

The cover page features a dark blue background on the left side, which transitions into a series of diagonal, overlapping bands of lighter blue and white on the right side. The text is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the dark blue area.

**British Fencing  
Membership Scheme  
Categories and Benefits  
2016**

11/01/2016

## 1. Membership Categories

### 1.1 Individual Membership Categories

There are now four categories of individual membership available.

**Starter** – For newcomers to the sport, irrespective of whether they ultimately intend to compete or simply just enjoy a recreational form of fencing

**Recreational** – For people who want to fence in a club, participate in inter-club matches, but do not want to compete in conventional fencing competitions

**Compete** – For people that want to compete (87% of current membership)

**Support** – For volunteers, fans, supporters and parents

Starter	Recreational	Compete	Support
<b>'Start'</b>	<b>'Stay'</b>	<b>'Succeed'</b>	
Beginners & Unlimited Plastic	Recreational Fencers	Competitive Fencers	Volunteers Fans Supporters and Parents
<b>U18, 18+</b>	<b>U18, 18+</b>	<b>U13, U20, Full</b>	

### 1.2 Other Membership Categories

For clubs there will be a separate club membership available. All clubs will need to register with British Fencing and have a valid club membership to benefit from club insurance and any discounts offered via British Fencing or the Home Countries for the registration of members.

## Membership Categories and Benefits

### 2. Summary Benefits

#### 2.1 Fencers

	Starter	Recreational	Compete
<i>Purpose</i>	Introductory, Entry Level for Clubs & Schools (C/Ss)	Basic Recreational for Fencers in Clubs & Schools	For fencers competing
<i>Insurance 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability /personal accident</i>	As for Recreational	Fence at <b>any</b> C/S session, friendly inter C/S matches held in member C/S's Not covered to fence abroad.	As for Recreational plus Regional/County/National training and competitive events Covered to fence abroad.
<i>Events Included</i>	BF & HC Nominated Recreational Events	BF & HC Nominated Recreational Events	Unlimited Category Competitions
<i>Maximum Renewal Availability</i>	Plastic – unlimited renewals Metal - U18: 2 years (one renewal), 18+: 1 year (no renewal)	Unlimited renewals	Unlimited renewals
<i>Sword</i>	Online Only	Online + 1 Hard Copy/year	Online + 1 Hard Copy/year
<i>'Upgrade' to</i>	Recreational/Compete	Compete	N/A
<i>'Downgrade' to</i>	N/A	N/A	Recreational
<i>Voting Rights</i>	18+ only	18+ only	18+ only
<i>Cost From</i>	U18 £10 18+ £15	U18 £15 18+ £24	Full £48 U20 £36 U13 £27

The 'Voting Rights' above refer to voting in the BF AGM and elections – for information on the Home Country voting rights conferred on each category please visit the relevant Home Country website.

## Membership Categories and Benefits

The prices shown include the maximum discounts which are available online through direct debit or through affiliated clubs and coaches.

### **2.2 Non Fencers**

If you do not actually participate in fencing there is a category of membership called 'Support' which gives you the insurance benefits of public liability and personal accident. This ensures that you are personally covered for the typical volunteer activities that are undertaken in fencing, whether you perform them on behalf of yourself, your section, your region, your club or competition.

This membership category has access to online copies of the Sword, but will not be entitled to vote at the BF AGM. For information on the Home Country voting rights conferred on each category please visit the Home Country website. The cost of this membership is £12/year for adults, £10/year for U18s.

The standard Membership (whether Support/Starter/Recreational/Compete) does not include liability insurance cover if you are operating in a professional capacity – eg coaching or refereeing for payment. To benefit from this you must be on the relevant BF register to be fully covered. There may be an additional charge in some cases for this registration. For more information please contact [headoffice@britishfencing.com](mailto:headoffice@britishfencing.com).

## Membership Categories and Benefits

### 3. Starter Category

	<b>STARTER</b>
<i>Purpose</i>	Introductory, Entry Level for Clubs & Schools.  Covers all plastic fencing.
<i>Insurance 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability /personal accident</i>	Personal accident (cover ceases at 75 and is limited for U16) & civil liability insurance cover (there is no age limit in respect of the Public/Civil Liability cover for members).  When fencing at any Club or School session, friendly inter Club or School matches held in Clubs or Schools, at demonstrations or public displays or similar promotional events.  Not covered to fence abroad.
<i>Events Included</i>	All plastic events including competitions  BF & HC Nominated Recreational Events  Subject to age restrictions and any restrictions imposed by the event organiser.
<i>Maximum Renewal Availability</i>	Plastic – unlimited annual renewals Metal - U18: 2 years, 18+: 1 year
<i>Sword</i>	Access to online copy of the Sword Magazine
<i>'Upgrade' to</i>	Recreational/Compete
<i>'Downgrade' to</i>	N/A
<i>Voting Rights</i>	18 & over only: Notices of general meetings, right to vote at BF General Meetings and right to vote in ballots for election of BF directors.
<i>Cost From</i>	U18 £10, 18+ £15 (Prices shown include £5 discount for Direct Debit)
<i>Other Notes</i>	If applying for an Under 18 Starter membership with BF you must be under 18 on the date of application.

