



British 420 Class Team Selection Policy

Overview of the training

The committee have received positive feedback from sailors, parents and coaches about the previously run Class Performance Group in parallel with the RYA Youth Squad for the 2025/2026 winter. However, we have decided to rebrand to avoid any confusion with the RYA Talent academy performance group, the new name is the British 420 Class Team and will be limited to 5 or 6 boats max.

The coach for the class team this year is Will Martin and we plan to train alongside the BSYT at the same locations on the same weekends. There will also be some optional opportunities to travel to international events as part of the class team. The structure of the British 420 Class Team is designed to take selected sailors who show the required aptitude, potential and Performance, develop and mould them to support the class endeavour to build world class sailors. The program encompasses on water, online and classroom development looking at a skills-based matrix, sailing tactics, race strategy and fleet management as well as partnership communications, international event attendance and behaviour. The selected sailors train together under the same coach at each session with regular reviews online or in 1-2-1's, including online sessions. Each session is linked to drive a natural pathway forward whilst maintaining look back check points driving towards continuous improvement in all areas of the sport

Teams will also be expected to compete in the majority of class racing events over this period. After the Youth Nationals at Easter, we will look at the Group and may consider running alongside the Youth Squad summer teams.

You are likely to have already attended the RYA selection weekend on 6th 7th Sept, and we will be requesting feedback from this to help with any selection

If you would like to be part of this year's British 420 Class Team please complete the Application form.

The key dates to be aware of:

- Applications to be submitted by Friday 25th September 2025
- Selected boats notified by Wednesday 30th September 2025
- Boats will be required to accept / decline their place by 3rd October 2025 and pay the full amount for training to confirm their place



British 420 Class Team Selection Policy

1. Aim

The Purpose of this document is to outline the policy for the selection criteria in 2025/2026.

2. Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1. Sailors should apply as a boat (Helm and Crew)
- 2.2. All sailors are required to be current members of the 420 Class association at all times
- 2.3. There is no upper or lower age limit for sailors within the group
- 2.4. Boats are expected to attend all the events but will be required to attend a minimum of 80% of the training dates (5 out of 6). There will be no refunds for no-shows.

3. Application Process

Boats that wish to be considered for the group should submit an application by Friday 25th September 2025 using the relevant application form. Late applications will not be considered.

- 3.1. The group will be made up of 5-6 boats selected according to the Selection principles specified in section 6 – Group Composition
- 3.2. Commitment to the group is paramount (history dictates this drives success) the class will dedicate an exclusive coach to the performance group sailors at each session for dedicated focus. In return the expectation is for sailors to attend 5 of 6 events minimum, join the off-water sessions and 1-2-1's. To support this commitment the program of events is funded upfront.

4. Training period and Dates

- 4.1. The training period is October 2025 – April 2026. After the RYA Youth Nationals in Easter 2026, the Group will be reviewed and may consider continuing to run alongside the RYA Youth Squad summer teams
- 4.2. It is planned that, in the main, the group will train alongside the class open training at the following locations on these dates:

4th 5th October - WPNSA
22nd 23rd Nov - Grafham
6th 7th Dec - WPNSA
2nd 4th Jan - WPNSA



British 420 Class Team Selection Policy

17-18th Jan - TBC

7th -8th March -Shoreham

In addition, it is expected that the Team will attend either Palamos or San Remo; a separate charge will be required for this event.

5. Group Composition

5.1. The Team will be selected from the pool of applicants by a sub committee of the main 420 Class Committee (this committee will include the Group coach and an independent member (i.e. does not have a sailor currently within the class) taking into account the following criteria.

- The 420 Class Association British Nationals
- Performance at other events
- Performance at significant international regatta
- Performance, attitude and behaviour at previous training events
- Coach feedback
- Mitigating factors affecting results
- Anticipated squad dynamics

Selected boats will be notified by Wednesday 30th September 2025.

6. Group Acceptance

Boats will be required to accept / decline their place by 3rd Oct and pay the full amount for training to confirm their place in the team (amount will be included in the offer) via the class event page (link will be supplied).

7. Sailor Pairing Substitutes

If a sailor pairing splits during the training period any crew / helm substitution will only be allowed following discussions and agreement with the Group Coach and sub committee. We will not increase the size of the group to accommodate both sailors' new pairings.

8. Appeals

There will be no appeals against the published selection criteria or the actions of the sub committee, provided they follow the selection criteria. The grounds for appeal may not include any alleged error of judgment of the sub committee and are limited to allegations of:

- Failure to follow due process



British 420 Class Team Selection Policy

- Bias / Undue influence
- Some other misconduct

Should an appeal still arise the RYA appeals process will be used.