

RYA Press Release

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ISAF World Team Racing Championships – GBR in action Credit: Jenny Twine RFBYC

Hunt begins for fresh Team Racing talent

Are you an 18-year-old considering which direction to now take your sailing or are you about to head off to university and wondering how you can continue to sail once you're away from home?

The RYA Team Race Development Training Programme could provide the answers you are searching for.

Team Racing is a major part of national and international sail race competition, with the biennial ISAF World Team Racing Championships next taking place in Schull, Ireland, September 2011, the pinnacle international event, as well as being the primary sailing activity undertaken at British universities.

Unlike in normal fleet racing where the aim of the game is to finish first past the post, team racing involves teams of six sailors in three boats going head-to-head against another team of three boats to try to get the best overall points score for the team.

As a result it is a true test of a crews' boat handling skills, decision-making abilities and tactical nous.

To develop this activity the RYA runs a two-part programme open to sailors aged 18 and over with the aims of enabling sailors to participate effectively on the UK Open and University Team Racing circuits, to develop and strengthen the skills required to compete at the top national and international level and to select teams to represent RYA Team Racing teams for national and international events.

Stage One of the programme is Development Training; two days of intensive team racing training for those who are currently participating in UK Open and/or University Team Racing. This training will be used to select 24 sailors for stage two.

Development Training takes place over 17-18 December (Friday/Saturday) at Bough Beech, Kent.

Stage Two of the programme is RYA Selected Team Race Training; two weekends of training to enhance the skills of the best team racers and improve their competition performance.

This training will be used to select the RYA Development Team, which will receive automatic entry to the Wilson Trophy and other appropriate international events.

The Selected Team Race Training takes place on 29/30 January and 26/27 March at Oxford.

Teams of six sailors are requested to apply together. Individual (helms and crews) may apply, however full teams will need to be formed. We will put you in touch with other incomplete team entries to help you with the process. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 8 December**.

To get involved in RYA Team Race Development Training visit www.rya.org.uk/racing/teamracing and download the application form on the right hand side of the page.

Ends