



FINNISH SAILING AND BOATING FEDERATION



## STF ILCA7 Selection Guidelines – Road to Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games

### 1. Goal

The goal of the athlete selection system for Sailing Team Finland (STF) is to send the **best-performing sailor** to represent Finland at the **2028 Olympic Games** in Los Angeles, USA with the target of **competing for a medal**.

### 2. Principles

Sailing Team Finland believes that **working together** as a team provides **the best possible chance for success**. This includes sharing **knowledge, expertise, coaching, specialists, and resources**, and pushing each other to a **new level of performance**. We also believe that **developing long-term pressure tolerance** and the **capacity to perform at a high level** under **sustained demands** is a core principle of **excellence**.

### 3. Selection Timeline

The selection of the athlete for the Olympic Games will be finalized **after 2028 ILCA7 World Championships**, which is expected to be held in Q1 of 2028\*.

In case no quota spot has been achieved by the beginning of 2028, **Last Chance regatta** will be used for qualifying and the athlete reaching the quota at Last Chance regatta will be selected to the Olympic Games after the confirmation by **STF Selection Committee**.

### 4. Selection Criteria

The **STF Selection Committee** shall evaluate athletes based on their performance in the designated **key selection events in 2027** and at the **2028 World Championships**, applying its assessment in accordance with these criteria.

#### 4.1 Key Selection Events 2026

##### STEP 1: World Championships 2027 selection

- **Palma de Mallorca (ESP) – 27.3-4.4.2026**
- **European Championships (CRO)\*\* - 15-22.5.2026**

→ These events will determine the **three STF representatives** for the 2027 World Championships in Fortaleza, Brazil.\*\*\*

*\*In case the 2028 World Championships are held later than January-February 2028, STF Selection Committee can end the selection prior to the 2028 World Championships.*

*\*\*Qualification to Fortaleza 2027 can be ended after Palma de Mallorca Grand Slam if the first three FIN sailors are in the top 50% of Gold Fleet and fourth FIN sailor is not in the Gold Fleet.*

*\*\*\*Exact national quota allocation in January 2026 is not known. In case of fewer quotas, top sailors will be selected.*



#### 4.2 Key Selection events 2027

- **World Championships, Fortaleza (BRA) Q1 2027**  
→ The **best Finnish sailor** will be selected for the **2027 Test Event in Los Angeles**.\*\*\*\*
- **European Championships Murcia (ESP) May 2027 - TBD**  
→ Key selection event for the 2028 Olympic games.
- **Olympic Test Event, Los Angeles (USA)\*\*\*\***  
→ Is considered in the Olympic selection **if the athlete places in the top 8**.

#### 4.3 Olympic Games 2028 selection finalization

- **World Championships, TBD (TBD) Q1 2028**  
→ Key selection event for the 2028 Olympic games.

#### Selection for the 2028 Olympic Games, Los Angeles (USA)

→ Final selection made by STF Selection Committee based on performances in:

- 2027 World Championships (Fortaleza, BRA)
- 2027 European Championships (TBD)
- 2027 Olympic Test Event (LA, USA) (if top 8 placement is achieved)
- 2028 World Championships (TBD)

#### 5. Quota Allocation

- **Grand Slam competitions:** Open quotas.
- **European Championships (ECH) and World Championships (WCH):** STF A-national team priority; number of quotas based on ILCA Finland allocations.
- **2027 World Championships, Fortaleza:** Target of **three STF representatives\*\*\***.
- **2027 Test Event (LA):** **One STF representative\*\*\*\***.
- **2028 World Championships:** Target of **three STF representatives\***.
- **2028 Olympic Games:** **One STF representative**.

\*\*\*Exact national quota allocation in January 2026 is not known. In case of fewer quotas, top sailors will be selected.

\*\*\*\*As of January 2026, the status of an Olympic Test Event is unclear.

\*In case the 2028 World Championships are held later than January-February 2028, STF Selection Committee can end the selection prior to the 2028 World Championships.



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## 6. Unforeseen Situations

In the case of unforeseen events (e.g., injuries, force majeure, or significant performance disruptions), the **STF Selection Committee** will evaluate the situation and decide or vote. The decision will be communicated clearly to **STF and VHT**.

## 7. STF Selection Committee

- **Robert Pääk** – Sport Director, STF
- **Rodie van Mackelenbergh** – ILCA 7 Head Coach/or another **ILCA7** coach
- **Tuula Tenkanen** – VHT Member
- **Roope Suomalainen** – VHT Member
- **Mika Vakkuri** – Representative from the Finnish Olympic Committee / Team Finland

Date: January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Confirmed by VHT members.