



## TEAM15 RULES CHANGE

Thanks to the new T15 rules, youngsters who turn 15 halfway through the season will now be able to take part in all four of the T15 Zone Championships as well as the national T15 Champions Cup.

This season the 5.5 metre class goes up to the 7.8 metre sized sail, and will be the maximum sail size that can be used. It remains an open fleet, allowing any board to be sailed, although the Techno Award will still be presented to the winning Techno sailor outside the top three.



RYA Zone Squad Sailors who are members of T15 clubs can represent their team in an appropriate class of any of the four T15 sail size fleets, though the rule remains that they must sail a Techno; this includes squad sailors who have previously sailed a 7.8m sail in other competitions.

If a T15 sailor is selected for the RYA National Junior Windsurfing Squad, then providing their team qualifies, they can now continue to represent their team at the Team15 Champions Cup. However, the exclusion rule remains in place for existing National Junior Windsurfing Squad Sailors and ex-National Junior Windsurfing Squad Sailors, who are ineligible to complete.

RYA's Windsurfing Development Officer Gillian Wright said: "Team15 continues to evolve in order to make the programme stronger and even more successful. We listen to feedback from Team15 clubs throughout the season and take this into account at the end of season review meeting. We hope the rule changes for 2010 will encourage more T15 clubs to field a team at their local events, whilst also helping sailors to progress to the next level of the competition pathway when it is appropriate to do so."



Parents and coaches should read both the T15 inter-club 'Notice of Race' and 'Sailing Instructions' before every event; they can be found at [www.team15.org.uk](http://www.team15.org.uk).

Supported by industry leaders Neilson, Tushingham/Starboard, Windsurf magazine, Boards magazine, Neil Pryde and Boardwise, T15 was set up by the RYA to help make windsurfing more accessible and appealing to youngsters at a grass roots level.

Specialist RYA coaches at T15 clubs all over the country run fun and informal training sessions weekly for youngsters up to the age of 15. The T15 inter-club

championships takes place regionally over the summer culminating in the national final, the T15 Champions Cup, adding a competitive edge and race training opportunities for those keen to hone their skills.

Kit can be borrowed from the clubs and the cost of sessions is kept low – to find out how to get involved and your local club visit [www.team15.org.uk](http://www.team15.org.uk) or contact the RYA on 0845 345 0400.