

GBR Junior Selection Policy 2018-2019

1. Purpose of Document

This document lays out the BF selection policy for nominated Junior World Cups, Junior European Championships and Junior World Championships.

2. Definitions

“Athlete Development Team (ADT)” means the Talent Pathway Manager, Talent Pathway Coaches, Talent Coach(es) and Weapon Managers.

“Junior Selection Team (JST)” means the team of three independent selectors who will consult with ADT where necessary.

“An overdue debt” will be considered one that has not been paid within 30 days of notification that an amount is owed to British Fencing, by British Fencing or one of the authorised Team Managers

“Junior” in this document refers to fencers who meet the FIE eligibility criteria for that category

“disciplinary record” means the record of

- a) the status, outcome and resulting sanction of any disciplinary cases and complaints relating to breaches of BF Codes of Conduct and/or BF Policy within the last 18 months.
- b) any current disciplinary sanction imposed by BF, Home Country Associations, FIE and/or any other relevant authority.

“nominated individual event” means the nominated Junior World Cup individual events. Performances in these events will be eligible for GB Junior ranking points.

“nominated team event” means the nominated Junior World Cup team events. Performances in these events will be taken into account for GBR Junior team selection. A nominated team event may be attached to a nominated or a non-nominated individual event.

“non-nominated individual event” means the non-nominated Junior World Cup individual events.

Performances in these events will not be eligible for BF Junior ranking points.

“BF Junior (Rolling) Rankings” means the standard BF Junior Rankings which are rolling.

“BF Junior Champions Race Rankings” is the rankings calculated using the same mechanism as the BF Junior Rankings *excluding any result prior to 31st August 2018*. So at the start of the season all athletes will be on 0 points prior to the first events that count for ranking.

3. Explanatory Notes

Nominated Team Events - Recent changes in the FIE calendar have meant that it is more difficult in some weapons for athletes to gain the experience of fencing in teams at Junior World Cups as the events are much further away. Therefore BF will be nominating additional team events which are not attached to nominated individual events and the teams will be provided with additional support to attend.

4. Governance

This document is approved by the BF Board and published on the British Fencing website.

The BF Board delegates the implementation and execution of the policy including any related processes, procedures and structure to the CEO.

In turn, the CEO delegates responsibilities as follows:

Athlete Development Team (ADT):

- Junior World Cups, European and World Championships Team Selection in accordance with this Policy.
- Ensuring consistency of application of any discretion across the weapons for European and World Championship selections.

Junior Selection Team (JST):

- Junior World Cups, European and World Championships Individual Selection in accordance with this Policy.
- Ensuring consistency of application of any discretion across the weapons for European and World Championship selections.

The names of the individual members of the JST & ADT will be published on the BF website.

This document will be reviewed annually and any changes approved by the BF Board.

5. General Principles / Criteria for Selection

5.1 All Events (non-nominated, nominated team/individual, Euros and Worlds)

1. Fencers will only be considered for selection if they have a satisfactory Disciplinary Record. The JST reserves the right to omit a fencer from selection for any particular event if they deem that fencer's Disciplinary Record to be unsatisfactory.
2. No fencer will be eligible for selection if, at the relevant selection date, that individual has an overdue and unauthorised debt to British Fencing.
3. If any conflict occurs between the rules within this document and anything published or appearing on the British Fencing website these rules will have precedence.
4. Applications for the correction of errors in the calculation of ranking points should be sent to the relevant rankings email:

epee_junior_rankings@britishfencing.com
sabre_junior_rankings@britishfencing.com
foil_junior_rankings@britishfencing.com

cc'ing BF Head Office (headoffice@britishfencing.com) no later than two weeks **before** the identified selection date, or within 48 hours of the published ranking points whichever is the latest.

Any mitigating circumstances or discretionary case which an athlete wishes to be taken into account in the selection decisions, should be submitted in writing using the appropriate forms available on the British Fencing website. These should be sent to the relevant selection email:

epee_junior_selections@britishfencing.com
sabre_junior_selections@britishfencing.com
foil_junior_selections@britishfencing.com

cc'ing BF Head Office (headoffice@britishfencing.com) no later than two weeks **before** the identified selection date.

5. Any athlete wishing to be selected for Great Britain at FIE or EFC competitions must compete in the National Championships in the relevant category – Cadet, Junior, U23 or Senior. Only in exceptional circumstances will an exemption be granted, which must be sought in advance from Head Office and have received written approval of the CEO. In the event an athlete is unexpectedly injured or ill a doctor's note will be required to be submitted to Head Office within one week of the date of the Championships.

The only exception would be if an athlete does not have British Nationality at the point of the National Championships but subsequently receives British Nationality.

6. In making any selection decision selectors (ADT and JST) shall not be obliged to have regard to the fact that selection (or non-selection) may affect a fencer's ranking in any ranking scheme.
7. Athletes must be compliant with the BF anti-doping policy at all times. The ADT & JST reserve the right not to select or to de-select any athlete(s) on the basis of failure to comply with the BF anti-doping policy.

