RYA SCOTLAND

At a glance

Performance Pathways

Providing young sailors with opportunities for progression, from grassroots racing to world-class performance





Supporting People, Places and Communities

sport scotland
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What is the RYA Scotland Performance Pathway?

The RYA Scotland Performance Pathway Programmes are designed to provide opportunities for young sailors to:

- Experience sailing against a wider field.
- Race and train with the best in Scotland, the UK and on the world stage.
- Make new friends, have fun, hone skills and develop a love or sailing and racing.

Our aim

To deliver a world-class performance pathway allowing athletes to develop at the right stage and ability – from local club racing to competing at the highest level in the UK and on the international stage.



What the Pathway offers

A fun, engaging and accessible programme for all participating sailors.

- Clear pathways for progression from grassroots to elite levels, ensuring smooth transitions through different stages of development.
- Engagement with parents/guardians to help them support their sailor's development.
- A structure through which candidates for the Scottish Sailing Team (SST) and British Sailing Youth Team (BSYT) programmes can be identified.

Pathway classes

Optimist, Topper, Techno, Feva, IICA, 29er, iQFoil

Supporting early development

Our three key programmes – Open Training, Pathway Clubs and Club Racing Academies – are designed to enable and develop those in the early stages of their racing journey, as well as support initiatives in clubs and the wider community.

SCOTTISH SAILING OPEN TRAINING

Open Training is for junior sailors who are starting or continuing their local club racing journey. These sessions develop their skills within a fun, inclusive training environment. The Open Training programme takes place out of season from autumn to spring, enabling sailors from across Scotland to train together at a time when their home clubs may be less active.

SCOTTISH SAILING PATHWAY CLUB

Pathway Clubs contribute to the national vision for accessible, high-quality grassroots racing. We provide these clubs with targeted support to help create inclusive, welcoming environments that nurture junior and youth development and foster vibrant communities where young sailors can grow in skill, confidence and enjoyment of the sport.

SCOTTISH SAILING CLUB RACING ACADEMY

Club Racing Academies provide targeted race training at RYA affiliated clubs and training centres. These one-day sessions are co-designed by the club or class with a RYA Scotland Coach, and are also designed to support club/class coach development. The nominal fee charged (to cover the coach and expenses) is subsidised by RYA Scotland.

Moving on

Selective programmes

For young athletes keen to progress their racing beyond the three early programmes, RYA Scotland delivers three selection-based Performance Pathway programmes as part of the Scottish Sailing Team progression.

SCOTTISH SAILING JUNIOR SQUAD → **SCOTTISH SAILING DEVELOPMENT SQUAD** → **SCOTTISH SAILING TEAM**

Our entry-level performance squad for younger sailors in junior classes, typically aged under 15/16 depending on class.

Transitional performance development squad for youth class sailors progressing toward elite competition, typically aged under 19.

Our high-performance team for youth sailors aiming for selection to the British Sailing Youth Team.

Performance Pathway events

In conjunction with the RYA and home countries, we deliver several events for the Performance Pathway community, some by selection or invitation only. These include:

RYAS Invitational Winter Championships
RYAS Youth and Junior Championships
RYA Home Country Celtic Cup
RYA Eric Twiname Championships
RYA Junior Club Championships

See our website for more information about selection policies and events.



Find out more about Performance Pathways

Whether you're a parent or guardian, a young sailor or a club, we are happy to tell you more about what our Performance Pathway programmes can offer you. Take a look at our website, drop us a note, or get in touch to arrange a call.

pathway@ryascotland.org.uk

scotland.rya.org.uk/performance

Main cover image credit: Sailing Energy / iQFoil Class