

GBR CADET SELECTION POLICY - DRAFT

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1. PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This document lays out the BF selection policy for nominated international Cadet Competitions, Cadet European Championships and Cadet World Championships.

2. DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS

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

“Cadet Selection Team (CST)” means the team of two independent selectors per weapon plus the International Cadet Management Group Chair who will consult with the 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

“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)

“British Ranking Competition (BRC)” means all nominated domestic competitions apart from the British Cadet Championships

“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 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.

“EFC” - European Fencing Confederation

“FIE” - International Fencing Federation

“BF” - British Fencing

“ICMG” - International Cadet Management Group

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:

CST:

- Nominated Cadet Circuit events, European and World Championships Individual and Team Selection in accordance with this Policy.

ADT:

- Advising CST in relation to discretionary individual or team selections in accordance with this Policy.
- Advising CST in relation to the ADP strategy for weapon development.

Chair of ICMG:

- Ensuring consistency of application of any discretion across the weapons for Cadet European and World Championship selections

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

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

In the absence of a CST, the ADT will assume the responsibilities of the CST.

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 CST 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.

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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

- 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 EFC Cadet competitions, Cadet European Championships and Cadet World Championships will be governed by the conditions of the particular competition and/or FIE and/or EFC regulations and any fencer must meet such conditions/regulation to be considered for selection, including holding a BF Membership and an FIE/EFC 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 and CST 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.

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12. 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

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

5. EFC CADET COMPETITION SELECTION

5.1 NOMINATED EFC CADET COMPETITION (INDIVIDUAL & TEAM)

16. The Cadet Selection Team (CST) is responsible for selecting the squad (including reserves where applicable) according to the selection procedure up to the available places.
17. Available places:
 - a. Up to **15 fencers per weapon** will be selected for these squads or a **maximum of half the number of cadets with points on the BF Cadet Ranking list**
 - b. If the first nominated event is abroad, additional fencers up to **20 – or 15 if the ranking list has fewer than 40 fencers listed with points** - can be selected for this event at the discretion of the ADT and subject to a third referee being found if necessary. (note: 3 referees needed if more than 15 entries)
 - c. For any international cadet event in UK, however, up to **64 British fencers** can be entered
18. Selection procedure:
 - a. Up to **4 discretionary places** per weapon can be selected. The remaining places will be selected according to The Cadet Ranking including events up to the published selection cut-off date and
 - b. For any international cadet event in UK, there will be open entry up to the entry maximum (see c. above)
19. The ADT will be responsible for providing the CST with a list of fencers recommended for discretionary places.
20. 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
 - Unusual circumstances apply, such as residency abroad.
21. If spaces become available through places being declined the CST in consultation with the ADT reserve the right to select replacements from the top 20 ranked fencers using the Discretionary Factors. Names of any selected replacements will be published.
22. For those events which include a team event, teams must be entered by the formal deadline and via the BF office. There will be an extra levy to cover the referee and administrative costs. Allocation of fencers to teams will be the responsibility of the ADP lead coach, who will also coordinate the coaching tasks for the team event. (Please note that some EFC Cadet events are introducing maximum numbers of teams, therefore not all athletes selected for the individuals may be allocated to a team. The intention is to enter as many teams as possible and allocate all athletes to a team.)
23. Selection cut-off dates are included in the calendars and the list of selected fencers will be announced as soon as possible after these dates. (Please note that time is needed for the rankings to be updated and selectors to agree the list)
24. The CST is responsible for ensuring that they have an up-to-date copy of the ranking list and check eligibility requirements (eg National Championship participation/exemption, disciplinary record and outstanding debt status)
25. The ADT will delegate decisions regarding order and substitutions to a named coach who will also be the tactical coach for that event.

5.2 NON-NOMINATED EFCS (INDIVIDUAL)

26. Any fencer meeting the criteria laid out in Section 4.1 may apply to be entered.
27. No GBR ranking points will be given. (EFC ranking points can be gained)
28. 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. (5-9 1 referee 10-15 2 referees)

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29. If more athletes apply than places available, allocation will be based on the Cadet Ranking.
30. See this page for Non-Nominated entry form <https://www.britishfencing.com/gbr-fencing/gbr-cadet/>

6. EUROPEAN & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

31. The Cadet Selection Team is responsible for selecting the European and World Championship squads according to the selection procedure below.
32. Available Places
 - a. Cadet European Championships (Porec Croatia Feb/March 2020) – up to 4 Individual places plus 1 Team
 - b. Cadet World Championships (Salt Lake City USA, April 2020) – up to 3 Individual places. Individual Event only, no Team event.
33. For the purpose of selection for both the individual and team events at the 2020 Cadet European and World Championships, the CST 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).
34. All fencers provisionally selected or qualified for the 2020 Cadet European and World Championships may be required to undertake a medical and fitness test prior to confirmation of selection.