5.2 Nominated Events (team/individual, Euros and Worlds)

8. Fencers are expected to maintain a satisfactory level of training and fitness. The ADT & JST reserves the right to request a fitness test or omit a fencer from selection for any particular event if they deem that their fitness or training record to be unsatisfactory.
9. Fencers must be aged 17 on the 1st January 2019 to be considered for selection for competitions for season 2018-19.

The exception would be

1. where the ADT, identifies an athlete whose development would be significantly hindered by non-selection
2. where the ADT, determines that the weapon team development strategy and the athlete development supports the selection of a younger athlete
3. U20 JWCs hosted in GB – eg the Eden Cup.

BF reserve the right to only select athletes aged 18 or over for identified nominated Team-only events. This decision will be based on safeguarding and security considerations.

10. To be eligible for Nominated Team Event selection fencers must attend the September GBR Squad Development Camp unless they have received an authorised exemption from the ADT.
11. Fencers that decline their selection for any team event may be required to forfeit their individual place to allow another athlete to compete in the individual event.

5.3 Euros and Worlds

12. Fencers must attend the September GBR Squad Development Camp and the nominated pre-Euros GBR Squad Development Camps, unless they have received an authorised exemption from the ADT. Athletes that fail to attend without an authorised exemption will be reported for Disciplinary proceedings which may impact future GBR selection.

Fencers must be available to fence, if selected, to fence in the nominated pre-Euros Team events, unless they have received an authorised exemption from the ADT.

6. FIE Junior World Cup Competition Selection

13. Entry to FIE Junior World Cup competitions will be governed by the conditions of the particular competition and / or FIE regulations and any fencer must meet any such conditions / regulation to be considered for selection including holding a BF Membership and an FIE licence.
14. According to FIE rules, a financial penalty can be imposed if a fencer fails to turn up to an event. The fencer will be liable for this penalty.

6.1 Nominated JWCs (Individual)

15. At the start of the season the ADT will determine and publish the number of athlete places to be selected for each competition (either nine or twelve), with the intention that 12 places will be made available for most nominated tournaments held prior to 31/12.
16. The JST will select the total number of athlete places plus three reserves. The ADT reserve the right to increase the number of athletes selected in accordance with needs of the individual weapon development strategy (up to twelve).
17. The top six (in the case of twelve athlete places being available) or top three (in the case of nine athlete places being available) ranked fencers in the British Junior Ranking at the time of selection, with international ranking points from a L64 Junior World Cup (L32 in case of Women's Foil Eden Cup) or better counting, subject to fitness and meeting the selection criteria listed above will be entitled to be selected for the individual event.
18. The top five ranked fencers in the British 'Champion's Race' Junior Rankings, subject to fitness and meeting the selection criteria listed above, will be entitled to be selected for the individual event. This ranking is calculated by adding the ranking points from results since 1st August 2018, excluding the fencers that have already been selected.
19. One discretionary place may be nominated to the JST by the ADT.
Factors that may be taken into account include but are not limited to:
 - Recent results
 - Previous GBR team performances
 - Injury/illness – e.g. athlete returning from injury
 - Commitment to a documented training plan

- Attendance at GBR Development Camps
- Team Strategy – e.g. skills to perform a specific role within the team event, opportunity to trial new team members
- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and results
- Demonstrable commitment to BF values

The ADT is not required to use this discretionary place.

20. Any remaining quota and reserve places will be filled by the fencers, subject to fitness and meeting the selection criteria listed above, ranked by the British Junior ‘Champion’s Race’ Rankings.

21. If places are declined no further selections will be made.

6.2 Nominated JWCs (Team)

22. **Team Events held with Nominated Individual Events** - Fencers for these team events will be selected by the ADT from the pool of selected individuals.

23. **Nominated Team Events held with Non-Nominated Individual Events** - Fencers for these team events will be selected by the ADT.

24. Factors that may be taken into account for any Team selection include but are not limited to:

- Recent results
- Team Strategy – e.g. skills to perform a specific role within the team event, opportunity to trial or rotate team members
- Demonstrable commitment to BF values and ability to work positively as part of a team
- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and results
- Commitment to ongoing athlete development

25. The ADT will select a minimum of 4 fencers.

26. The ADT will delegate the decisions regarding order and substitution to a named coach/coaches.

6.3 Non-Nominated JWCs (Individual)

27. If a non-nominated event has a nominated Team event attached all the fencers selected to be part of the Team event will be entitled to fence in the Individual event.

28. Athletes wishing to compete in the Individual event should submit their names to BF 8 weeks prior to the date of the Individual event. If more athletes apply than places available the process of allocations will be based on the order according to the BF Junior (Rolling) Rankings.

