

BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020: ENTRY INFORMATION FOR REGIONS

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1. INTRODUCTION TO THE BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The British Youth Championships (BYCs) are a 24-event competition held by British Fencing (BF), with events in each weapon at U12, U14, U16 and U18 age categories. Fencers have the opportunity to qualify for the BYCs through Regional Qualifying Events (RQEs) which are run by each Region in the months before the BYCS. This document is designed to provide you with all the information required by the Region to deliver the RQEs, as well as ensuring BF are provided with the necessary information for the BYCs.

Please note, the 2020 BYCs event will run alongside the GB Cup. References are made to this in section 4 of this document.

2. INFORMATION FOR REGIONAL ORGANISERS OF RQES

2.1 PRIOR TO THE RQE

2.1.1 It is the responsibility of the Region to run the RQE and ensure that the event is suitably promoted to all clubs (including school clubs) in the Region a minimum of 6 weeks in advance. Please note in all rules and notifications “club” refers to an affiliated club registered with BF.

2.1.2 For 2020, all RQEs must be run through the Sport80 platform.

2.2 REGIONAL LEVY

2.2.1 A levy of **£10** will be paid by each Region for every entrant to the RQE. As mentioned above, this payment must be collected via the Sport80 platform.

2.2.2 BF will invoice each Region after the results of the RQE have been sent to BF with the total cost of the levy minus the BF share of the finance charged incurred (see 2.2.3)

2.2.3 BF recognise that the Regions incur finance charges when collecting the £10 levy and are happy to pay their share of this cost. Therefore, invoices raised by BF to collect the levy from the Regions will be the net of the Sport80 and Stripe fees incurred collecting £10 of the total qualifier entry fee.

2.2.4 Please be aware the closing date to send the results for all RQEs to BF is Monday 23rd March 2020, 5pm. Those making a late entry must pay an additional **£70**.

2.3 BYES FROM THE 2019 BYCS

2.3.1 Any fencer who reached the last 8 in their event at the 2019 BYCs may claim a bye to fence in the 2020 BYCs in the same weapon regardless of age group.

2.3.2 FENCERS CLAIMING A BYE MUST ENTER THE RQE, but do not need to fence.

2.3.3 A full list of fencers with byes are available on the BF website, allowing Regional Organisers to check which fencers from the Region are in receipt of a bye.

2.3.4 Wherever they finish in the RQE they will qualify for the Finals event in ADDITION to the number of qualifiers calculated.

2.3.5 If fencers with byes DO NOT enter their RQE, they will NOT be eligible to take part in the BYCs.

2.3.6 If a Region fails to run an RQE, and fencers with byes wish to represent that Region, there

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will be an additional minimum fine of £20 per fencer to the Region. Fencers without byes will not be permitted to represent the Region, if the Region fails to run an RQE.

2.4 AT THE RQE

- 2.4.1 If Engarde, Fencing Time or other Computer Competition Management Programmes have been used to run the RQE, please keep a copy of the competition files until at least the date of the event so they can be requested by BF if necessary.
- 2.4.2 If the RQE has been run manually, please keep documentation until at least the date of the finals event so they can be requested by BF if necessary. This information should include the draw for the first round together with copies of tableau, final tableau and any poules sheets from which qualifiers were promoted. Please note if requested these are only required for checking and are then destroyed. Regions are advised to make copies.

2.5 SENDING THE RESULTS OF RQE TO BRITISH FENCING

- 2.5.1 Once RQEs are complete, Regional Organisers are to send the list of qualifiers using the formula, as in 3.3.1 and the full list of results from the event. Please ensure all details provided are complete.
- 2.5.2 All results and the list of qualifiers are to be sent directly to eventsadmin@britishfencing.com
- 2.5.3 If a fencer declares on the day of the RQE that they do not intend to compete at the BYC Finals event, they may be replaced with the next highest ranked fencer to complete the Regions allocation. The original qualifier should still be included in the Regions a list of qualifiers and list of results sent to BF. Please inform BF of the fencer's decision not to fence at the BYC Finals when sending the results of the RQE.
- 2.5.4 As stated in 2.3.4, fencers who receive a bye to the 2020 BYC Finals through qualification from the 2019 BYCs Finals must also be included within the list of qualifiers and results sent by the Regions to BF.
- 2.5.5 Once the results of the RQEs have been received, BF will send out invitations to those who have qualified for the BYC 2020 Finals via Sport80.
- 2.5.6 As BF will be sending out invitations to the qualifiers directly, Regions will NOT be collecting entry fees to the BYCs 2020.

