



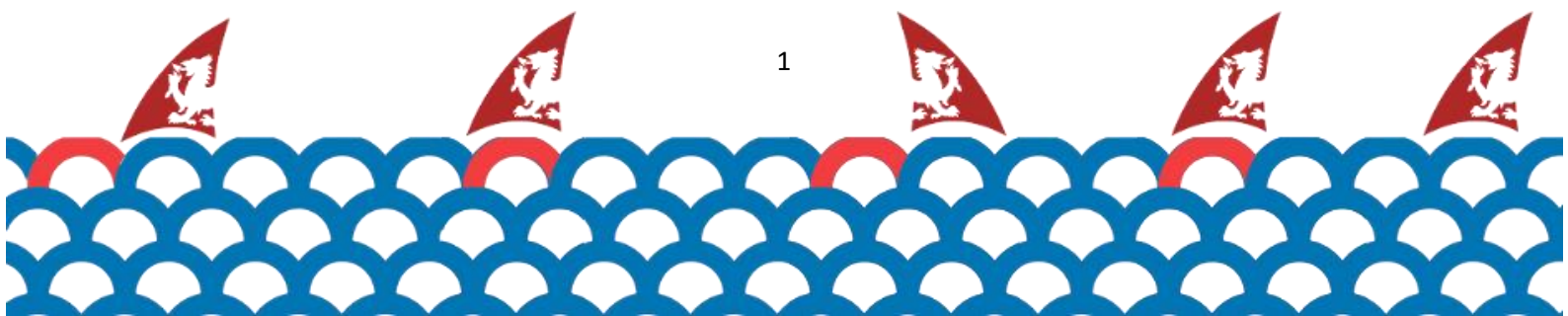
RYA CYMRU WALES
AWARDS POLICY

2026/2027

Version 1.0

Dated 02/02/2026

Review Date – February 2027



Introduction

Recent success of Welsh Sailors across Performance Squads and the wider community has prompted the need for suitable recognition.

The following accolades will be awarded to champion Welsh sailors' success –

- Arwr Y Dwr
- Welsh Young Sailor of the Year Award
- Coaching Chain Impact Award
- Welsh Sail / Hwyl Cymru

Eligibility

To be eligible for an award the sailors primary place of residence and their primary sailing club, must be situated in Wales. In exceptional circumstance, if there isn't a suitable Welsh Sailing Club near their Primary Residence, the Primary Sailing club can be a non- Welsh club.

Note – where a double handed boat is made up of a Welsh and a non-Welsh sailor, the non-Welsh sailor will also be recognised.

Arwr Y Dwr / Hero of the Water

To be awarded to Welsh sailor(s) (U19) who are selected to compete or medal at the highest level -

- Selected for the Youth Commonwealth Games
- Selected for the World Sailing Youth World Championships
- Selected for the Optimist World or European Championships (other class events are open for attendance)
- Medaled at a Class World or European Championships

Selection

Nomination is to be made when all the above events have been completed in the calendar year, by RYA Cymru Wales based on the above criteria and approved by the Performance Sub Committee.

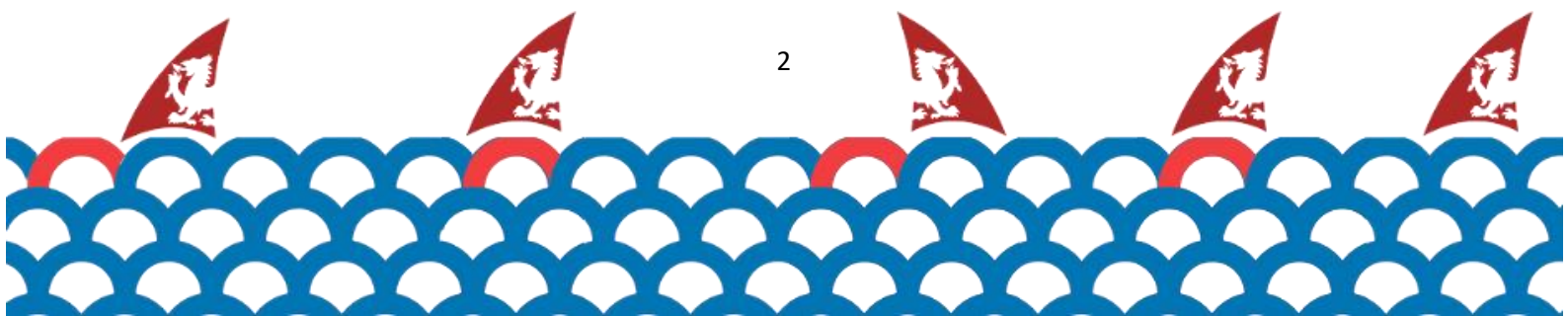
Welsh Young Sailor of the Year Award

To be awarded to the Welsh Sailor(s) (U19) who achieves the highest outcome result from the Arwr Y Dwr Award Criteria.

