

GBR JUNIOR SELECTION POLICY - DRAFT

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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 & ACRONYMS

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

“Junior Selection Team (JST)” means the team of three independent selectors per weapon who will consult with the ADP 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

“Cadet” in this document refers to fencers who meet the FIE eligibility criteria for that category - fencers who are under 17 on 1st January 2020 (Born 2003 or later)

“Junior” in this document refers to fencers who meet the FIE eligibility criteria for that category - fencers who are under 20 on 1st January 2020 (Born 2000 or later)

“Disciplinary Record” means the record of

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.

- a) 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 or other international individual event. 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 GB Junior team selection.

“Non-nominated individual event” means the non-nominated Junior World Cup individual events. Performances in these events will not be eligible for GB Junior ranking points.

3. 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:

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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.

JST:

- Junior World Cups, European and World Championships Individual Selection in accordance with this Policy.

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

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

4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES / ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

4.1 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 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 above rules 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 rankings@britishfencing.com and BF Head Office headoffice@britishfencing.com within 48 hours of the ranking points being published.
5. 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 form available on the British Fencing website. These should be sent to BF Head Office no later than two weeks before the identified selection date.
6. 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.

In exceptional circumstances an exemption may be granted

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- 6.1 Exemptions must be sought in advance from British Fencing Head Office by email or in writing
 - 6.2 Exemptions must have the written approval of the CEO
 - 6.3 In the event of injury or illness preventing participation in the relevant championships, a valid signed doctor's note will be required, and must be submitted to Head Office within one week of the date of the Championships
 - 6.4 The only other exception would be if an athlete does not have British Nationality at the point of the National Championships but subsequently receives British Nationality.
7. In making any selection decision the selectors 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.
 8. Athletes must be compliant with the BF Anti-Doping Policy at all times. Failure to comply will normally result in non-selection or de-selection
 9. Entry to FIE Junior World Cup competitions, Junior Europeans Championships and Junior World Championships will be governed by the conditions of the particular competition and / or FIE regulations and any fencer must meet such conditions / regulation to be considered for selection, including holding a BF Membership and an FIE licence.
 10. 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.

4.2 NOMINATED INTERNATIONAL EVENTS (TEAM/INDIVIDUAL, EUROS AND WORLDS)

11. Fencers are expected to maintain a satisfactory level of training and fitness. The ADT reserves the right to request a fitness test or omit a fencer from selection for any event if they deem their fitness or training record to be unsatisfactory.
12. Lower Age limits for junior squads

For Junior World Cups held in the UK eg Eden Cup the minimum age of 13 will apply.

For all other Nominated World Cups athletes must have a birth year of 2002 or earlier.

Exceptions to the age requirements can only be considered **on the nomination of the ADT** as follows

 - 10.1 Final year Cadets (Birth Year 2003) transitioning to Juniors
 - 10.2 Cadet fencers with an evidenced performance trajectory above their current competition pathway (e.g. EFC Cadets)
 - 10.3 The development strategy for the team event supports the selection of a younger athlete.

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Please note BF will not guarantee accompanied travel and parents will be expected to make the arrangements for athletes under the age of 18 to meet the squad at the agreed entry point, typically at the hotel.

13. BF reserve the right for specific, nominated, team events, depending on location, to require athletes to be aged 18 or over on the date of travel. This decision will be based on safeguarding and security considerations.
14. 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.

4.3 EUROS AND WORLDS

15. Selected fencers must attend any pre-Euros GBR Squad Development Camps, unless they have received an authorised exemption.
16. For GBR team selections for the Junior European and World Championships, attendance at ADP training camps will be taken into account.
17. Selected Fencers must be available to fence, if selected, in the nominated pre-Euros team events unless they have received an authorised exemption.

5. FIE JUNIOR WORLD CUP (JWC) COMPETITION SELECTION

5.1 NOMINATED JWCS (INDIVIDUAL)

18. **Twelve (12)** places will be available for:
 - Fencers in the top 20 of the GB Junior ranking
 - Cadets not in the top 20 of the GB Junior Ranking nominated by the ADT as in 10.2 & 10.3 above
19. Exceptional circumstances can be taken into account for juniors outside the top 20 eg injury in the previous season see 5 above
20. The JST will select the squad plus up to three reserves based on the ADT recommendation.
21. **The top eight (8) ranked fencers** in the British Junior Ranking at the time of selection, will be entitled to be selected for the individual event if they meet the eligibility requirements set out in 4.
 - If a fencer is in the top eight but does not meet the standard lower age limit then they must be nominated in advance by the ADT to be selected.
22. **Four discretionary places** may be filled by the ADT
23. Discretionary Factors that may be taken into account include but are not limited to:

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- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and results
 - Previous GBR team/individual performance
 - Injury/illness – e.g. athlete returning from injury
 - Commitment to a documented training plan
 - Team Strategy – e.g. skills to perform a specific role within the team event, opportunity to trial new team members
 - Attendance at ADP camps
 - Demonstrable commitment to BF values
24. If discretionary places are not used, **remaining places will revert to the Junior Ranking order.**
- If a fencer does not meet the standard lower age limit then they must be nominated in advance by the ADT to be selected.
25. If spaces become available through places being declined the ADT reserve the right to select replacements from the top 20 fencers using the Discretionary Factors.

5.2 NOMINATED JWCS (TEAM)

26. Team Events held with Nominated Individual Events - Fencers for these team events will be selected by the ADT from the pool of selected individuals.
27. Nominated Team Events held with Non-Nominated Individual Events - Fencers for these team events (4 minimum) will be selected by the ADT.
28. Factors that may be taken into account for any Team selection include but are not limited to:
- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and 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
 - Commitment to overall personal development
29. The ADT will delegate decisions regarding order and substitutions to a named coach who will also be the tactical coach for that event.

