

# ARP ELECTION OVERVIEW

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Last Updated: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Produced in collaboration with the British Athletes Commission

## 1. THE PURPOSE OF THE SENIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE PANEL (ARP)

The function of ARP is to be the link between the athletes, Senior Leadership and the Board of British Fencing, and to make recommendations on issues of significance from the perspective of the athletes

## 2. ARP ELIGIBILITY

Athletes eligible for the ARP:

- Must be 18 years or over
- Have represented GBR at Senior World Cup/Grand Prix/Euros/World in the current or previous season
- Must be ranked in the Top 20 in the Senior Rankings
- Must hold a current FIE GBR license

## 3. ARP STRUCTURE

- Six members plus the Chair of the Youth Panel, if not themselves an elected representative
- Elected representatives (plus Chair)
- Mix of male, female, one representative from foil, epee and sabre and ideally one athlete per discipline

## 4. NOMINATION PROCESS

Athletes from each of the 6 disciplines to put themselves forward for nomination. **The nomination period will take place over 16 days and start on 11th April and will close at 17:00 on Thursday 26th April.**

The British Athletes Commission (BAC) will run the independent nomination process. Athletes will be encouraged to write a short supporting statement (no more than 200 words) as to why they would like to be an Athlete Rep. Once the nomination period has

closed, nominations will in the first instance be considered by the BF Nominations Committee to ensure that athletes have represented GBR at a suitable level, meet the required skills and have a suitably good disciplinary record. If only one athlete per discipline put themselves forward by the end of the nomination period, the list of potential ARP members will be published, and an opportunity for feedback will be given (before appointing the ARP members).

If there was a scenario whereby more than one athlete from each discipline has put themselves forward, an independent and confidential election will be run by the BAC and the athlete with the highest number of votes (per discipline) will be appointed onto the ARP.

If there are no nominations from athletes from one discipline, the ARP may contain more than one member from another discipline to create a total of 6 ARP members.

## 5. ELECTION

The BAC will run the independent election process. **Online elections to start on 1st May, athletes will be given 14 days to vote. The voting will close at 17:00 on 14th May.** Potential nominees may wish to use Nationals as an opportunity to speak with athletes in person to gauge and encourage support.

### 5.1 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

Athletes eligible to vote will be those who fulfil all the following criteria;

- Hold a FIE GBR license
- Are a 10 or 6 Senior National Ranking NIF as at 1st March 2018

(Max 115 voters)

### 5.2 ELECTION PROCESS

The list of nominees and the BAC Athlete Rep Voting Link will be sent out to the voting population (listed above). Athletes can only vote for one athlete per discipline. As mentioned above, it may be the case that if only one athlete puts themselves forward from one discipline they will automatically become the Athlete Rep.

## 6. APPOINTMENT OF ARPS

An email will be sent out to all athletes sharing the outcome of the vote, and the list of the members of the ARP. Congratulatory emails to be sent out to all successful Athlete Reps. The NGB will create a separate BF ARP email address which all Athlete Reps have access to. There will be usage policies agreed with the ARs.

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During the first meeting ARP members are to agree on a Chair and Vice Chair. ARP members should also review TORs, agree on best times of the year for meetings to take place and discuss best ways of engaging with the athletes in their sport. BAC is happy to support and facilitate this initial ARP meeting. The group will consider whether they wish to divide the Athlete Rep Group up into roles for example Chair, Vice Chair, Admin Support Officers (minute takers, report writers) and Communication Officers (emailing out to Athletes, designing surveys) for Athlete Reps to have specific responsibilities and to encourage them to take more ownership over their role.

## 7. INDUCTION & TRAINING

Members of the ARP must attend a BAC AR Induction Training Day during their first term, the sooner the better. Topics included in this AR Training programme will be;

- AR Role and Responsibilities
- Communication Skills - How best to engage with athletes and staff
- Former Athlete Rep Panel Q&A

Due to the content covered in the Training Day it is likely to take place over a day (10-17:00). Lunch will be provided by the BAC, BF will cover the expenses of attending according to the BF Expense Policy. The BAC is looking to hold regional AR Training Day's throughout the year.

Along with the Training Day all Athlete Reps are encouraged to join the BAC's online Athlete Rep Network. The AR Network is a private group for all Athlete Reps, which provides an opportunity for shared learning across sports and for the collective Athlete Voice to be fed into the BAC's Athlete Advisory Group. The AR Network will also be used to update AR's on upcoming Training and CPD days.

## 8. MORE INFORMATION

If you require any further information please email [caitlin@britishathletes.org](mailto:caitlin@britishathletes.org) or contact 07739516069



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Version History (can be placed at end)

Version Number	Date Updated	Updated by	Comments
v1.0			Final version agreed between BAC & BF