Selection

Nomination to be made when all of the Arwr Y Dwr Award criteria events have been completed, by RYA Cymru Wales and approved by the Performance Sub Committee.

The award will be given to the sailor with the lowest percentage score, based on finishing position and fleet size.



Coaching Chain Impact Award

To be awarded to volunteers, coaches, individuals who have been part of a Youth (U19) Welsh sailor's journey, who has achieved a considerable Performance outcome.

A considerable Performance outcome would be –

- Medaled at the Youth Commonwealth Games
- World Sailing Youth Worlds selection
- Medal at a Class World or European Championships

The sailors will be asked to nominate up to 3 coaches from the areas below –

- Club coach – who will have had the initial engagement and influence on the sailor
- Junior coach – who will have helped set the foundations with the sailor and started to foster a Performance mind set
- Youth coach – who will have helped refine the sailor's skills and campaign management

We recognise that the coaches nominated may not always be Welsh or connected to a Welsh program/ club.

Selection

Nomination of the Welsh sailor(s) to be made when all the above events have been completed in the calendar year, by RYA Cymru Wales. Nomination of the coaches will then be made by the sailor(s) and approved by the Performance Sub Committee.

Welsh Sail / Hwyl Cymru

An award to recognise Welsh Sailors competing for Team Wales.

Gold Sail – Arwr Y Dwr

- Anyone given an Arwr Y Dwr / Hero of the Water Award

Red Sail – Team Wales

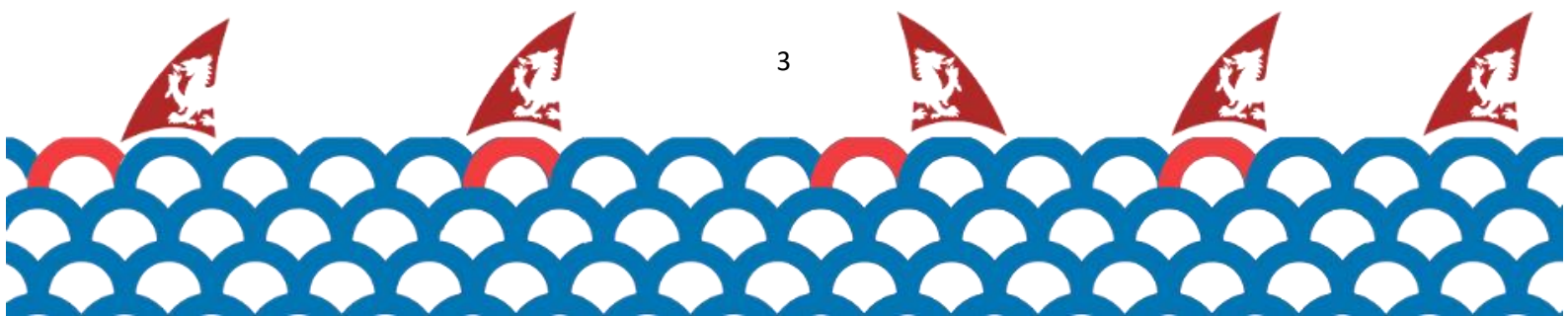
- Celtic Cup
- Eric Twiname Championships
- Island Games – Team Ynys Mon
- Welsh National Sailing Team member
- Any other event where sailors represent Wales

Light Blue Sail –GBR

- When a Welsh sailor attends a World or European Championships
- When a Welsh sailor is selected for a GBR Squad

Green Sail - National

- Any UK National event where sailors meet the Welsh Eligibility Criteria above.



Dark Blue Sail – Volunteer

- For volunteers who support our RYA Cymru Wales events

Selection

Sailors can nominate themselves for the award through an online application form.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/RYA2/WelshSailHwy/Cymru>

Applications will be reviewed quarterly by the Performance Sub Committee.

Awards

We will endeavour to hand out the awards at the Welsh Youth & Junior Championships in September. For any events that take place between then and 31st December the awards will be handed out in January.

Appeals

The grounds for appeal are limited to allegations of:

- Failure to follow the applicable selection policy
- Failure to take into account relevant considerations or taking into account irrelevant considerations
- Bias
- Decisions made in bad faith, dishonestly and/or in a perverse manner

The criteria for appeal may not include:

- any alleged error of judgement of the Selectors
- Errors in the published selection criteria

Notice of intention to appeal should be submitted and addressed to the RYA Cymru Wales Performance Manager via admin@ryacymruwales.org.uk as soon as reasonably practical and in any event within 7 calendar days of the selection or deselection being announced. The appeal shall be submitted as above, in full within 14 calendar days of the selection or deselection being announced.

The full RYA Cymru Wales Appeals Policy can be found here –

[RYA RACING DEPARTMENT APPEALS](#)

E: admin@ryacymruwales.org.uk