



England Fencing Under 14 Selection Document for Youth International Development squads.

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Approved by: Richard Bernstein
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Revised

Selections

Selection dates

Historically England Fencing has selected young athletes to compete as part of an England squad only once per season. To aid in their development we now feel it appropriate to select for at least 2 international competitions if financially possible and to do so during the season.

Selection dates will be announced and added to the England Fencing calendar so they are clear to everyone.

Sabre

Competition	Competition date	Selection date	Accept/Refuse deadline	Second selection date
Sofia, Bulgaria	17-11-2023 On a Friday	2-10-2023	11-10-2023	12-10-2023
Ciudad Real	23/24-03-2024	12-2-2024	21-2-2024	22-2-2024

Foil

Competition	Competition date	Selection date	Accept/Refuse deadline	Second selection date
Paris, France	03/04-02-2024	11-10-2023* 07-12-2023	14-12-2023	14/15-14-2023
Ciudad Real	23/24-03-2024	12-2-2024	21-2-2024	22-2-2024



Epee

Competition	Competition date	Selection date	Accept/Refuse deadline	Second selection date
Osijek, Croatia	20-21 - 04 - 2024	12-2-2024	21-2-2024	22-2-2024
Lausanne, Switzerland	01/02-06 - 2024	TBC **	TBC	TBC

This table will be updated when we receive information from the EFC or directly from competition organisers regarding exact dates.

Selection dates are chosen such that they appropriately balance the inclusion of as many ranking competitions as possible with the time required to manage the entries and plan travel and accommodation.

*Foil selection will use the rankings as they were on the originally published selection date for the event which was not attended in Italy. As the replacement event will take place before the second selection date for the event in Spain the decision has been made to use that date

** As the replacement Epee event in Switzerland will take place after what was originally the second selection date for the event in Croatia, we will choose a new selection date that is appropriate to reflect the rankings prior to the event.

Selection eligibility

Selection eligibility is NOT the same as eligibility to be ranked.

To be ranked you simply have to be in the correct age category and compete in the ranking tournaments.

To be SELECTED to represent England, you need to meet the eligibility requirements.

- You must be a member of England Fencing which is shown as such in your British Fencing membership.
- You will need to be a British passport holder

Qualifying fencers must be members of England Fencing at the time of selection and at the time of the event and must agree (with parental consent) to the code of conduct and conditions (including financial and travel arrangements if appropriate) of the trip.

If you wish to be considered for selection for England, please ensure your personal information is up to date with British Fencing Sport 80 membership platform. Please do this to avoid missing out



on selection. These details will be used for all correspondence. If the email address is wrong you won't get your selection letter!

Please note that your British Fencing number is also your England Fencing number as England Fencing uses the same membership platform.

England Fencing (EF) 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 unfortunate event that England Fencing 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.

England Fencing will also publish selections on the website and on its Facebook page so the chances of you not noticing will be minimised. After all you will have worked hard to get selected so we don't want you to miss out on the opportunity.

Selection for international events will be made directly off the England Fencing U14 rankings with no discretion and subject to good disciplinary record.

Squad size

The number of fencers selected will depend on the maximum number which requires the provision of (or payment for) three referees for each of the competitions for which fencers are being selected. A tournament is made up of a number of competitions.

In the period to 31 August 2023 only **8** fencers for each weapon and gender were selected for U14 international events.

The change to the criteria means we will be able to select a minimum of 8 but more likely up to 14 for each weapon and gender for each tournament.

If not all the places are filled other fencers may or may not be nominated to fill the available spaces in the squad. These later nominations will be done by email only and not publicised until the final squads are announced.

Once selected and the place in the squad has been accepted the athlete will have the same rights and obligation as every other member of the squad.

We have changed what we provide for free to allow more young athletes to gain wonderful international trip experience and make new friends while still decreasing the costs of entry to the fencer.



The assigned budget for the 23/24 season is £9000 in line with the cost of trips in the period 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023 but we are doubling the number of competitions and increasing the number of fencers.

Financing of England squads

For those athletes selected and who accept their places in the England squad, England Fencing will:

- A. pay the competition entry fee;
- B. either organise or pay for referees to meet the quota required by the competition organisers;
- C. provide or meet the cost of a youth size England Fencing Hoodie for the selected athlete;
- D. provide a Team Manager if at all possible to aid and assist the athletes and their chaperones, coaches and parents and to give them all a feel of what it is like to go to a proper international competition and the discipline around that.
- E. provide a squad coach to aid with performance and competition preparation at the venue.

Appeals

Any appeal against the accuracy of the rankings used for selection must be made to the rankings coordinator within 7 days of the published selection window opening. If this does not resolve the issue a further appeal may be made within 10 days of the publication of the relevant rankings to the [Director of Representative Fencing](#) whose decision shall be final.

Links

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

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

Foil – foilrankings@englandfencing.org.uk

Epee – epeerankings@englandfencing.org.uk

Sabre – sabrerankings@englandfencing.org.uk

For questions about the overall purpose and management of international trips, please contact [Richard Bernstein, Head of Representative Fencing](#)



Further requirements planned for 2024/25 season or from 1 April 2024

For the latter part of the season 2023/24 further changes are planned, including:

- requirement to have qualified referees or trainee referees with a qualified mentor throughout, This will encourage the training of referees. Funding will be available for the mentor to attend as well as organisational help with this.
- feedback questionnaire to allow for continuous improvements
- Coordinated calendar to avoid too many events clashing on the same day.
- To be included in the rankings, the rankings coordinator must be satisfied that the competition does not clash with an existing competition to the detriment of any competition involved.

These are being flagged in advance so organisers can prepare and also give feedback.

Rankings links

Individual U14 rankings

The individual rankings will be available from the rankings page of the England Fencing website.

Why is there a Union Jack and not the England Flag? This is because England comes under GBR for FIE purposes. It is neither a slight on England nor an appropriation of the Union Jack.

On the public rankings page you will see it in more context and with the England Fencing logo as shown below.



Club Rankings

Club rankings can be found either at the bottom of the rankings page on Ophardt under Combined Rankings or by clicking on the link on the England Website page.