5.3 NON-NOMINATED JWCS (INDIVIDUAL)

30. Athletes wishing to compete in the Individual event of a non-nominated Junior World Cup should complete an application form and submit to BF.

31. If a non-nominated event has a nominated Team event attached one referee will be allocated and all the fencers selected to be part of the Team will be entitled to fence in the Individual event. The remaining places (up to 12) will be allocated based on the Junior Ranking from applications received with a minimum requirement that an athlete is in the top 25 of the Junior rankings. The ADT can approve at their discretion applications from athletes that do not meet this criteria if spaces are available. If more than 9 fencers wish to attend (including the team), the non-team fencers will be required to source and fund a referee.
32. If a nominated team is not attending, a referee will not be allocated. If more athletes apply than places available (12), allocation will be based on order of application with a minimum requirement that an athlete is in the top 25 of the Junior rankings or top 10 of the Cadet Rankings (or country of residence equivalent). The ADT can approve at their discretion applications from athletes that do not meet these criteria if spaces are available. In this case if more than 4 fencers wish to go, referees will be needed so the responsibility for finding/providing referees and the associated cost will be equally shared by all.

6. EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

6.1 INDIVIDUAL EVENT

33. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2020 Junior European Championships will be 15 points, based on the result / points table below, from the BEST THREE of the nominated FIE international competitions up to and including the final nominated individual event.
34. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2020 Junior World Championships will be 20 points, based on the result / points table below, from the BEST FOUR of the nominated FIE international competitions.
35. 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.
36. 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 Junior World Cup will be selected.
The fourth fencer and non-travelling reserve will be selected by the ADT at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.

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37. 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 Junior World Cup will be selected
The fourth fencer and non-travelling reserve will be selected by the ADT at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.
38. The selection cut-off date for the Junior European Championships will be no later than 31st January 2020.
39. The selection cut-off date for the Junior World Championships will be no later than 29th February 2020
40. Points will be calculated on the following basis:

Result	Points Awarded (JWC)	GP JWC**
L64*	5	7.5
L32	10	15
L16	15	22.5
L8	20	30
L4	30	45
L2	40	60
1 st	50	75

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

** In Sabre, to encourage planning, preparation and periodisation for specific competitions, leading onto performance at the Europeans and Worlds, the 3 strongest Sabre events (Budapest, Varsovie and Dormagen) have been identified as Grand Prix (GP) events and have been awarded a ranking/qualification points multiplier of 1.5.

6.2 TEAM EVENT

41. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual events, the ADT may use its discretion to include a team or add team members to compete at the Team event at the Junior European and World Championships 2020
42. Fencers selected for the individual competition shall not automatically be selected to fence in the Team event at the Junior European and World Championships 2020.
43. 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.
44. 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.
45. For the purpose of selection for both the individual and team events at the 2020 Junior European and World Championships, the ADT 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).
46. All fencers provisionally selected or qualified for the 2020 Junior European and World Championships may be required to undertake a medical and fitness test prior to confirmation of selection.

7. RANKING PUBLICATIONS & SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

47. The aim is to publish updated rankings within 3 working days of the relevant event.
48. For JWCs, the intention is to publish selections on the BF website on the 6th working day (the second Monday) after the final competition counting for ranking points for that selection.
49. It is the athlete's responsibility to check rankings and selections and take appropriate action. For nominated events selected athletes will receive an email with instructions about accepting their place.
50. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of their email address in the membership platform and check it regularly.
51. In accepting selection an athlete (and the parent/guardian for a minor) is agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of selection and all relevant BF Codes of Conduct, policies and procedures as published on the BF website.

8. APPEALS & COMPLAINTS

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52. Errors in ranking point calculations identified after selection should be notified to rankings@britishfencing.com and headoffice@britishfencing.com. (see above)
53. Any athlete who has NOT met the relevant eligibility and performance criteria for automatic qualification for the 2020 Junior European or World Championships, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
54. Any athlete who has not achieved the eligibility criteria and performance criteria for automatic selection for Junior World Cups shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
55. The Appeal Policy and Procedure will be published on the BF website.
56. 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 Comments and Complaints Policy.

9. APPENDIX A - QUICK GUIDE

If any conflict exists between this table and the text above, the text above prevails. Eligibility criteria apply and may vary between competitions.

Competition	Number of Places	Min Qual Standard	Non Disc Places filled by	Discretionary Places Available
Junior World Cup in UK (Eden Cup)	Up to 20 (min age criteria not applied)	None	Junior Rolling Ranking List	Yes (up to 8 places)
Nominated Junior World Cups (Ind)	Up to 12	None	Junior Rolling Ranking List	Yes (up to four places)
Nominated Junior World Cups (Team)	4	None	Team selected by ADT from selected individuals.	
European Championships (Ind)	Up to 4	Yes (15 int points)	Max 4 qualified from points table (see 41 above)	No
European Championships (Team)	Up to 4	Yes (15 int points)	Max 3 qualified from points table (see 41 above)	Likely (to complete a team of 4)
World Championships (Ind)	Up to 3	Yes (20 int points)	Max 3 qualified from points table (see 41 above)	Exceptional Circumstances
World Championships (Team)	Up to 4	Yes (20 int points)	Max 3 qualified from points table (see 41 above)	Likely (to complete a team of 4)
Non nominated Junior World Cups with Nominated Teams	Up to 12 (application required, referees to be found by fencers if >9 places filled, min age criteria not applied)	Yes (ranking)	Junior Rolling Ranking List	Team (up to six, selected by ADT) Ind – yes, if spaces
Non nominated Junior World Cups	Up to 12 (application required, referees to be found by fencers, min age criteria not applied)	Yes (ranking)	In order of application	Yes, if spaces