6.1 INDIVIDUAL EVENT

35. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2020 Cadet European Championships and the 2020 Cadet World Championships will be **140 cadet ranking points**, from the BEST THREE of the events nominated for international points (these include nominated EFC Cadet internationals and nominated FIE Junior World Cups) held before the cut-off date for results.
36. Selection to fence in the individual events at both the European and World Cadet Championships will initially be made from those eligible fencers who have reached the necessary qualifying standard, subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs.

2020 Cadet European Championships

37. If more than four eligible fencers have reached the qualifying standard for the 2020 Cadet European Championships, the four fencers with the highest Cadet Ranking (including points

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from events up to the published cut-off date) will be selected. The next highest ranked qualified fencer will be selected as non-travelling reserve.

38. The selection cut-off date for the Cadet European Championships will be published on the BF website and be no later than 31st January 2020.

2020 Cadet World Championships

39. If more than three eligible fencers have reached the qualifying standard for the 2020 Cadet World Championships, the three fencers with the highest Cadet Ranking (including points from events up to the published cut-off date) will be selected. The next highest ranked qualified fencer will be selected as non-travelling reserve.
40. If fewer than three eligible fencers have reached the qualifying standard for the 2020 Cadet World Championships **the qualified fencers will be selected.**

In exceptional circumstances only, additional fencers may be selected by the CST with advice from the ADT.

As the selection date is before the European Championships, if places remain unfilled, a very good European result can be taken into account as long as logistics for the World Championships allow.

41. The selection cut-off date for the Cadet World Championships will be published on the BF website and be no later than 29th February 2020.

6.2 TEAM EVENT (EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY)

42. If 3 or more fencers are qualified, the first 3 fencers will be selected for the team in cadet ranking order.
43. The 4th place and reserve will be at the discretion of the selectors,
44. If fewer than 3 fencers are qualified the selectors will seek the advice of the ADT regarding whether it is appropriate to send a team. Factors will include security, cost, previous team performances and developmental needs of the athletes/weapons.
- If only 1 or 2 fencers are qualified, they will be selected for the team. The remaining places and reserve will be at the discretion of the CST, with advice from the ADT.
 - If no fencers are qualified, all places will be at the discretion of the selectors, with advice from the ADT.
45. Discretionary Factors include:
- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and results
 - Previous GBR team performance

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- Team Strategy – e.g. skills to perform a specific role within the team event
 - Attendance at ADP camps
46. All fencers selected for the team event will fence in the individual event as well.
47. A fencer who declines a team place may forfeit their individual place.

7. RANKING PUBLICATIONS & SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

48. The ICMG reserve the right to amend selection dates and calendars if circumstances change, e.g. cancellation of any of the nominated events.
49. The aim is to publish updated rankings within 3 working days of the relevant event.
50. For nominated events (excluding Euros and Worlds), 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.
51. It is the athlete's responsibility (with the support of their parent/guardian/coach) to check rankings and selections and take appropriate action. (For nominated events selected athletes will receive an email with instructions about accepting their place.)
52. It is the athlete's responsibility (with the support of their parent/guardian) to ensure the accuracy of their email address in the membership platform and check it regularly.
53. 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. DISPUTES, APPEALS & COMPLAINTS

54. Errors in ranking point calculations identified after selection should be notified to rankings@britishfencing.com and headoffice@britishfencing.com. (see above)
55. In the event of any selection dispute, the ICMG Chair will make the final decision on behalf of the CST.
56. Any athlete who has NOT met the relevant eligibility and performance criteria for automatic qualification for the 2020 Cadet European or World Championships, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
57. Any athlete who has not achieved the eligibility criteria and performance criteria for automatic selection for nominated international events shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
58. The Appeal Policy and Procedure will be published on the BF website.

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59. 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
International cadet event in UK	Up to 64	None	Open entry (up to 64)	No
Nominated EFCs (Ind)	a. 15 fencers per weapon or a maximum of half the number of cadets with points on the BF Cadet Ranking list b. If the first nominated event is abroad, additional fencers 20 – or 15 if the ranking list has fewer than 40 fencers listed with points	None	Total number of places unused by Discretion (eg min 11 based on 15 places) by Cadet Ranking List	Yes (up to 4 places)
Nominated EFCs (Team)	Max teams will be entered – limits are set by competition	None	Selected individuals (see above) allocated to teams by ADP coach	
European Championships (Ind)	Up to 4	Yes (140 int points)	Max 4 qualified from Cadet Ranking list	No
European Championships (Team)	Up to 4	Yes (140 int points)	Max 3 qualified from Cadet Ranking list	Likely (to complete a team of 4)
World Championships (Ind)	Up to 3	Yes (140 int points)	Max 3 qualified from Cadet Ranking list	Exceptional Circumstances
Non-Nominated EFCs	Up to 20 (referees to be found by fencers)	None	In order of application	No