



**GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION
OF THE
Irish Sailing Volvo Optimist Squad 2017-2018**

*The objectives of Irish Sailing **Volvo Optimist Squad 2017-2018** are to teach Irish junior sailors to train efficiently in their major sport, expose them to international racing, increase their experience in the sport and prepare them to the next stage of their sailing career and life challenges in general.*

1. Training Programme

Irish Sailing will provide expert coaches to deliver the squad programme. All members will receive feedback and structured support from the programme. Members of the squad shall attend all the programme activities. Activities are subsidised by Irish Sailing.

2. Age Eligibility

For the Irish Sailing Volvo Optimist Squad 2017-2018, members shall be born in 2004 & 2005.

Sailors born in 2003 will be considered for selection and may be placed into the “Transition Squad” but must show clear potential for the coming season and fit the optimum size criteria.

Sailors born in 2006 will be considered for selection but must show evident maturity for their age.

3. Nomination for additional support – Process

- a. As a performance basis for nomination for the squad described above, Irish Sailing will use the following ‘Indicator Regattas’

Primary Indicator

- The IODAI Irish Nationals

Additional indicators

- The European Championship in Bulgaria
- The UK Nationals (junior and senior fleets)
- The Leinster Championships

b. Irish Sailing will use the events above as an indicator of sailor’s standards; this will form the initial basis for selection to Irish Sailing Volvo Optimist Squad 2017/2018

c. Irish Sailing may consult with class representatives, the national coach and other club and IODAI coaches to determine the importance of the non-performance selection criteria.

4. Selection

- a. In order to ensure the competitive standard of the sailors Irish Sailing Selectors will consider sailors who have completed 2017 IODAI regatta program to date.
- b. Only sailors that complete the application form will be considered in the selection process.
- c. Selection of squad members to the Irish Sailing Volvo Optimist Squad will be subject to a full commitment to all squad training requirements.
- d. Irish Sailing reserves the right to select or not select a sailor. Any decision on the selection/non – selection of sailors will be made at the discretion of Irish Sailing.
- e. Selectors may choose wild card entries to the squad at their absolute discretion.
- f. Selection of Irish Sailing Optimist Squad will be made as soon as possible following the closing date for applications.

6. Selection Practice

- a. Irish Sailing Volvo Optimist Squad 2017-2018 Selectors may use their discretion to apportion any factors they may feel appropriate in making their decisions.
- b. Selectors therefore have the discretion to determine:
 - The size of the squad. As an indicator the squad is usually composed by 12-16 sailors
 - Which criteria to take into account
 - Who they select
 - Weighting afforded to “indicator regatta’s”
- c. By engaging in the selection process the competitors agree that the selectors have such discretions.

7. Application process

- a. Sailors wishing to be considered for selection must apply to Irish Sailing no later than September 19th along with credit card details. **Programme price: €1200**. Please note: credit cards will not be charged unless selected.
- b. Application will be seen by the selectors and only by the selectors (confidentiality)
- c. Only sailors with an application will be considered for selection
- d. If selection confirmed the credit card will be charged **€1000** as an initial payment towards the squad activities, and the remainder **€200** by the 1st of February.

8. Replacements

- a. Irish Sailing will resolve any issues of selection that may arise because of injury to team members or cancellation of squad membership at its absolute discretion.

9. Coaching and Support Staff

- a. Irish Sailing Optimist Squad 2017-2018 coach is Pieter Van den Bossche, an assistant coach will also be appointed.
- b. Team Assistant will be required for the regatta abroad.

10. Disputes

- a. Issues arising with regard to Nomination and Selection will be dealt with if received in writing to Irish Sailing Performance department.
- b. Where there is a conflict or dispute in respect of these Guidelines for Nomination and Selection for Irish Sailing Optimist Squad 2015-2016. Irish Sailing reserves the right to interpret this document and to use its discretion in the resolving of



the matter in conflict or dispute. If this is not sufficient to resolve the dispute it may be further resolved under the guidelines of Irish Sailing Constitution.

Program 2017-2018.

21st – 22nd Oct 2017 : Leinster based weekend

28- 30th Oct 2017 : Leinster Camp

25th -26th Nov 2017 : Munster based weekend

13th – 14th January 2018: Munster based weekend

Spain Torre Vieja Regatta: 23rd – 29th January 2018 (accommodation included, Irish Sailing will book flights but flights are not included in programme cost)

3rd – 4th February 2018 : Munster weekend

3rd – 4th March 2018: Leinster based weekend

17th -19th March 2018: St. Patrick's day camp Leinster