



***HIGH-
PERFORMANCE
PROGRAMME***

MISSION:

YACHTING NEW ZEALAND'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME AIMS TO ACHIEVE REPEATABLE OLYMPIC SUCCESS. Our Olympic sailing success has secured tier 1 funding support from High Performance Sport New Zealand (HPSNZ), enabling us to provide sailors with world-leading coaching and programme support from youth sailing through to Olympic success.

KEY PRINCIPLES:

The cost of Olympic campaigning is significant, and it is recognised that with limited programme funding, it is not possible to provide the level of support required to succeed in all 10 Olympic classes. Smart investment is a strategic priority. Prioritisation is essential to meet our KPIs of winning two or more Olympic medals.

OUR PRIORITIES ARE:



/ Prioritise medal-capable investment



/ Specific Olympic-class support and funding



/ World-class Olympic coaching

Yachting New Zealand partners closely with HPSNZ, the Yachting New Zealand high-performance advisory group (HPAG), athletes, and coaches to identify and develop medal-capable campaigns and programmes.

We are driven by the dual objectives of delivering immediate Olympic success and building a sustainable, world-class high-performance pathway for the next generation of sailors.

Owing to New Zealand's geographic isolation and relatively small athlete base, we optimise resources by implementing a squad-based approach where appropriate. This model enables Olympic coaches to support both elite and developing sailors within the same class, although it also presents challenges in ensuring continuity of coaching support across international and domestic schedules.

CLASS SUPPORT IS DETERMINED BY:

- / Existing sailor depth and quality in that class
- / Repeated Olympic success and intellectual property
- / Depth and quality of class pathways (youth and feeder).
- / Importance of a class as a skills feeder into other classes.
- / Projected Olympic class status in 2032.

FORMS OF CLASS SUPPORT:

- / Squad coaching in New Zealand.
- / Squad coaching at selected international events.





In line with the above class support criteria, the following classes have been identified as current category 1 classes:

/ 49er, ILCA 7, ILCA 6, iQFOiL men, iQFOiL women

- Squad coaching in New Zealand.
- Squad coaching at selected international events

/ Athletes in all classes are eligible for individual support

- Refer to the following athlete support level structure.

/ NZ domestic coach support will also target 2032 focused classes.

Class support decisions are regularly reviewed in conjunction with HPSNZ, the Yachting New Zealand HPAG, and the Yachting New Zealand high-performance coaching team.

NZL SAILING TEAM

NZL POTENTIAL LEVEL

FAST TRACK LEVEL

DEVELOPMENT / SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL

ENTRY LEVEL



NZL SAILING TEAM /

The pinnacle level of our NZL sailing programme.

Athletes qualify for the NZL Sailing Team by achieving either:

- / A top 10 finish at the 2025-2028 world championships, OR
- / A top 10 finish at the 2024 Olympic Games.

Qualified athletes remain in the NZL Sailing Team for two years after achieving entry. 2024 Olympic medallists remain in the NZL Sailing Team for the 2028 Olympic cycle, provided they are actively campaigning.

HPSNZ Status /

Note: Athletes at this level are eligible for nomination to receive HPSNZ tailored athlete pathway support (TAPS) at Elite or Potential level.

Elite:

Athletes are required to have achieved multiple top 8s at Olympic Games or world championships (or one top 8 placing at Olympics or world championships and equivalent international performances).

Potential:

Athletes need to have demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance), tracking towards a top 8 placing at the Olympic Games this cycle.

Results criteria notes

- / All results outlined above are the overall finish placing in the regatta.
- / All percentages are based on the regatta's total confirmed entry list.





NZL SAILING POTENTIAL LEVEL /

Athletes who have achieved recognised results in international events.

Athletes qualify by achieving the following results at the Olympic class world championships:

- / A place in the gold fleet, AND
- / Top 30 overall, AND
- / Within the top 25 per cent.

Qualified athletes remain at this level for two years after qualification.

HPSNZ Status /

Note: Athletes at this level may be eligible to receive HPSNZ tailored athlete pathway support (TAPS) at Potential level.

To achieve HPSNZ's potential TAPS-level funding, athletes need to have demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a top 8 placing at the Olympic Games this cycle.



Results criteria notes

- / All results outlined above are the overall finish placing in the regatta.
- / All percentages are based on the regatta's total confirmed entry list.

FAST TRACK LEVEL /

Young Olympic campaigning sailors who have achieved top-level international results.

Athletes under the age of 24 can qualify for this level by meeting one of the following criteria:

- / Olympic class junior (under-21, under-23, under-24) world championships medal, OR
- / Placed in the top 40 per cent at an Olympic class open world championships.

Eligibility in double-handed partnerships: In double-handed partnerships where one sailor is over the age of 24, the under-24 sailor may still qualify for Fast Track, allowing the team to be supported.