7. European and World Championships 2019

29. Selection to fence in the individual events at both the European and World Junior Championships will initially be made from those fencers who have reached the necessary qualifying standard, subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs.
30. If there are more than four fencers who have reached the qualifying standard for the European Championships, the first three fencers with the highest points calculated from the table below will be selected. If fencers are on equal points, the highest individual result from the nominated junior world cups will count. If results are the same, the fencer with the highest Junior FIE World ranking, updated after the last nominated WC will be selected. The fourth fencer will be selected by the ADT at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.
31. If there are more than four fencers who have reached the qualifying standard for the World Championships, the first three fencers with the highest points calculated from the table below will be selected. If fencers are on equal points, the highest individual result from the nominated junior world cups will count. If results are the same, the fencer with the highest Junior FIE World ranking, updated after the last nominated WC, will be selected. The ADT will determine, on a weapon-by-weapon basis, whether to select a fourth/reserve place. If the decision is to select, this selection will be made by the ADT at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.
32. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2019 Junior European Championships and the 2019 Junior World Championships will be **15 points**, based on the result/points table below, from the **FIRST THREE** of the nominated international competitions.
33. The selection date for the Junior European Championships and the Junior World Championships will be between 7th January 2019 & 11th January 2019.
34. Points will be calculated on the following basis:

FIE JWC Result	EFC/U23 Result (W Foil)	Points Awarded
L64*	Tbc	5
L32	Tbc	10
L16	Tbc	15

L8	Tbc	20
L4	Tbc	30
L2	Tbc	40
1st	Tbc	50

*Points will only be awarded for a L64 if the athlete meets the criteria to be awarded BF Junior Ranking points AND made it through a round of DE, either by virtue of winning a fight, or by getting a bye from a round of DE.

35. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual events, any weapon, which makes a L8 in one of the nominated FIE international team competitions, may send a team to the 2019 Junior European Championships.
36. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual events, any weapon, which makes a L6 in one of the nominated FIE international team competitions, may send a team to the 2019 Junior World Championships.
37. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual and team events, the ADT may use its discretion to select a team to compete at the Team event at the Junior European and World Championships 2019
38. Fencers selected for the individual competition shall not automatically be selected to fence in the Team event at the Junior European and World Championships 2019.
39. Fencers for the Team events will be selected by the ADT who may take into account any factors and results that they feel to be relevant in making the selection.
40. Fencers selected for the Team events may fence in the individual event, even if not qualified, provided that in doing so they do not displace a selected qualified fencer from competing in the individual event.
41. For the purpose of selection for both the individual and team events at the 2019 Junior European and World Championships, the ADT and JST may in its absolute discretion modify the rules for points and the qualifying standard retrospectively where special circumstances affect the result of any particular competition (e.g. significantly reduced participation, walk-over result, or minimal entry).
42. All fencers provisionally selected or qualified for the 2019 Junior European and World Championships may be required to undertake a medical and fitness test, prior to confirmation of selection.

8. Ranking Publications & Selection Announcements

43. Updated rankings will aim to be published within 3 working days of the relevant event.
44. For JWCs, the intention is to publish selections on the BF website on 6th working day (the second Monday) after the final competition which counts for ranking points for that selection. For nominated events selected athletes will also be sent an email with instructions on how to accept their place.
45. It is the responsibility of the athlete to check rankings and selections and take appropriate action.
46. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure that their email address in the membership platform is up to date and regularly checked.
47. In accepting selection an athlete (and their parent/guardian if appropriate) is agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of selection as published on the BF website and all relevant BF Codes of Conduct, policies and procedures.

9. Appeals & Complaints

48. Errors in ranking point calculations identified after selection should be notified to the relevant ranking and selection emails as published above. All communications must be cc'd to headoffice@britishfencing.com.
49. Any athlete who has NOT met the relevant eligibility and performance criteria for automatic qualification for the 2019 Junior European or World Championships, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
50. Any athlete who has not achieved the eligibility criteria and performance criteria for automatic selection for Junior World Cups/Grand Prix, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
51. The Appeal Policy and Procedure will be published on the BF website.
52. Outside of matters that fall under the Appeal Policy and Procedure, general comments and complaints relating to selection can be sent to headoffice@britishfencing.com and will be handled according to the BF Comments and Complaints Policy which is published on the BF website.

Circulated to Youth Panel: 5/5/2018

Draft published: 8/5/2018

Draft published: 4/6/2018 (Post Consultation)

Approved by the BF Board: 27.06.18

10. Appendix - Quick Guide to JWC selection

Where any conflict arises the text in the document above will prevail.

	Nominated JWC with Individual & Team Event		JWCs with nominated Team and non-nominated individuals		Non Nominated JWCs	
	Nominated JWC – Ind Event	Nominated JWC – Team Event	Non-Nominated JWC – Ind Event	Nominated JWC – Team Event	Non-Nominated JWC – Ind Event	Non-Nominated JWC – Team Event
Application Required	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Number of Places	12/9 (to be published)	Min 4 Up to 6	3 plus unused spaces if less than 6 selected for team	Min 4 Up to 6	Up to 12 (athletes must source and pay for own referees)	Min 3 (athletes must source and pay for own referees)
Selection Done By	JST	ADT	JST	ADT	JST	JST
Selection From	6/3 places from Rolling Ranking (min international result required) 5 places from Champions Race Ranking 1 discretionary place (ADT nominated)	Team selected from athletes selected by JST for Individual event			Places allocated from Rolling Ranking	
Reserves Selected?	Y (3 from Champions Race Ranking)	Optional	N	Optional	N	N

