors to progress through the programme at a rate consistent with the maturation of their academic peers: sailors remain eligible for selection for the RYA Volvo Transition Training programme when a member of the team is 16 years of age on the 31st December 2011, provided that they were born between 1 September and 31 December inclusive. This is also applicable to singlehanded sailors. This is consistent with the RYA Volvo National Youth Squad policy.

Actions:

a) Sailors who wish to be considered for a place in the RYA Volvo Transition Training **Squad** must be a member of the RYA and apply on-line at www.ryaracingevents.org.uk Applications will be open on 1st November 2011 and applications will close after the last class Nominated Indicator Event or last Phase 1 RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training weekend, whichever is later.

b) Please note that sailors will also need to enter the three RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training weekends (Phase 1) directly through the relevant class association.

<http://www.420sailing.org.uk/>

<http://www.29er.org.uk/>

<http://www.laser.org.uk/>

<http://ukwindsurfing.com/>

Sailors will not be eligible to participate in any of the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad camps (Phase 2) until a signed attendance confirmation form has been received by the RYA for all members of a boat's crew invited to attend.

Normally, the length of time a sailor can remain in the programme will be limited to 1 year.

¹ The inclusion of mixed sex pairings differs between 420 and 29er as the 29er is an 'open' class, at the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship (i.e. options are boy-boy, girl-girl, boy-girl, or girl-boy combinations are acceptable) and the RYA are keen to embrace this development.

4. Selection and Selection Criteria

Selections for RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad (Phase 2) will be made in December 2011 and will be based on the following criteria:

- Results from each class(es) Nominated Indicator Event.
- Result(s) from a race series to be held during the final weekend of the relevant Phase 1 RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training.
- Eligibility criteria as above
- Participation during the 3 RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training weekends running from October to December 2011 (Phase 1) and the nominated class indicator event
- Recommendations from the respective RYA National Junior Squad Head Coaches, RYA Volvo National Youth Squad Coaches and Open Training Coaches, and/or officers from the relevant Class Associations who may be asked to input on one or all of the following areas:
 - Performance, attitude and behaviour at relevant Junior Championships and during previous training.
 - Class ranking lists.
 - Training history.
- Performance at major international regattas at Junior level
- Age and future potential.
- Height and weight.
- Personal goals and aspirations.
- Performance in youth classes – competition and training.
- Any other factors the selectors consider appropriate.

Results from the identified events shall be used to compile a ranking list which will form the basis of the allocation of any results based places, as well as informing the selectors who will exercise their judgement for any discretionary selections in relation to the points listed above.

The ranking list will be calculated using the individual race scores from both the nominated indicator event and counter races run as part of the conclusion of the training programme as follows:

| Lasar Radial | Neil Pryde RS:X | 29er | 420 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <2 races = 0 discards | <4 races = 0 discards | <4 races = 0 discards | <2 races = 0 discards |
| 3-5 races = 1 discard | 5-9 races = 1 discards | 5-9 races = 1 discards | 3-5 races = 1 discard |
| 6 + races = 2 discards | 10 + races = 2 discards | 10 + races = 2 discards | 6 + races = 2 discards |

Phase 2 selections may include sailors who have not attended phase 1 training (this is particularly likely in the case of a Southern hemisphere junior class worlds taking place over Christmas) and allocated to sailors at the discretion of the selectors.

Nominated Class Indicator Events

| Class | Event | Dates | Venue |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| Lasar Radial | Inland Championships | 12 th /13 th November 2011 | Carsington Water Sailing Club |
| Neil Pryde RS:X | RYA Youth and Masters/UKWA British Open | 1 st /2 nd October 2011 | Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy |
| 29er | Inland Championships | 5 th /6 st November 2011 | Grafham Water Sailing Club |
| 420 | End of Season Championships | 19 th /20 th November 2011 | Grafham Water Sailing Club |

Invitations to RYA Volvo Transition Training are conditional upon full commitment to all training requirements and an ongoing, monitored personal competition and training programme. Sailors will be expected to undertake significant personal sailing and training as well as recommended class and RYA events, indicators and other open training.

5. RYA Volvo Transition Training Group Sizes

Approximate anticipated numbers to be invited to attend phase 2 RYA Volvo Transition Training are as follows, though this may vary depending on the age and ability of applicants and those participating in the indicator series:

| Class | Boy (boats/boards) | Girl (boats/boards) | Total (boats/boards) |
|-----------------|---|--|----------------------|
| Laser Radial | Min 3 (including top 3 ranked U16's as 31/12/11) | Min 3 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/11) | 10-12 |
| 29er | Min 3 (including top 3 ranked U16's as 31/12/11) Boys, or mixed crews | Min 3 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/11) Girls, or mixed crews | 8-12 |
| 420 | Min 3 (including top 3 ranked U16's as 31/12/11) | Min 3 (including top ranked U16 as 31/12/11) | 8-12 |
| Neil Pryde RS:X | Min 3 (including top 3 ranked U17's as of 31/12/11) | Min 3 (including top ranked U17 as 31/12/11) | 8-12 |

Final numbers invited will depend upon the standard of sailors. Sailors may be invited to attend some or all of the RYA Volvo Transition Training. This will depend upon individual progress of the sailors invited, and sufficient flexibility exists to allow additional talented sailors to be included in the training should they emerge later in the programme.

6. Notification

It is anticipated that invitations to join the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad for Phase 2 will be sent out in December 2011 upon the conclusion of both the phase 1 training and indicator event, usually within 14 days. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified, and a list of invited sailors will also be published on the website when all the relevant paperwork has been received, it is not our policy to publish information before this time.

7. Selection Committee

The Selection Committee is appointed by the RYA Youth Steering Group, and currently consists of the following (or their appointed representatives):

- The relevant RYA Volvo Transition Training Class Head Coach
- RYA Single Handed Pathway Manager – Kirsty Bonar
- RYA Double Handed Pathway Manager – Roy McCubbin
- RYA Youth Racing Manager – Duncan Truswell

8. Fees and Payment

The programme is highly subsidised by the RYA who finance the coaches, support staff, coach boats and administration costs of the RYA Volvo Transition Training programme which comprises both the RYA Volvo Class Open Transition Training and the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad, however a parental contribution is required. This contribution may vary depending on class.

9. RYA Volvo Transitional Squad Training Dates

The dates for this RYA Volvo Transitional Squad Training programme will be available on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk – Racing – Youth and Junior – Squads – Transition Training.

10. Sailors who feel they may meet the eligibility criteria for Paralympic competition

The RYA endeavours to keep those sailors who feel they may ultimately be eligible for the Paralympics 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 the Olympic programme or the Paralympic 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 relevant criteria are encouraged to discuss in more detail with the relevant RYA Manager.

11. Status

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA)'s policies and procedures, including these Conditions, 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.

12. 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.

13. Further Information

If you would like to discuss any aspect of these selection guidelines further, please try the following contacts:

1. **RYA Pathway Manager (Single Handed) – Kirsty Bonar**
Direct Lines: 07900 215851 Email Address: kirsty.bonar@rya.org.uk
2. **RYA Pathway Manager (Double Handed) – Roy McCubbin**
Direct Line: 07717 495581 Email Address: roy.mccubbin@rya.org.uk
3. **RYA Youth Programme Senior Administrator - Frances Wilson**
Direct Line: 02380 604170 Email Address: frances.wilson@rya.org.uk