

Veteran Welsh Fencing Selection Policy

AUGUST 2024

Process

The ADPC/veteran selection group are responsible for ensuring that all athletes being put forward for consideration by the Selection Panel are eligible under this policy. The veteran selection group will create the list of athletes nominated for selection to the Selection Panel in accordance with this Policy.

The Selection Panel

The selection panel will be comprised of the Welsh Fencing Board except for any directors also involved in producing the list of athletes nominated by the ADPC/veteran selection panel. An independent observer will also be invited to the panel. They will review the nominations and check that the selection policy has been correctly followed. The lead ADPC coach/member of the veteran selection panel for each weapon may be invited to the selection meeting to provide further insights or clarification that the selection panel may need. Neither the ADPC coach/veteran selection panel member or independent observer will have a vote on final selection.

This 2-stage process ensures that the policy is followed consistently and there is separation between the ADPC coaches/veteran selection group and final selection.

Members of both groups will declare any conflicts of interest. This will include family, club links, and coaching links within the preceding 12 months. The Welsh Fencing Board recognise that we have a small fencing community in Wales which has the positive aspect of coaches and selectors being familiar with our fencers. It does present a challenge however in minimising conflicts of interest, hence the addition of an independent observer of the selection panel. The independent observer may be e.g., a non-Board WF member, a BF member, a representative of Sport Wales, a representative from another Welsh NGB.

In the event of a tied vote, the Chair of Welsh Fencing will have the deciding vote unless he/she has a conflict. In this case, the Deputy Chair will have the deciding vote. The names of the individuals involved in the selection process (i.e., the ADPC Coaches, veteran selection panel members, members of the Selection Panel, and independent observer) will be published on the WF website in advance of selection.

Acceptance of selection

Selections will be announced on the Welsh Fencing website, **and via the Veterans email distribution list** - any costs and subsidies associated with the event will be communicated at this time. Fencers will be invited to accept their selection **via email to the veterans board representative**, and acceptance must be made within 2 weeks, or the place may be offered to another athlete.

Ranking Points:

The selection of fencers to represent Wales will be done in a similar manner to that utilised by BVF whereby the results from four qualifying competitions are compiled into

ranking lists. The best 2 results will then be totalled and used by the Veterans Selectors to determine selection via the following selection rules.

The qualifying competitions are as follows:

- Welsh Fencing Veteran National Championships
- Welsh Fencing National Championships
- BVF National Championships
- Cardiff Veterans Open

As with all age groups, attendance at the WF National Championships is advised as they are our main events of the year though are not mandated.

Points Matrix following the BVF approach:

1	50	9	13
2	43	10	10
3	37	11	7
4	32	12	5
5	27	13	4
6	23	14	3
7	19	15	2
8	16	16	1

Rankings will be updated and displayed on the Welsh Fencing website after each qualifying event

Selection Rules:

Commonwealth Championships

Individual Event - as this is an open event, any eligible fencer that wishes to participate can attend and entry is via direct entry and details will be posted via the Welsh Fencing website when available

Team Event - Top 4 ranked fencers from the individual event

Home Nations International

The selection point (date at which future events results will not be included in the rankings) will be published on the Welsh Fencing website once the date of the event being selected for is available.

Places 1 & 2 – Automatic selection for the top 2 ranked fencers.

Places 3 & 4 – Discretionary selection

Winton Cup

The Winton Cup is an inter-regional, rather than an international event and as such priority will be given to those who are resident or actively fencing within the region. Fencers who have strong links to another region (e.g., those who are resident outside Wales) may choose to represent that region at the Winton Cup without fear of affecting their selection chances for other events in the future.

Rankings will offer a guide, but selection will be a balance of fencers who show development potential and more experienced fencers.

Selection for this event is entirely discretionary.

This will give an opportunity to developing fencers to gain experience at a challenging and competitive team event.

Discretionary Selection Definition

Discretionary selection is based on specific subjective and/or objective measures used to inform selection decisions for individuals and team events.

The factors that the selectors may include in this are:

- meaningful past performance
- current performance trajectory
- team player skills
- leadership
- demonstration of commitment to Welsh Fencing and ADPC
- demonstration of the Welsh Fencing Values
- specific weapon / team strategies for the event