

# GBR Junior Selection Policy 2017-2018

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## 1. Purpose of Document

This document lays out the BF selection policy for nominated Junior World Cups, Junior European Championships and Junior World Championships.

## 2. Definitions

**"Talent Pathway Team"** means the Talent Pathway Manager, Talent Pathway Coaches, Talent Coach(es) and Weapon Managers.

**"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

**"Junior"** in this document refers to fencers who meet the FIE eligibility criteria for that category

**"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.

## 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:

### **Talent Pathway Team:**

- Junior World Cups, European and World Championships Individual and Team Selection in accordance with this Policy.
- Ensuring consistency of application of any discretion across the weapons for European and World Championship selections.

The names of the individuals on the Talent Pathway Team will be published on the BF website.

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

### 4. General Principles / Criteria for Selection

1. Fencers will only be considered for selection if they have a satisfactory disciplinary record. The Talent Pathway Team reserves the right to omit a fencer from selection for any particular 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. Fencers are expected to maintain a satisfactory level of training and fitness. The Talent Pathway Team reserves the right to request a fitness test or omit a fencer from selection for any particular event if they deem that their fitness or training record to be unsatisfactory.
4. Fencers must be aged 16 by the date of the competition to be considered for selection for that competition. The only exception would be where the Talent Pathway Team, identifies an athlete whose development would be significantly hindered by non-selection.
5. In making any selection decision the Talent Pathway Team 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.
6. If any conflict occurs between the above rules and anything published or appearing on the British Fencing website these rules will have precedence.
7. Applications for the correction of errors in the calculation of points for selection or 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 forms available on the British Fencing website. These should be sent to the Talent Pathway Manager, cc'ing BF Head Office no later than two weeks **before** the identified selection date.
8. 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 or Senior. Only in exceptional circumstances will an exemption be granted, which must be sought in advance and have received written approval of the CEO. In the event an athlete is unexpectedly injured or ill a doctor's note will be required to be submitted to Head Office within one week of the date of the Championships.

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The only exception would be if an athlete does not have British Nationality at the point of the National Championships but subsequently receives British Nationality.

This applies to all National Championships held after 1st September 2016

### 5. FIE Junior World Cup Competitions

9. Entry to FIE Junior World Cup competitions will be governed by the conditions of the particular competition and / or FIE regulations and any fencer must meet any such conditions / regulation to be considered for selection including holding a BF Membership and an FIE 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.
11. Selectors will select nine fencers plus three reserves. The Talent Pathway Team reserve the right to increase the number of athletes selected in accordance with needs of the individual weapon pathway strategy (up to twelve).
12. The top six ranked fencers in the British Junior Ranking at the time of selection, subject to fitness and meeting the selection criteria listed above will be entitled to be selected for the individual event.
13. The remaining quota places may be filled by fencers, subject to fitness and meeting the selection criteria listed above, selected by the Talent Pathway Team. The Talent Pathway Team will be responsible for deciding how many of the remaining places up to a maximum of 9 are filled.

Factors that may be taken into account include but are not limited to:

- Injury/illness – e.g. athlete returning from injury
- Commitment to Training
- Team Strategy – e.g. skills to perform a specific role within the team event, opportunity to trial new team members
- Performance Trajectory – recent significant improvements in performances and results
- Cadet pathway requirements – e.g. opportunity to provide high performing cadets with Junior experience
- Demonstrable commitment to BF values

14. All fencers selected will be given individual performance targets, which will be used in determining discretionary selection as the season progresses.

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15. Fencers for the team events will be selected at the same time as the individual event by the Talent Pathway Team who will take into account any factors and results that they feel to be relevant in making their decision.
16. Fencers competing in the individual event will not automatically be selected for the Team event at the associated World Cup.

### 6. European and World Championships 2018

17. Selection to fence in the individual events at both the European and World Junior Championships will initially be made from those fencers who have reached the necessary qualifying standard, subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs.
18. If there are more than four fencers who have reached the qualifying standard for the European Championships, the first three fencers with the highest points calculated from the table below will be selected. If fencers are on equal points, the highest individual result from the nominated junior world cups will count. If results are the same, the fencer with the highest Junior FIE World ranking, updated after the last nominated WC will be selected. The fourth fencer will be selected by the Talent Pathway Team at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.
19. If there are more than four fencers who have reached the qualifying standard for the World Championships, the first three fencers with the highest points calculated from the table below will be selected. If fencers are on equal points, the highest individual result from the nominated junior world cups will count. If results are the same, the fencer with the highest Junior FIE World ranking, updated after the last nominated WC, will be selected. The Talent Pathway Team will determine, on a weapon-by-weapon basis, whether to select a fourth/reserve place. If the decision is to select, this selection will be made by the Talent Pathway Team at their discretion from the remaining qualified fencers.
20. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2018 Junior European Championships will be **15 points**, based on the result / points table below, from the **FIRST THREE** of the nominated FIE international competitions.
21. The qualifying standard for individuals for the 2018 Junior World Championships will be **20 points**, based on the result / points table below, from **FOUR** of the nominated FIE international competitions.
22. The selection date for the Junior European Championships will be no later than 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

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23. The selection date for the Junior World Championships will be no later than 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

24. Points will be calculated on the following basis:

Result	Points Awarded
L64	5
L48	7
L32	10
L16	15
L8	20
L4	30
L2	40
1st	50

25. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual events, any weapon, which makes a L8 in one of the nominated FIE international team competitions, may send a team to the 2018 Junior European Championships.

26. Notwithstanding the qualifying standard for individual events, any weapon, which makes a L6, may send a team to the 2018 Junior World Championships.

27. Fencers selected for the individual competition shall not automatically be selected to fence in the Team event at the Junior European and World Championships 2018.

28. Fencers for the Team events will be selected by the Talent Pathway Team who may take into account any factors and results that they feel to be relevant in making the selection.

29. Fencers selected for the Team events may fence in the individual event, even if not qualified, provided that in doing so they do not displace a selected qualified fencer from competing in the individual event.

30. For the purpose of selection for both the individual and team events at the 2018 Junior European and World Championships, the Talent Pathway Team 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).

31. All fencers provisionally selected or qualified for the 2018 Junior European and World Championships may be required to undertake a medical and fitness test, carried out by the Talent Pathway Team, prior to confirmation of selection.

## **7. Appeals & Complaints**

32. Any athlete who has NOT met the relevant eligibility and performance criteria (paragraph 20/21) for automatic qualification for the 2018 Junior European or World Championships, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
33. Any athlete who has not achieved the eligibility criteria and performance criteria (paragraph 12) for automatic selection for Junior World Cups/Grand Prix, shall have no right of appeal against non-selection for these competitions.
34. The Appeal Policy and Procedure will be published on the BF website.
35. 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](mailto:headoffice@britishfencing.com) and will be handled according to the Comments and Complaints Policy.

**Approved by the BF Board  
June 19<sup>th</sup> 2017**