

FAQS POST REFEREE INTERNATIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2019/20

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1. PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

To explain the rationale behind the International referee allocations for the upcoming 2018/19 season

2. ALLOCATION CATEGORIES & RULES

Allocating referees to nominated international competitions be it FIE or EFC level was primarily based on addressing Referees needs, prioritising as follows in accordance with their assigned category:

Priority	FIE Allocation Rules	Pathway/ Non-pathway
1	Grand Prix Referees at weapon 1 with stated priority	Pathway
2	Aiming for Grand Prix Referees at weapon 1 with stated priority	Pathway
3	Newly qualified FIE referees to get FIE experience/exposure	Pathway
3=	FIE Qualified Referees on the Pathway where that weapon is their priority weapon	Pathway
4	Grand Prix Referees at weapon 2	Pathway
5	Pathway Associates	Pathway
5=	Pathway Referees FIE Qualified weapon 2	Pathway
6	Non pathway referees & associates	Non-pathway

Priority	EFC Allocation Rules	Pathway/Non-pathway
1	C qualified Pathway Referees aiming for FIE exam	Pathway
2	Pathway Referees who have stated that they are aiming at C level referee in their priority weapon	Pathway
3	Pathway Referees who are aiming for C level in their second weapon	Pathway
4	Pathway Mentors	Pathway
5	Pathway Associates aiming for C	Pathway
6	Other	Both

Further Information used:

- The published referee selection criteria and pathway categories
- The individual referee activity log held by British Fencing demonstrating support of BF run events
- The individual referee applications, conversations and planned CPD
- Engagement with the British Fencing Referee Pathway Scheme and feedback discussions with the selection committee

3. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

3.1 *WHY HAVEN'T I BEEN ALLOCATED ENOUGH COMPETITIONS TO ACHIEVE MY EFC C GRADE THIS SEASON?*

As a result of the success of the BF Referee Pathway Scheme, we now have a large number of pathway referees all wishing to work towards their EFC C grade.

Over the past few years we have been able to allocate referees to 3 EFC competitions however not all referees were successful in achieving their qualifications despite the opportunity. We have to balance the desire of these referees to continue trying for C alongside those up and coming referees that also indicate a desire to achieve C grade referee status.

For foil and sabre we expect candidates wishing to achieve EFC status to make themselves available for Manchester and Camden EFC tournaments. We also note that BF is not responsible for final invitations and allocations for these tournaments. We will do our best to work with the organisers of the tournaments to ensure that as many GB pathway referees seeking their C grade have the opportunity to referee.

Where possible, the selection committee has used feedback from the mock exams and referee activity logs to allocate priority candidates (those expected to achieve their C grade this season, and/or prioritised for FIE exams – subject to passing) to try to ensure there are 3 opportunities to attend EFC level competitions (including Camden/Manchester).

In some cases (where we have been unable to prioritise one candidate over another, most often in epee) we have only been able to allocate a maximum of 2 competitions and provided an option for referees who believe they are ready to pass at C grade to self-fund a 3rd EFC and claim back expenses – see below.

3.2 WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT ACHIEVE MY C GRADE THIS SEASON?

Unfortunately, if you do not achieve your C grade this season, BF may not be in a position to extend a second season of full EFC allocations to you, as this reduces the opportunity for other referees.

3.3 WHAT HAPPENS IF I SELF-FUND A THIRD COMPETITION AND ACHIEVE MY EFC C GRADE?

BF will refund the cost of the 3rd competition to a maximum of £250 upon production of travel and accommodation receipts and using the normal BF daily subsistence payments applicable to EFC tournaments. We have a limited amount of money set aside for this, so we will need referees intending to take advantage of this offer to register with us in advance to ensure that we can allocate sufficient resources. This offer is not open to referees who have already been given 3 funded opportunities to referee within a season.

3.4 HOW DOES BRITISH FENCING DECIDE WHO IS ALLOCATED ENOUGH EFC COMPETITIONS TO ACHIEVE THE EFC C GRADE?

In the situation where there are many similarly qualified referees all expressing their desire to achieve their C grade in the same weapon in one season, the BF selection committee will use both the internally held Referee activity log and application forms to prioritise for the EFC allocations. This will also ensure that domestic pathway referees are prioritised over associate pathway referee, unless there is no suitable domestic candidate.

3.5 I AM AN ASSOCIATE PATHWAY REFEREE, WHO WANTS TO ACHIEVE MY EFC C GRADE, WHY HAVE I ONLY BEEN ALLOCATED 1 NOMINATED COMPETITION?

BF can only put forward British referees for the FIE exams, so we must prioritise those individual referee progressions over non-British referees. We however appreciate and value the commitment associate referees demonstrate to BF run competitions, and as such have extended the BF Pathway Scheme to include associates, all be it with a slightly reduced opportunity. If requested, BF will also write a letter to the Home Federation in support of the referees' pursuit of their FIE license.

3.6 I AM A NEWLY QUALIFIED FIE REFEREE WHY HAVE I BEEN ALLOCATED TO EFC NOMINATED COMPETITIONS?

This is both to allow further experience and to act as mentors to those starting out on their international refereeing journey.

3.7 I AM A NEWLY QUALIFIED FIE REFEREE WHY HAVE I BEEN ONLY ALLOCATED ONE NOMINATED JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITION?

As part of your development as a referee BF recognise it is important for you to establish yourself on the international FIE circuit. However, BF has a limited number of nominated competitions to provide such opportunities. BF will allocate all FIE referees a minimum of one competition to ensure that this exposure continues. As a means of supplementing this experience, any requests for FIE referees at satellites will be forwarded to all FIE referees, and our expectation is that newly qualified referees seek to attend these tournaments. The expectation is that FIE qualified referees are also expected to attend any FIE Satellite held in GB (eg Leon Paul Cup, foil)

3.8 I AM A NEWLY QUALIFIED FIE REFEREE AND WANT TO ACHIEVE MY EFC C GRADE IN MY SECOND WEAPON, WHY AM I ONLY ALLOCATED TO MY FIE WEAPON?

It is crucial in your first season as a newly qualified FIE referee to maximise your exposure in this weapon, as such BF will always allocate you primarily to your first weapon for that season. If you chose to focus on attaining your EFC C grade in your second weapon, then we will allocate you to this weapon but cannot guarantee both. We do not have the resources or nominated competitions. It also acts as a block on other referees who wish to progress.

3.9 I AM AN ESTABLISHED FIE REFEREE BUT NOT A MEMBER OF THE REFEREE PATHWAY SCHEME AND HAVE ONLY BEEN ALLOCATED ONE JWC, WHY?

There are pathway FIE referees that may also have only 1 FIE allocation – the challenge is that there are simply not enough JWC opportunities.

Additionally, all allocations take into account demonstrated commitment to BF run events using the referee activity log held by BF. If you do not show support to BF run competitions, then personal allocations will reflect this.

Version History (can be placed at end)

Version Number	Date Updated	Updated by	Comments
v0.1	25.07.2017	NB	First draft
V0.2	26.04.2019	NB	Updated