

Setting sail for the Olympics ... with G4S support

Skandia Team GBR has its sights set on success in Qingdao

In pledging its support to Skandia Team GBR, G4S has committed to partnering Britain's most successful Olympic medal winning sport – sailing – at the past two Olympic Games: Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004.

It's a trend that, with G4S support, Skandia Team GBR is seeking to maintain when the next Olympic regatta sails out of Qingdao, China, later this year.

G4S is a silver sponsor and exclusive security partner of Skandia Team GBR.

It consists of three squads : the "Performance Squad" currently made up of 44 sailors, and the "Development" and "Transitional" squads, which are jointly made up of 45 sailors. →





In addition to supporting the “Performance Squad” – the team from which the sailors who will join Team GB and represent Great Britain at the Olympics and Paralympics are ultimately selected – G4S is also committed to the long-term development of aspiring members of the team’s other two squads.

Olympic classes

The athletes in the team sail in one of the eleven Olympic class boats: Finn; Laser Radial; Laser; 470 (men and women); 49er; Star; Yngling; Tornado; NeilPryde RS:X (men’s and women’s windsurfers) and three Paralympic classes: the Sonar, 2.4mR and UD18.

Olympic selection

Each year the team competes in all major Olympic class regattas as well as their individual major class championships. It is the results they achieve from these events that decide which squad the sailors

are in and who goes on to join Team GB.

Between September 2007 and April 2008 a squad of 18 Olympic and six Paralympic sailors will be selected to compete at the 2008 Beijing Games. All other Skandia Team GBR members not selected will continue to train and develop ahead of the next four-year training programme.

Like G4S, long-term goal setting is a fundamental characteristic of the team and the sailors. Many of the current team have their sights firmly set on a medal winning performance in five years’ time on home waters at London 2012.

Security Services

G4S is exclusive provider of security services to the team and has worked closely with Skandia Team GBR since early 2006, supporting it at a number of regattas in locations as varied as Hyeres, South of France, Sail for Gold in Weymouth and the

Olympic test event in Qingdao.

The G4S website (www.g4s.com) provides a link directly to our support of Skandia Team GBR, with all the latest results in the run-up to the final team announcement in the coming weeks.

Among recent headlines about Skandia Team GBR competitors on the website were:

- Sarah Ayton aiming for second World gold (6 February)
- First round to Penny Clark in the battle for Beijing (6 February)
- Leading Brits switch in Paralympic qualifying tussle (1 February)
- Melbourne gold sees Ben Ainslie on track for world crown (19 January)
- Morrison and Rhodes scoop 49er World’s silver

Click on these or other headlines on the website for the full story. There are also blogs from Skandia Team GBR members and all the latest news as excitement grows and the Beijing Olympics approach. ■