## Membership Categories and Benefits

### 4. Recreational Category

	Recreational
<i>Purpose</i>	Basic Recreational for Fencers in Clubs & Schools
<i>Insurance 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability /personal accident</i>	<p>Personal accident (cover ceases at 75 and is limited for U16) &amp; civil liability insurance cover (there is no age limit in respect of the Public/Civil Liability cover for members).</p> <p>When fencing at any Club or School session, friendly inter Club or School matches held in Clubs or Schools, at demonstrations or public displays or similar promotional events.</p> <p>Not covered to fence abroad.</p>
<i>Events Included</i>	<p>BF &amp; HC Nominated Recreational Events</p> <p>Subject to age restrictions and any restrictions imposed by the event organiser.</p>
<i>Sword</i>	<p>Access to online copy of the Sword Magazine and 1 hard copy per year. Entitlement to purchase additional hard copies.</p>
<i>'Upgrade' to</i>	Compete
<i>'Downgrade' to</i>	N/A
<i>Voting Rights</i>	18 & over only: Notices of general meetings, right to vote at BF General Meetings and right to vote in ballots for election of BF directors.
<i>Cost From</i>	<p>U18 £15, 18+ £24 (Prices shown include £5 discount for Direct Debit)</p>
<i>Other Notes</i>	If applying for an Under 18 Recreational membership with BF you must be under 18 on the date of application.

## Membership Categories and Benefits

### 5. Compete Category

	<b>Compete</b>
<i>Purpose</i>	For fencers competing
<i>Insurance 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability /personal accident</i>	<p>Personal accident (cover ceases at 75 and is limited for U16) &amp; civil liability insurance cover (there is no age limit in respect of the Public/Civil Liability cover for members).</p> <p>When fencing at any Club or School session, friendly inter Club or School matches held in Clubs or Schools, at demonstrations or public displays or similar promotional events, plus Regional/County/National training and competitive events</p> <p>Covered to fence abroad.</p>
<i>Events Included</i>	<p>Unlimited Category Competitions and Recreational Events</p> <p>Subject to age restrictions and any restrictions imposed by the event organiser. Please note the additional BF minimum age rules for senior, junior (U20) and cadet (U17) events.</p>
<i>Sword</i>	Access to online copy of the Sword Magazine and 1 hard copy per year. Entitlement to purchase additional hard copies.
<i>'Upgrade' to</i>	N/A
<i>'Downgrade' to</i>	Recreational
<i>Voting Rights</i>	18 & over only: Notices of general meetings, right to vote at BF General Meetings and right to vote in ballots for election of BF directors.
<i>Cost From</i>	<p>Full £48 U20 £36 U13 £27 (Prices shown include £5 discount for Direct Debit)</p>
<i>Other Notes</i>	See age restrictions below

#### 5.1 BF Age Restrictions for Under 13 and Under 20 Membership

## Membership Categories and Benefits

If applying for an Under 13 or Under 20 membership with BF you must be under 13 or 20 on the date of application.

### **BF Minimum Competition Age Rules**

#### **1. Under 13s**

The FIE rule requires a fencer to be 13 by 1st January (ie. before 1st Jan) in order to compete in any FIE events in that calendar year. (This includes the Cadet World Championships).

The same rule applies to all UK events that can include adults ie all senior and junior (U20) competitions. So, for example, a fencer who was born in 1999 will not be able to enter any senior or junior events until 2013. This does not apply to any UK cadet events - see 2 below.

#### **2. Minimum Age for Cadet (U17) Events**

The European Fencing Confederation requires a fencer to be 11 on 1st January in order to compete in any EFC Cadet Circuit events in that calendar year.

The same rule applies to all UK cadet events.

## **6. Club Membership**

Registration for club membership of British Fencing costs £40.

Benefits for the clubs include:

- 1) Public Liability (typically a pre-condition of venue hire)
- 2) Fencers may affiliate to the club in the competitive membership category and represent the club in BF/HC competitions
- 3) Non BF member fencers participating in beginner sessions are extended the benefits of public liability (subject to additional conditions)
- 4) Bulk registration of members, with discounts of up to £5 on membership fees even if Direct Debit is not used.
- 5) Support for grant applications (typically NGBs are required to endorse applications for local public funding – a pre-condition to this is that the club is a member of the NGB)

Clubs are expected to encourage all fencers participating in a club to hold individual membership of BF. Individual non-members, even if they are fencing in member clubs or under the instruction of registered coaches are NOT afforded the insurance benefits of members except in specific circumstances (see point 3 above).