3. RULES OF THE COMPETITIONS

3.1 ELIGIBILITY

Years of Birth for this season are:

U12 – Born 2008 or 2009

U14 – Born 2006 or 2007

U16 – Born 2004 or 2005

U18 – Born 2002 or 2003

- 3.1.1 Fencers may only enter the RQE in the Region they have specified on their BF Membership. Fencers may only fence in one qualifying event in one Region per season.

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- 3.1.2 Fencers must be UK residents (this includes those children at school in the UK) and entries will only be accepted via the Regions.

3.2 RQE AND BYC COMPETITION FORMAT

- 3.2.1 The competitions are run under BF rules, subject to changes outlined in these rules. For the finals the formula is one round of poules without elimination, followed by Direct Elimination.
- 3.2.2 In the U12 & U14 competitions the maximum blade sizes are: Foil – size 3, Epee – size 2 and Sabre – size 2.
- 3.2.3 In the U16 & U18 Foil events size 5 blades will be used throughout and lame bibs and mask wires will be required.
- 3.2.4 As per BF rules, it is a safety requirement that FIE/CEN2/800N Sabre gloves are to be worn at all times whilst competing (unless both fencers are using size 3 or size 0 blades).
- 3.2.5 A full list of kit specifications for the 2020 RQEs and BYC Finals can be found on the BF website.
- 3.2.6 In the U12 events, DE Tableau fights are to 10 hits in 3 periods of 2 minutes with a gap of 1 minute (compared to the standard 3 periods of 3 minutes for all other age groups).

3.3 QUALIFICATION FORMULA FOR THE BYCS FROM RQES

- 3.3.1 Regional qualification is calculated based on the below formula. Please note that fencers who enter, but do not fence (including those with byes) are not counted in this total. Please note, this formula has changed from the 2019 event.

1-16 entries = 8 qualify

17-19 entries = 9 qualify

20-22 entries = 10 qualify

23-25 entries = 11 qualify

26-28 entries = 12 qualify

29-31 entries = 13 qualify

32+ entries = 14 qualify

3.4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 3.4.1 Byes (other than for a top 8 finisher in 2019) are only allocated in **exceptional circumstances**. Any fencer who is **realistically** trying to qualify for the British Cadet or Junior teams for the 2019/20 season, and whose RQE clashes with a nominated ranking event in that weapon, should contact BF ahead of the qualifying event so that the possibility of a bye can be discussed.
- 3.4.2 All fencers, both in the BYC Finals and the RQEs must be members (Compete Membership) of BF and meet all the eligibility criteria outlined above.
- 3.4.3 Any fencer found to have competed in an RQE without the appropriate membership, or

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who fails to meet the eligibility criteria, are liable to be disqualified from the Finals event. If the disqualification affects the number of qualifiers the number of qualifiers will be reduced accordingly. If the disqualified fencer was one of the qualifiers the fencer may NOT be replaced by the next ranked entrant. No refunds will be made to disqualified fencers.

- 3.4.4 If a fencer who has qualified for the finals withdraws for any reason substitutions are not allowed after entries have been submitted.
- 3.4.5 Closing date for all entries is 5pm Monday 23rd March 2020.

4. REFEREE PROVISION

4.1 RATIO PER REGION

- 4.1.1 The number of referees required to be provided by Regions are worked out as per the ratio below. The number of fencers is per day and includes both BYC & GB Cup fencers.

0-9 fencers = 0 referees

10-29 fencers = 1 referee

30+ = 2 referees

The referees provided should be competent and a member of BF. Referees provided can be for any weapon and it can be a different referee each day. Regions will be responsible for any expenses for the supplied referee, including travel, accommodation and subsistence. Names should be provided to events@britishfencing.com by **5pm Monday 23rd March 2020**.

- 4.1.2 It is the expectation that Regions should use the BYCs and GB Cup as a learning opportunity for referees within the Region, as part of their Regional referee development plans. **Failure to supply a referee will result in a levy of £300 per day.** This is based on a minimum cost, to cover accommodation, travel and food expenditure to bring in referees.
- 4.1.3 Using the above formula as found in 4.1.1, the maximum number of referees a region will need to send is 2 per day. If a Region is struggling to find referees required, please inform BF as soon as possible.

5. REGIONAL POINTS CHASER TROPHY

2020 will see the introduction of a Regional Points Chaser Trophy, where points will be awarded for finishing positions in both the BYCs and GB Cup combined. Further details will be announced in due course.