

BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010

ALL COMPETITORS (except for the U10 Foil) MUST ENTER THE QUALIFYING COMPETITION OF THEIR REGION. THIS INCLUDES THOSE CLAIMING A BYE. Fencers should contact their Regional Secretary for details of the qualifying event.

Rules:

1) Eligibility:

a) Years of birth for this season are:

U10: (see below)

U12: Born 1998/1999/2000

U14: Born 1996 or 1997

U16: Born 1994 or 1995

U18: Born 1992 or 1993

b) Fencers may only enter the Regional event in the geographical Region where they have their home address, OR where they regularly attend a fencing club within the Region. **FENCERS MAY ONLY FENCE IN A QUALIFYING EVENT IN ONE REGION IN ANY SEASON.**

c) Fencers must be UK residents.

d) Apart from the U10 Event (see below), where direct entries can be made to the event organiser, entries for the BYC's will only be accepted via the regions.

2) The BYC competitions are run under BFA Rules, subject to changes outlined in these rules. For the Finals the formula is one round of pools without elimination, followed by Direct Elimination apart from the U10 Event where the formula is two rounds of pools without elimination, followed by Direct Elimination (see below).

3) Blade restrictions:

- **U12 & U14** - the maximum blade sizes are: Foil - size 3, Epée - size 2 and Sabre – size 2.

4) U12 Event

- The piste for all weapons may be the shorter length of 12m
- In the DE Tableau, fights are to 10 hits in 3 bouts of 2 minutes, with a gap of 1 minute

5) Qualification is calculated on 1 in 4, or part of 4, of those fencers actually fencing in the qualifying competition with a minimum number of 4. Please note that fencers who enter, but do not fence, are not counted in this total; this includes fencers eligible for byes.

Thus:	Fencers	Qualifiers
	17 or more	1 in 4 or part of 4
	5-16	4
	1-4	All

6) Any fencer who reached The British DE Final of 8 in last year's Championships may claim a bye in this year's Championships at the SAME weapon, regardless of age group; this includes finalists from the U10 events. **FENCERS CLAIMING A BYE MUST ENTER THE REGION QUALIFYING COMPETITION,** but need not fence. Wherever they finish in the Region Competition, they qualify for the final series in ADDITION to the number of qualifiers calculated in rule 7.

7) Any fencer **who is realistically trying to qualify for the British Cadet or U20 Teams for this season,** and whose Region Qualifying Competition clashes with a nominated competition in that weapon, **should contact their Weapon Captain as soon as possible** so that a bye can be arranged. The fencers MUST enter their regional competition and, prior to the qualifier, tell both the Regional Organisers and the National Organisers that they have a bye – this must be verified by the weapon captain.

8) ALL fencers, both in the finals and the qualifying competitions, must be members of British Fencing. Any fencers found to have competed in the Regional Event without the appropriate membership, are liable to be disqualified and, if the disqualification affects the number of qualifiers, the number of qualifiers will be reduced accordingly. If the disqualified fencer was one of the qualifiers, the fencer may NOT be replaced by the next ranked entrant. No refunds will be made with respect to disqualified fencers.

9) If a fencer, who has qualified for the Finals, withdraws for any reason or is disqualified, substitutions are not allowed.

10) **The charge to the Region is £3 for every entrant to the qualifying competition** with an extra £13 for every qualifier. It is entirely up to regions how they collect this from the competitors. Regions making a late entry must pay an additional £25.

11) Please note in all the rules and notifications – “club” refers to an affiliated club registered with the BFA.

U10 BYC Event: for fencers born 2000/01/02

This is a separate event for which individuals must enter **directly with the organiser:**

- The formula is two rounds of pools without elimination, followed by Direct Elimination
- The piste for all weapons may be the shorter length of 12m
- The maximum blade size is size 0
- The pool fights are for 5 hits with a time limit of two minutes.
- In the DE Tableau, fights are to 10 hits in 3 bouts of 2 minutes, with a gap of 1 minute