**Fencers will be selected for International events in Paris and Poland 2017 as follows:**

1. **SELECTION SUMMARY**

For 2017International events, selections will be allocated as follows:

**1a U15 Foil - Challenge CEP Marathon, Paris:**

* + Fencers in each gender finishing in the top 4 of the 2016 EYC U15 and U13 foil events will be selected automatically if they fit the age criteria in 2017\*.
	+ The remaining places (to a total of 12 per gender) will be allocated according to the England Fencing U15 foil ranking list.

**1b U15 Epee, sabre and foil\*- Challenge Wratslavia, Wroclaw Poland:**

* + Fencers in each gender finishing in the top 4 of the 2016 EYC U15 and U13 weapon specific events will be selected automatically if they fit the age criteria in 2017\*.
	+ The remaining places (to a total of 12 per gender and weapon) will be allocated according to the England Fencing U15 weapon specific ranking lists.
	+ \*the foil event is subject to the success of the pilot event in 2016

(\* Fencers must meet the age criteria for 2017 events. This requires the fencer to be over 13 but U15 on January 1st 2017. In practice, this means that only U15 fencers in their first U15 year in 2016 will qualify.)

**1c For U13 events:** Subject to the success of the 2016 pilot to introduce U13 category for all weapons at the Challenge Wratislavia in Wroclaw Poland, places will be allocated as follows:.

* Fencers finishing in the top 4 of the 2016 EYC U13 weapon specific events will be selected automatically if they fit the age criteria in 2017\*.
* The remaining places (to a total of 6 per weapon, per gender) will be allocated according to the U13 foil, epee and sabre England ranking lists.

(\* Fencers must meet the age criteria for 2017 events, requiring a fencer to be U13 on January 1st 2017.)

1. **SELECTION DATES**

 The selection date will normally be 10 days after the final competition in November 2016 and selection will not be subject to any discretion.

Places will be allocated in order of rank, excluding those already qualified via the EYCs. If the date of any foreign event is brought forward significantly and the selection date has to be changed then this fact will be publicised on the England Fencing website and via England Fencing social media.

**3) SELECTION EVENTS**

The ranking lists shall include the best 5 results from the following competitions:

a) British Youth Championships 2016 (U12 and U14)

b) England Youth Championships 2016 (U13 and U15)

c) February and July British Cadet Championships 2016 (U17)

d) Leon Paul Junior Series competitions in the relevant weapon (U13 and U15) in the

rolling ranking year 2015/16

e) Additional competitions for 2016:

i) for Foil: the Manchester Cadet Tournament, BRC U17 competitions and the

November Newham Swords Junior Challenge Series event 4 U12 + U14

ii) for epée: BRC U17 competitions, the Young Hoskyns (U13) and the Elite Epee

Series; Cocks Moor Epee

iii) for Sabre: BRC U17 competitions and the Stratford U14.

1. **RANKING SYSTEM**

The ranking list co-ordinators will assign points according to a system (See point 8 for calculation of points) to weight the results for both the number of entrants and the relative standard of entrants in any given competition.

1. **ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION**

You must be a British Citizen and hold a UK passport. You must also be eligible to represent GBR at international level. You then have the right to represent England Fencing provided that:

1. you were born in England; **or**

2. you have a parent born in England; **or**

3. you are normally resident in the England and have been for a period of time (length of time depends on age and connection);

**And**

4. you are a member of England Fencing.

Qualifying fencers must be members of England Fencing Ltd at the time of selection and at the time of the event, must agree (with parental consent) to the code of conduct and conditions (including financial and travel arrangements) of the trip. England Fencing Ltd reserves the right to withhold selection from fencers with an unsatisfactory disciplinary record, or with an outstanding debt to EF or its agents.

In the event that a team manager is unable to contact a selected fencer within a reasonable time-scale, the offer of selection may be withdrawn and offered to the next available fencer from the rankings.

