



## PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This document sets out the England Selection Policy for teams representing England at the Senior 5 Nations to be held in Largs on 18 November 2023.

The selection will be made by the England Fencing Selection Panel which will be chaired by Paul Davis.

## TIMING

Date in 2023	Day	Action
1st August	Tuesday	Selection process announcement
22nd August	Tuesday	Last day for discretionary application to be received at <a href="mailto:teams@englandfencing.org.uk">teams@englandfencing.org.uk</a>
5th September	Tuesday	Selection Panel meeting using British Fencing senior rankings as at 1 September 2023.
7th September	Thursday	Selection emails sent out
14th September	Thursday	Last day for accepting selection
21st September	Thursday	Team captains selected
TBC October/November		Possible squad training day
17th November	Friday	Travel to Largs
18th November	Saturday	Fence followed by evening dinner
19th November	Sunday	Travel back

Emails will be sent out to those selected and to reserves no later than **Thursday 7th September**. **Both those selected and the reserves must please confirm their acceptance and their availability if given a place.**

**Once selections are finalised tracksuits and patches will be ordered.**

**Team Captains will be chosen once selections have been accepted.**

**Chef de Mission will be chosen in a separate process with applicants invited to apply for the role.**

## GENERAL CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. Athletes must be eligible to represent England.
2. Athletes must hold a **current British Fencing ("BF") Compete Membership AND be affiliated to England Fencing** at the time of selection and at the time of the competition. An athlete who does not have a current membership will not be considered for selection. **Athlete** henceforth refers exclusively to those athletes who meet the eligibility criteria set out in this paragraph and paragraph 1.
3. **This is a team competition only.** 4 athletes will be selected to participate in the team competition at each of the 6 weapons. The top 2 ranked Athletes in the Senior British Fencing Rankings as at 1 September 2023 will be automatically selected. A further 2 athletes will be selected by the England Fencing Selection Panel which **may** take into account discretionary factors or may choose to go in strict ranking order.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, the rankings used will not be the 'Live Rankings' but will be the static rankings published by BF at the start of each month.
5. One of the selected athletes will also be nominated as the **Team Captain**.
6. There will be no team coaches for this event but there will be a Chef de Mission.
7. Athletes will only be considered for selection if, at the time of selection, they are not currently serving any disciplinary sanction imposed by England Fencing, BF, FIE and/or any other relevant authority.
8. Athletes are expected to maintain a **satisfactory level of training and fitness** and be able to evidence this if necessary (for example on production of a training diary).
9. Athletes must be compliant with the **BF Anti-Doping Policy**. Failure to comply will normally result in non-selection or de-selection.

## GENERAL GROUNDS FOR DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

1. **Discretionary factors** Discretionary factors may be considered in certain circumstances notwithstanding Point 3 of the general criteria for selection listed on the previous page. All other general selection factors must be met.
2. If you wish to be considered for discretionary selection please inform England Fencing by email to [teams@englandfencing.org.uk](mailto:teams@englandfencing.org.uk) no later than 11:30am on **Tuesday 22nd August 2023**. Late applications for discretionary consideration will not be considered under any circumstance.
3. When applying for discretionary consideration, please make sure to list any information that you consider to be relevant. In particular include reasoning as to why you have reached the standard for the team but were unable to reach the required level in the rankings. This may include, for example, injury at the start of the season preventing you from competing, or other relevant factors.
4. The email could be laid out as follows:
  - a. Statement "I would like to be considered for selection for the England team at the Senior 5 Nations taking place in Largs on 18th November 2023."
  - b. My recent results show I would benefit from representing England because...
  - c. The England team would benefit from my participation in the event because...
5. Please note that the selection panel will **not** contact you to discuss the details of any mitigating circumstances and will rely solely on any information included in your application for discretionary selection and your ranking in the BF rankings as at 1 September 2023.

## RESERVES

1. Any reserves identified may be prioritised in number order by the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel may change the order of reserves if it believes this best serves the Weapon Strategy.
2. The number of reserve places offered will be at the discretion of the Selection Panel. Any reserves will be selected using the same criteria listed above.

## PRE SELECTION

1. It is the responsibility of the athletes to keep athlete details complete and up to date on the BF Membership Platform (<https://bf.sport80.com/>) which also serves as the England Fencing membership platform. Specifically they must ensure the accuracy of their email address and contact details as these will be used in the event that an athlete (or their parent/guardian) needs to be contacted in relation to a selection issue. Any issue that results from a failure to keep these details up to date will not be grounds for an appeal against non-selection.
2. It is the athlete's responsibility (and the parent/guardian for a minor) to check rankings. Applications for the correction of errors in the calculation of ranking points should be sent to [rankings@britishfencing.com](mailto:rankings@britishfencing.com) and BF Head Office [headoffice@britishfencing.com](mailto:headoffice@britishfencing.com) within 48 hours of the ranking points being published. Please refer to the published GBR Domestic Ranking Scheme for full details.

## ACCEPTING SELECTION

1. In accepting selection an athlete is agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of selection and all relevant EF Codes of Conduct, policies and procedures as published on the EF website.
2. Athletes are expected to ensure that they have all the appropriate level of equipment to compete.

3. England Fencing will not be responsible for following up with athletes who have not confirmed their places and paid by the published closing date. Athletes who have not accepted within the 'entry window' will be deemed to have forfeited their place.
4. Athletes who are not intending to accept their place are encouraged to decline their selection as soon as possible and, in any case, no later than 7 calendar days of the invitation. This allows England Fencing to plan to invite any reserve athletes.
5. If you accept a selection for the team or as a reserve you are confirming that, if a place is available, you will travel and take part as long as your acceptance is confirmed on or before **28th September 2023**. Every effort will be made to confirm places well before this date.

### **TRACKSUITS AND PATCHES**

**Tracksuits and England Fencing leg and arm patches need to be ordered on acceptance of selection and a link, along with a discount code will be provided for you once you confirm selection.**

### **COST OF SELECTION**

There is no direct cost to the athletes for this competition.

Accommodation has been booked in Largs to accommodate 6 teams of 4 plus a Chef de Mission.

Travel will be organised and/or paid for and may involve travelling as a group or groups.

Meals for Friday evening and Saturday evening have been booked as well as breakfast for Saturday and Sunday.

### **EXCEPTIONS TO THE ABOVE**

In the event that an athlete under 18 years of age is selected, then they will be expected to travel and stay with a parent or guardian. The extra costs of accommodation and travel will not be covered by England Fencing but they will receive an amount towards costs roughly equivalent to the cost of accommodation and travel for the other athletes selected.