

## BRITISH FENCING ENVIRONMENTAL VENUE CHECKLIST FOR LARGE EVENTS

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### Introduction

This checklist is for competition organisers as part of the Action Plan for British Fencing's Environmental Strategy. See the latest at [www.britishfencing.com/the-green-piste](http://www.britishfencing.com/the-green-piste)

The initial aim here is about starting conversations and getting people to think more about these issues. Eventually together we must reduce the carbon footprint of our fencing events.

A link to the questions in this document can be included in the contracting process with the venue. We'd request that competition organisers use at least some of the list.

Many venue managers are now aware of these issues and may be able to use pressure from clients (who run clubs and events) to improve their carbon footprint.

British Fencing are working on the sustainability of all the National Championships to lead the way and share good practice.

## Example questions for organisers to ask of the venue

### Overview

- Are you committed to achieving net zero emissions? If so, what's your timeline?
- Can you share any progress you've made in reducing carbon emissions over the past few years?
- Do you have a sustainability plan? If yes, could you please provide a copy?

### Energy

- How are you planning to reduce energy use in the centre? (e.g. low energy lighting, recycling heat, natural ventilation, etc.)
- Do you generate any of your own electricity, for example with solar panels?
- What percentage of your energy use comes from renewable sources?
- Do you have plans for switching to renewable energy, and if so what's your timeline?

### Transport

- How accessible is your centre by public transport?
  - If it's not very accessible, are you able to take steps to improve it?
- Is your centre connected to a safe cycling network?
  - If not, are you having discussions with the local authority to improve safe access and parking for cyclists?
- How many electric vehicle charging points do you provide?
  - If none, do you have plans for providing EV charging points?
- Are you in a low emission zone, or are there plans to include you in one?

### Food and Drink

- What plant-based food options do you offer? Are you planning to expand these and reduce meat consumption?
- Do you provide reusable or non-plastic plates and cutlery? If not, do you have plans for doing so?
- Do you have enough water refill stations to meet the demand for our event?
- Have you stopped selling drinks in single-use plastic bottles? If not, do you have plans to do so?
- Do you use biodegradable packaging or containers for food?
- Do you consider sustainability when choosing your food and drink suppliers?
- What is your process for minimising food waste?

### Waste

- What recycling facilities are available for event participants? Are they clearly signposted, adequate, and accessible?
- Do you prohibit or plan to prohibit hirers from bringing single-use plastics into the centre?
- Have you considered a deposit scheme for cans and/or plastic bottles?
- Do you have any grey water recycling systems, like using rainwater for watering sports fields or flushing toilets?

## Appendix - Useful Ideas for organisers

### Car sharing

- Add a link to [www.liftshare.com](http://www.liftshare.com) on all event information.

### Alternative options for hardboard signs within the UK

- PP board Akyprint
- Recycled PP board Paperboard
- Paper based board (DISPA-type)

### Recycling options within the UK

- <https://www.terracycle.com> free collection points + charges for individual households; recycling of most items not collected locally

### LEGO - Lean, efficient, green, offset

- LEAN: Is there option for natural light and ventilation (canteen, DT, armoury)
- EFFICIENT: identify and record all equipment on site that could be removed or upgraded for more efficient equipment
- GREEN: event partnerships showcasing innovative zero carbon energy solutions e.g. <https://smolproducts.com> - eco laundry detergent
- OFFSET: pledge to offset emissions from measured carbon footprint from event (offset with chosen charity)
- Potential for using the event sign up/entry confirmation as an opportunity to communicate and capture travel data

### Food share/donation schemes:

- Connect with FareShare <https://fareshare.org.uk>
- Catering managers can publish left over edible food for collection through Olio <https://olioapp.com/en/learn-more/>