Programme duration and re-qualification: Sailors remain at the Fast Track Level for two years, provided they actively campaign in an Olympic class with a Yachting New Zealand-approved campaign plan. Sailors can requalify for the Fast Track squad by meeting any of the eligibility criteria listed above.

HPSNZ Status /

Note: Athletes at this level are eligible for nomination to receive HPSNZ tailored athlete pathway support (TAPS) at Confirmation level.

Confirmation: Athletes demonstrating the readiness and performance evidence (against sport's PoP) to transition into high performance in the current cycle with the potential to achieve future podia success on the world stage.



Results criteria notes

- / All results outlined above are the overall finish placing in the regatta.
- / All percentages are based on the regatta's total confirmed entry list.





SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL /

Athletes who have achieved outstanding results at **world youth** events and are committed to campaigning in an Olympic class.

Athletes qualify by achieving:

/ A medal at World Sailing youth world championships or open class youth world championships.

Programme eligibility, duration and re-qualification: Sailors will receive this support when actively campaigning in an Olympic class with a Yachting New Zealand-approved campaign plan. They are eligible for support for up to two years.



Results criteria notes

- / All results outlined above are the overall finish placing in the regatta.
- / All percentages are based on the regatta's total confirmed entry list.



DEVELOPMENT LEVEL /

Athletes who have demonstrated potential in their Olympic class.

Athletes can qualify for this level through actively campaigning in an Olympic class with a confirmed campaign plan AND achieving one of the following results:

/ Placing in the top 60 per cent of the fleet at an Olympic class world championships, OR

/ Placing in the top 10 per cent of the fleet at junior (under-21, under-23, under-24) Olympic class world championships, OR

Programme duration: Sailors will need to requalify for a programme level yearly.



Results criteria notes

/ All results outlined above are the overall finish placing in the regatta.

/ All percentages are based on the regatta's total confirmed entry list.



ENTRY LEVEL /

Athletes who are actively sailing and are committed to an Olympic class but have not met the Development Level standard.

Eligibility: Athletes are committed, actively sailing an Olympic class, and can positively contribute to a squad environment through their on-water performance and intention. Athletes will have a campaign plan in place.

The Yachting New Zealand Olympic coaching team may nominate an athlete for entry-level support. The panel will include the Olympic coaching team, Yachting New Zealand's high-performance director or high-performance athlete development manager, and a representative from the athlete leadership group (ALG).

Programme duration: Support will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

ATHLETE SUPPORT LEVELS	CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW	COACHING	YNZ INDIVIDUAL CAMPAIGN FUNDING	HPSNZ STATUS	HPSNZ TAPS FUNDING	HPSNZ APS (Athlete Performance Support)
NZL SAILING TEAM	✓	✓	✓	Elite or Potential	Eligible for Elite/ Potential grant	Comprehensive
NZL POTENTIAL LEVEL	✓	✓	✓	Potential or Confirmation	Eligible for Potential grant	Comprehensive
FAST TRACK LEVEL	✓	✓ Squad based only	✓	Eligible for Confirmation	✗	Tailored support aligned to development needs
DEVELOPMENT / SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL	✓	✓ Squad based only	Youth medallists eligible for campaign funding contribution	TBC	✗	*TBC
ENTRY LEVEL	✓	✓ Squad based only	N/A	TBC	✗	*TBC



Campaign Overview: All athletes in a Yachting New Zealand programme will receive campaign management and guidance.

Coaching:

Coaching is squad-based. However, athletes who qualify for the NZL Sailing Team or NZL Potential Level who are not in a category 1 class, are eligible for individual coach funding.

Yachting New Zealand individual campaign funding:

Athletes receive a Yachting New Zealand funding contribution aligned with their support level, campaign plan and class.

HPSNZ status:

This is the HPSNZ athlete classification level.

HPSNZ TAPS:

Athlete grants are available through Tailored Athlete Support. Information can be found at hpsnz.org.nz

HPSNZ APS:

This is the Athlete Performance Support services available.



SUPPORT LEVEL REVIEW /

All athlete support will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with performance goals and progression. This review will consider each athlete's performance, improvement trajectory, commitment, and adherence to their campaign plan.

ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS /

All sailors who qualify for the NZL Sailing high-performance programme are required to:

- / Meet New Zealand eligibility requirements.
- / Comply with all anti-doping requirements.
- / Actively work with Yachting New Zealand in the campaign process.
- / Commit to upholding the NZL Sailing shared values and behaviours.
- / Sign an athlete agreement.

NON-STANDARD LEVEL ASSESSMENT /

In addition to all the support levels outlined above, athletes may apply for a level status under unique circumstances. A panel comprising the Olympic coaching team, Yachting New Zealand high-performance director or high-performance athlete development manager, and a representative from HPAG will assess this.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- / Successful Olympic sailor(s) returning to a committed campaign.
- / Illness or injury at a pinnacle event.

For any information or queries regarding the above, please contact the Yachting New Zealand high-performance team:



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