



ENGLAND FENCING

England Squad Coaches Policy

1. Purpose of Document

This document outlines the England Fencing policy for coaches of English athletes selected to compete at Challenge Wroclaw Poland, CEP Paris Marathon, Home Nation events and Commonwealth Championships.

2. Application

This policy applies to the specified events where coaches are permitted to travel as part of the England squad, either in the capacity of a squad, team or accredited personal coach role. Not all events are permitted to have personal coaches present and for more information please see the relevant section of the EF Website.

All coaches who have permission from EF to travel and/or coach an athlete who is part of the England Squad must read and accept the following Terms & Conditions, which will be applied and enforced at all times.

All personal coaches travelling to competitions must have, in advance, authorisation from England Fencing to travel with and/or coach an athlete selected as part of the England Squad.

Any coach not prepared to accept and sign and accept these T's & C's (which includes the BF Code of Conduct and BF Code of Conduct for Coaches) will not be allowed to travel with and/or coach an athlete that has been selected as part of the England Squad.

3. Terms and Conditions

All coaches

- MUST be on the British Fencing Coaching Register.
- MUST follow the British Fencing Code of Conduct and the BF Coaches Code of Conduct and are expected to be ambassadors for the sport, setting a positive example to the athletes.
- MUST be a member of British Fencing (supporter member is sufficient).
- MUST NOT coach against an England fencer (whether the England fencer is fencing another England fencer, or a fencer from another nation).
- Are expected to cooperate in a positive, productive and supportive manner with the Team Manager or Leader and any official England Squad/Team/Accredited (including personal) coaches.



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- Are considered to be a part of the England Squad, and as such are subject to the authority of any appointed Team Manager/Leader and/or Lead Weapon Coach of the England Squad during the relevant event.
- All coaches who intend to provide individual warm-up lessons as part of their activities MUST be qualified to a minimum Level 2 standard or equivalent.

Personal Coaches

- If personal coaches wish to attend, written consent MUST be obtained from England Fencing via the Team Manager in advance of the competition. If required, personal coaches can apply via the Team Manager relevant accreditation to access athlete areas for the personal coaching of the England fencer.
- England Fencing retains the right to refuse approval for personal coaches to join the squad on the basis of disciplinary record, safeguarding and ability to work constructively with appointed officials (including any appointed Squad Coach and other personal coaches).
- Must ensure that they have appropriate travel insurance which covers them for acting in a professional capacity even if they receive no re-numeration. (NB past claims have been refused where coaches have bought 'holiday' cover).
- England Fencing will not be liable for any costs incurred by a personal coach, including costs committed to on the assumption that approval to accompany a squad or athlete will be granted.

4. Expectations, Roles and Responsibilities

All coaches (National, Squad and Accredited personal coaches):

- Are expected to display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance
- Should always uphold the core values of England Fencing and British Fencing – Honesty, Excellence and Respect
- Will attend briefings, debriefings and other meetings as reasonably requested by the Lead Weapon Coach/Team Leader/Team Manager
- Will attend team activities (eg team meals, training sessions at championships etc.) as reasonably requested by the Lead Weapon Coach//Team Leader/Team Manager
- Do not share personal data of squad members unless permission has been granted from that individual.
- Conduct while using social media and squad communication methods such as 'WhatsApp' an Facebook.



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England Squads – Coaches Policy

- Should support and coach their fencers in an appropriate manner and should not act in any way detrimental or distracting to any other member of the England Squad
- Should wear appropriate England kit when provided
- Should remain neutral in the event that two England fencers are drawn against each-other at any stage of any representative event. Specifically, no team coaches or personal coaches will give advice or support to either party, and all coaches will maintain neutrality.

Personal Coaches

- Are welcome to stay in the team hotel and join in any group activities as may be arranged e.g. squad meals (at own personal cost) etc.
- May choose to travel on the same flights as other officials and athletes, taking advantage of any organised group transport where that exists, based on availability.

In addition:

- If there is no officially appointed England Squad/Team Coach, an accredited personal coach may volunteer to act as the team coach for the team competition. This offer should be made in advance via the TM/TL who will liaise with England and the athletes.
- If an accredited personal coach is coaching in support of another athlete from another country, no England kit should be visible (England Squad/Team coaches are not permitted to coach athletes from other countries).

Last Update: 04/6/18

Reference: GBR International Squads – Coaches Policy v1 by Georgina Usher, CEO British Fencing