1. **APPEALS**

Any appeal against the accuracy of the final rankings must be made to the ranking keeper within 7 days of the publication of the final rankings. If this does not resolve the issue a further appeal may be made within 10 days of the publication of the final rankings to the Director of Representative Fencing whose decision shall be final.

1. **AGE CRITERIA**

We wish to encourage fencers not to ‘fence up’ into a higher age groups even though some competition organisers allow this discretion.

Ranking points achieved in the selection events will only be allocated to a fencer who fences in their correct age group. Points achieved from older age group categories will be disregarded for the purposes of the England Fencing Ranking system.

Although every effort will be made to provide accurate and timely information, England Fencing Ltd. reserves the right to alter the selection policy without notice.

1. **HOW POINTS ARE CALCULATED**

The points for a competition are calculated by multiplying the NIF x Position multiplier. NIF is a value reflecting the strength of a competition. The position multiplier is a range of values between 1.4 and 20. The higher the fencer is placed, the higher the multiplier.

Note that there are steps in the position multiplier table at 4th/5th, 8th/9th and 16th/17th rewarding the fencer who succeeds in winning more DE fights. The effect of this is that a fencer might earn more points for a 12th place in a strong competition like the BYC U14 than they would by coming 3rd in a relatively weak LPJS.

Weighting the competitions (NIF) takes place because some competitions are harder than others. This is a function of both the quality and the quantity of the opposition. We have borrowed the concept of NIF from adult competitions. The idea is that you look at the list of entrants to a competition and allocate a value to each fencer relative to their overall seasonal performance. In order to do this, one has to have some benchmark of performance which in this case is the EYC and BYC competitions plus, in certain cases, the British Cadet rankings.

We have designated certain fencers to have a youth NIF as follows:



We also add ¼ of a NIF point for every non-NIF fencer attending a competition. Sometimes a fencer qualifies for different NIF values, in which case the higher value is used. For example, the Ashton LPJS Foil 2007 U13 had 18 entrants. Clyde (NIF 8), Davis and Cruise (NIF 4 each), Williams, Lee and Roberts (NIF 2 each) and Selby, Bailey and Collier (NIF 1 each) plus 9 non-NIF fencers at a ¼ point each. Total NIF for that comp was 27.25.At Eton LPJS Foil 2007 U13 however, many more strong fencers competed, as well as 42 non-NIF fencers, so that NIF was 53.5.

**Position Multipliers**

The conventional position multipliers that we use at Senior comps are designed to spread over 64

places, and are not ideal for a system that only gives points for a L32, or for comps with only 15 or 20

entries. We have used a different multiplier as follows:





Points are only awarded to fencers finishing in the top 50% of the competition and only if they finishin the L32.

Only the BEST 5 results count for your England Ranking.

**NOTES:**

i) The main purpose of these trips is to introduce young fencers to the international competition environment and to the atmosphere and requirements of working within a National squad; supporting development towards Great British selection.

ii) Accepting a place on an England Squad may restrict the right of a fencer to represent another country in the future. Individuals who are eligible to represent more than one country should consider these factors before accepting selection.

iii) England Fencing encourages fencers who were close to selection, to make private entries for Paris and Poland and the team managers will do their best to help with practical arrangements. However the standard of these events is extremely high and they are not appropriate for inexperienced competitors.

Link to England Fencing U15 ranking lists: <http://englandfencing.co.uk/rankings/>

Questions specific to the ranking lists should be directed to the ranking co-ordinators:

Foil – Sandra Beardmore (EnglandRankings@aol.com)

Epee – Rodney Francis (rodneyfrancis@hhl.me.uk)rankings: http://francisfencing.org.uk/wroclaw/

Sabre – Daniel Redshaw (daniel.redshaw@live.co.uk)

For questions about the overall purpose and management of the trips or to volunteer to help, please contact Beth Davidson Director of Representative Fencing E-mail: beth.davidson@englandfencing.org.uk. 07834884194