

National Youth and Junior Squad Selection Guidelines for the 2020 Windsurfing Team

General

The membership of the National Youth and Junior Squad will be renewed on an annual basis (from 1st of November 2019 to 31st of October 2020). The selections for the year of 2019 will consist of two parts; athletes will be selected either through their selection indicator ranking in 2019 (Part 1) or invited at the discretion of the Coaches Panel (Part 2).

Aims

These selection guidelines are set up to achieve the following:

1. To identify and select a number of young athletes under 18 years of age in the year of selection with potential to achieve good results at the following events:
 - Youth Olympic Games
 - World Sailing Youth World Championships
 - RS:X Youth World Championships
 - RS:X Asian Championships
 - Techno 293 World Championships
 - Techno 293 Asian Championships
2. To provide these young athletes with high performance training.
3. To prepare these young athletes, when invited, to further their athletic career as full time athletes at a senior level in preparations for Asian and Olympic Games.
4. To have a fair and open selection on an annual basis, resulting in athletes being selected of high compatible performance levels.
5. To create a “pooling” of talent that has not made it through the selection so that they can try again the next year.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for the selection a participant must:

1. have reached the age of 14 before 1st Jan 2020 (born in 2005);
2. be under 19 years of age in 2020 (born in 2002 or after); and

3. be a holder of a HK Permanent ID card and be eligible to represent HK in international competitions.

Note: in exceptional circumstances at the National Coach's discretion and WAHK General Committee's endorsement athletes outside these age limitations may be considered for inclusion in the National Youth and Junior Squad.

National Youth and Junior

Quota Allocation:

The WAHK National Youth and Junior Squad would be split on a 50% gender allocation ideally, provided performance levels warrant this. The number of quota are depending on the funding available in that year.

Method of Selection:

Selection Indicator events:

Events	Date	Classes
Festival of Sports Regatta, Stanley Main Beach, Stanley	20- 21 April 2019	RS:X Youth Techno Youth
HKG Circuit- Tolo Championships, Tai Mei Tuk, Tai Po	18- 19 May	RS:X Youth Techno Youth
HKG Circuit- Tuen Mun Championships, Lung Kwu Tan, Tuen Mun	27- 28 July	RS:X Youth Techno Youth
HKG Circuit- Cheung Chau Championships, Tung Wan, Cheung Chau	21-22 September	RS:X Youth Techno Youth

12 Athletes will be selected through the selection indicator ranking in 2019 (Part 1), all 4 events' overall ranking will be counted according to classes mentioned in above. Lowest accumulated score ranks highest in each individual class.

- In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken in order of an athlete's ranking in the last selection event. Any remaining ties will be broken by using the tied athletes' rankings in the next-to-last race and so on until all ties are broken.

Additional athletes may be invited at the discretion of the Coaches Panel (Part 2). All athletes must have suitable physiques to fulfill National Squad training program and be fit for the equipment they train on.

Part 1: Selection by Results

Selection for the 12 places in the National Youth and Junior Squad by results will be as follows:

RS:X Youth

· The top 1 boy and 1 girl that are under 18 years of age in the year of the selection (born in or after 2002) in the 2019 selection indicator ranking will be guaranteed a place in the National Youth Squad for the next year starting on the 1st of November 2019. The athlete needs to get into top half of the selection indicator ranking in order to be guaranteed a place.

BIC Techno Youth Under 17 years division

· The top 3 boys and 3 girls that are under 17 years of age in the year of the selection (born in or after 2003) in the 2019 selection indicator ranking in Techno Youth class will be guaranteed a place for the next year starting on the 1st of November 2019.

BIC Techno Junior Under 15 years division

· The top 2 boys and 2 girls that are of 14 years of age (born in 2005) in the year of the selection in the 2019 selection indicator ranking in Techno Youth class will be offered a place in the 2019 National Junior Squad starting on the 1st of November 2019.

Part 2: Invitation by Coach Recommendation

Additional places will be allocated at the National Coach's discretion and depend on funding available. This part of the selection guidelines is designed to ensure continuation and a long term approach covering the following situations (but not exclusive to these):

- Some of the existing National Youth or Junior squad athletes may have been unable to participate in the selection indicator events due to participation in overseas competitions and training camps.

- Some athletes that are deemed to have high potential to achieve future success in Major Games, but without having the results reflecting this yet. The following criteria may be taken into account:

1. the results in the HKG Circuits and Festival of Sports;
2. the athlete's potential for further development (which includes desire to improve performance, training commitment, attitude and behavior, recorded attendance, and current performance level);
3. fitness level (assessed in fitness tests);
4. taking care of equipment;
5. and a minimum ability to windsurf proficiently around the course and finish the race in 18 knots of wind on RS:X equipment with a 8.5sqm sail, in 15 knots of wind on T293 equipment with a 7.8sqm sail in the year of age 15 and in 18 knots of wind on T293 equipment with a 7.8sqm sail in the year of age 16;
6. coach's observations

Annual Program

1. Time of Selection

Selection will take place based on the 2019 selection indicator ranking. Athletes selected to the Squad will receive National Youth or Junior Squad status for one year from 1st of November until 31st of October for the year following the year of selection. All first time National Youth or Junior Squad athletes will initially be invited for a 3 months' probation starting from 1st of November 2019. At the end of the probation period, an assessment will be made by the coaching panel taking into account the following considerations:

- Level of performance
- Potential for further improvement

- Ability to sail proficiently in 15 knots of wind on their age group specific equipment
- Attendance and punctuality
- Contribution to teamwork

If the assessment is satisfactory the National Youth Squad status will be extended until the end of the contract year (1st November 2019 – 31st October 2020). Period of probation may be extended if the assessment is unsatisfactory based on the discretion of coaching panel involved.

2. Benefits

National Youth and Junior Squad members will be eligible for selection to overseas regional events, Youth & Junior World Championship and the World Sailing Youth World Championships (provided they meet the events eligibility criteria). Equipment will be issued but may not be new. Squad members will also be eligible for free participation in local training camps organized under the WAHK National Squad Training Scheme.

3. HKSI Scholarships

Those with potential for further improvements to represent HKG at the overseas regional events, Youth & Junior World Championship and the World Sailing Youth World Championships, high performance levels and a consistent level of performance at national/international level, commitment to elite training and supported by family/school, and a minimum of 4 days and 15 hours of training per week may be awarded HKSI Scholarships in Youth or Junior Squad which may include subvention for participation in overseas training camps and intensified coaching. These Scholarships will be offered at the HKSI Head Windsurfing Coach's discretion.

4. Development Squads

Athletes who are not selected for the National Youth Squad, but are young enough and have the potential to improve their performance and to be selected in future years, may be given a place in the Development Squad at WAHK's discretion.

5. Existing National Squad members

Some existing National Squad members, who have participated in less than four selection indicator events due to participation in overseas competition and training, may not have a year ranking. The National Coach will then base on the coaches' recommendation on the athlete's performance and results to grant his/her National Squad status for one more year.

6. Termination

For part time athletes, there will be a minimum of 12 hours of supervised training weekly to meet. Athletes will receive warning letter for each month that fail to meet the requirement. The National Squad member status will be terminated if the athletes have received 3 warning letters in the contract year (1st November 2019 – 31st October 2020).

The Final Decision and Appeal Mechanism:

The selection report will be submitted to the WAHK General Committee which will be the final endorsing authority. Any appeals must be directed to the WAHK General Committee in a timely fashion, as soon as possible after the outcome of the selections has been announced. At its discretion the General Committee may appoint an Appeal Working Party, with a legal adviser as a member of the party, to decide on the validity of the appeal and the outcome.