

Selection Guidelines for the 2023 Hong Kong National Youth and Junior 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 2022 to 31st of October 2023). The selections for the year of 2022 will consist of two parts; athletes will be selected either through their selection indicator ranking in 2022 (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
 - iQFOiL Youth World Championships
 - iQFOiL Asian Championships
5. 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. be under 18 years of age in 2022 (born in 2005 or after); and
2. be a holder of a HK Permanent ID card and be eligible to represent HK in international competitions; and
3. using the equipment that comply with the divisions requirement of the Notice of Race of the selection events; and

D. National Youth and Junior

1. 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.

1. iQFOiL Youth division (born in or after 2005, using iQFOiL Youth equipment, see 2022-23 NOR)
2. iQFOiL Junior division (born in or after 2006, using iQFOiL Junior equipment, see 2022-23 NOR)
3. iQFOiL Junior Under 15 years division (born in or after 2008, using equipment specified in 2022-23 NOR)

2. Method of Selection

Part 1: Selection indicator ranking in 2022

The Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Selection Trials:

Events*	Date	Number of places selected based upon highest ranking	Divisions
2023 National Y&J Squad Selection Trial One (Two days event)	March – April 2022	1 boy and 1 girl	Foil Youth Foil Junior
2023 National Y&J Squad Selection Trial Two (Two days event)	September – October 2022	1 boy and 1 girl	Foil Youth Foil Junior

* *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.*

There will be two selection trials conducted for the selection of 2023 Hong Kong National Youth and Junior Squad as mentioned in above table. Each trial is a stand-alone selection and sailors (one boy and one girl) will be selected in each trial through the selection indicator ranking in each division mentioned above. The trials will be conducted only when the wind condition is 10 knots or above, the exact date of the trial will be announced at least one month before the trial.

The following criteria will also be taken into account during selection process:

- Recorded attendance (minimum 80%)

- Attitude and behavior (Proper behavior as an athlete, time and equipment management)
- 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 organized by the WAHK. Other selected athletes must attend the fitness test organized by the HKSI after receiving the National Squad invitation letter)
- Ability to sail proficiently in 15/18 knots of wind on their age group with specific equipment. (U17 athletes should be able to sail in 15 knots of wind using iQFOiL Junior equipment, U19 athletes should be able to sail in 18 knots of wind using iQFOiL Youth equipment.)

The above criteria are for athletes with regular training e.g. Development Squad athletes, for those who do not have regular training but one's ranking is high enough to be selected, their performance and behavior will be observed during the probation period.

Part 2: Discretion of the Coaches Panel

Additional places will be allocated at the National Coach's discretion and depending on funding availability. This part of the selection guideline is 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 trials 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 Selection Trials, Oversea 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 2022 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 2022 (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. (U17 athletes should be able to sail in 15knots of wind using iQFOiL Junior equipment, U19 athletes should be able to sail in 18knots of wind using iQFOiL Youth 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 2022 – 31st October 2023). 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 & Junior Squad, but are young enough and have the potential to improve their performance and to be selected in future years, will be given a place in the Development Squad at WAHK's discretion.

5. 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 2022 – 31st October 2023).

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.