

INFORMATION FOR COMPETITION ORGANISERS ABOUT YOUR ROLE IN LEVEL 3 REFEREE ASSESSMENTS

1. BACKGROUND

Following the BF review of level 3 referee assessments towards a mentored and continual assessment basis, there was a need for a series of well-run and high-quality competitions to be selected for the practical assessments. To ensure a consistent standard a defined set of requirements were agreed by the Referee Working Group and shared with the nominated competition organisers. As we return to fencing following the interruption of Covid-19 it was felt important to revisit the requirements, redefine where necessary and consult with the existing nominated competitions to ascertain their wish to remain as a nominated Level 3 practical assessment competition.

2. REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPTITION ORGANISER

- The head referee(s) will be identified, and the [BF referee manager](#) informed, 6 weeks before the competition date
- The competition organiser is required to provide a log of the referees allocated to matches. Failure to provide this information will result in the competition being ineligible for the practical referee assessment. Suggested software would include the use of Engarde Smart or Fencing Time. This completed excel (or similar) spreadsheet is to be submitted by email to the [British Fencing Referee manager](#)
- The competition needs to be of a minimum standard to ensure candidates are assessed against matches that incorporate sufficient challenges required for a level 3 referee. This is standard is currently assessed as being at least equal to or greater than a typical EFC cadet competition. This standard can be and should be validated by the Head Referee no less than two weeks prior to the competition date

- The Competition organisers are to supply entry lists to the Head Referee that demonstrate the competition is of suitable standard for assessment as soon as they are capable of doing so.
- The competition should have an entry greater than 32 competitors
- The current requirements are published [here](#)

3. THE ROLE OF THE HEAD REFEREE

- To allocate referees throughout the competition
- To observe and assess level 3 candidates (and other referees upon request) throughout the competition
- To mentor and feedback to level 3 candidates, (and other referees), throughout the competition
- Note: the head referee is not there to referee at the competition

4. FINANCIAL COSTS FOR THE COMPETITION ORGANISER

- Cost of the head referee – The head referee fees and expenses are met by the competition organiser
- As each FIE referee can only assess the weapons in which they hold an FIE licence the head referee may need the support of a weapon appropriate FIE referee also attending the competition as a “paid for referee” to assist in observations – this will not remove them from the referee pool for the day but for agreed matches
- Whilst competition organisers set their own financial reimbursement policies for referees, when attending BF run assessment competitions level 3 referee candidates are only paid expenses and not a per diem

5. POSITIVE OUTCOMES AS A RECOGNISED AND AFFILIATED LEVEL 3 ASSESSMENT COMPETITION

- Increased higher quality referees attending your competition – to be observed at a practical level, the referee will have already passed the theoretical and at least one practical assessment.

- By advertising the name of the head referee, and informing British Fencing, we will be able to promote the competition as an assessment opportunity and contact all the current level 3 candidates to encourage their attendance.
- Increased recognition amongst the fencing community for a well-run competition with good quality of experienced referees
- Improved referee allocation to ensure the right referees are allocated to key fights
- A head referee is available for resolving disputes and queries from coaches/fencers and answering fencer's questions / queries throughout the day thus freeing up the DT team or you the organiser.
- Your own personal feel-good factor knowing that you are part of the referee development programme and thus improving the competition experience for all.

6. PLEASE NOTE

If BF is not informed about the head referee 6 weeks before the competition, or a head referee is appointed but used to referee instead of observing and assessing, the competition will not be advertised as a level 3 referee assessment opportunity. Any level 3 referee assessments conducted at the competition will not be accepted.

We really hope that you will wish to remain as a recognised and published level 3 assessment competition but if you feel that you no longer wish to be please let me know as soon as possible. Alternatively, if you know other events that may wish to run level 3 referee assessments, please let us know.

Version History (can be placed at end)

Version Number	Date Updated	Updated by	Comments
v0.1	07.12.21	NB	First draft edited by LD and AS updated by NB
V0.2	14.12.21	NB	Edited
V0.3	11.01.2022	NB	Edited following consultation with RWG

