

## **Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Squad Selection Guidelines for 2021 Windsurfing Team**

### **A. General**

The membership of the Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Squad will be renewed on an annual basis (from 1st of November 2020 to 31st of October 2021). The selections for the year of 2020 will consist of two parts; athletes will be selected either through their selection indicator ranking in 2020 (Part 1) or invited at the discretion of the Coaches Panel (Part 2).

### **B. Aims**

These selection guidelines are set up to achieve the following:

1. To have a fair and open selection on an annual basis, resulting in athletes being selected of high compatible performance levels;
2. To create a “pooling” of talent that has not made it through the selection so that they can try again the next year;
3. To provide these young athletes with high performance training;
4. 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, if applicable:
  - Youth Olympic Games
  - World Sailing Youth World Championships
  - RS:X Youth World Championships
  - RS:X Asian Championships
  - iQFoil Youth World Championships
  - iQFoil Asian Championships
  - Techno293 World Championships
  - Techno293 Asian Championships

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.

### **C. Eligibility**

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

1. have reached the age of 14 before 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021 (born in 2006); and
2. be under 18 years of age in 2020 (born in 2003 or after); and
3. be a holder of a HK Permanent ID card and be eligible to represent HK in international competitions; and
4. using the equipment that comply with the divisions requirement of the Notice of Race of the selection events; and

5. have a minimum ability to windsurf proficiently around the course and finish the race
  - (i) in 18+ knots of wind on iQFoil Youth equipment or any equipment that does not exceed the technical standard of the iQFoil Youth equipment under the age of 18
  - (ii) in 18+ knots of wind on Techno293 board with a 7.8sqm sail under the age of 17,
  - (iii) in 15+ knots of wind on Techno293 board with a 6.8sqm sail under the year of age 15.

An assessment will be conducted by the National Squad, athletes will need to complete either a trapezoid or windward leeward course in the wind range according to their divisions mentioned above within the time limit and target time set by the HKG circuit Sailing Instruction for each division. The dates and further information about the assessment will be announced on the WAHK website at least 40 days before the assessment day.

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.

## **D. National Youth and Junior**

### **1. Quota Allocation and Squad Composition**

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. A total of 14 Athletes will be selected through the selection indicator ranking in 2020 (Part 1) and additional places will be allocated at the National Coach's discretion and depend on funding available.

Selection for the 14 places in the National Youth and Junior Squad by results will be as follows:

#### 1. IQFoil Youth division

The top 2 boys and 2 girls that are under 18 years of age in the year of the selection (born in or after 2003) in the 2020 selection indicator ranking will be offered a place in the 2021 National Youth Squad.

#### 2. 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 2004) in the 2020 selection indicator ranking in Techno Youth class will be offered a place in the 2021 National Youth Squad.

#### 3. BIC Techno Junior Under 15 years division

The top 2 boys and 2 girls that are of 14 years of age (born in 2006) in the year of the selection in the 2020 selection indicator ranking in Techno Youth class will be offered a place in the 2021 National Junior Squad.

## 2. Method of Selection

### Part 1: Selection indicator ranking in 2020

The Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Selection Indicator events/series:

Events*	Date	Divisions
Festival of Sports Regatta, Stanley Main Beach, Stanley	27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Foil Youth Techno Youth
Haitong International HKG Circuit- Tolo Championships, Tai Mei Tuk, Tai Po	11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Foil Youth Techno Youth
Haitong International 2020 Hong Kong Open Windsurfing Championships (The International Series)	29 <sup>th</sup> September – 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Foil Youth Techno Youth

\* No replacement event will be arranged if an event fails to be valid or cancelled. A replacement event(s) will be arranged only if none of the above events are valid.

A total of 14 Athletes will be selected through the selection indicator ranking in 2020 (Part 1), overall ranking of the 3 events will be counted according to divisions mentioned in above. The Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Selection Indicator series will be scored by adding each non-discarded race score from the indicator events. Lowest accumulated score ranks highest in each individual class.

**Remarks:** *If there is a series-score tie between two or more boats, each boat's race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the boat(s) with the best score(s). No discarded scores shall be used.*

### Part 2: Discretion of the Coaches Panel

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

1. Some of the existing National Youth or Junior squad athletes may have been unable to participate in the selection indicator events due to participate in overseas competitions and training camps.
2. 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:

- a. the results in the Overseas events, HKG Open, HKG Circuits and Festival of Sports;
- b. the athlete's potential for further development (which includes a desire to improve performance, training commitment, attitude and behavior, recorded attendance, and current performance level);
- c. have suitable physiques to fulfill National Squad training program and be fit for the equipment they train on. (Assessed in fitness tests, athletes in the Development Squad must attend the fitness test organised by the WAHK. Other selected athletes must attend the fitness test organised by the HKSI after receiving the National Squad invitation letter); and
- d. coach's observations.

## **E. Annual Program**

### **1. Time of Selection**

Selection will take place based on the 2020 selection indicator events. The athletes selected to the Squad will receive National Youth or Junior Squad status for one year from the 1st of November until 31st of October in 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 2020 (Subject to the Body Check result provision). At the end of the probation period, an assessment will be made by the coaching panel taking into account the following considerations:

- a. Level of performance
- b. Potential for further improvement
- c. Ability to sail proficiently in 15/18 knots of wind on their age group with specific equipment
- d. Attendance and punctuality
- e. Contribution to teamwork

If the assessment is satisfactory, the National Youth / Junior Squad status will be extended until the end of the contract year (1st November 2020 – 31st October 2021). Period of probation may be extended if the assessment is unsatisfactory based on the discretion of coaching panels involved.

### **2. Benefits**

National Youth and Junior Squad members will be eligible for selection to overseas regional events, Youth & Junior World Championships 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 Hong Kong National Windsurfing Team.

### **3. HKSI Scholarships**

Those with potential for further improvements to represent HKG at 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 not participated in all 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 2020 – 31st October 2021).

#### **F. 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, headed by its legal adviser to decide on the validity of the appeal and the outcome.