

# BVF AGE GROUP QUALIFIERS

## 1. General:

The event is held annually on the Saturday and Sunday of the last weekend in January.

## 2. Eligibility:

The event is open only to paid up members of BVF who hold a British passport.

This event will be used for selection for the next World Championships, therefore the qualifying date for your category is your age on the qualifying date for the next World Championships (normally 1 September).

## 3. Relevance:

At Category 2 and Category 3, and at Category 4 Men's Weapons, the winner and runner up at each weapon will automatically qualify for selection for the next World Championships. Unless there is a successful discretionary application to the Selectors, the person in third place will also automatically qualify.

The rankings may also be taken into account in selecting for any representative event.

## 4. Medals:

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded at each weapon. At Category 1, which is fenced unisex, a medal will also be awarded to the highest placed man or woman if he/she is not already a medallist.

## 5. Format:

Up to 19 entrants:

Poule unique.

20 or more entrants:

First round of pools: Fencers are seeded on the basis of their results in the most recent British Veterans Age Group Qualifiers and the most recent British Veterans Championships. Any other relevant data may be taken into account to give as accurate a seeding as possible.

There will be no separation on the basis of club.

Second round of pools: Fencers are seeded on the first round results.

Final round of pools: Fencers are seeded on the results of the first two rounds. The top six are allocated to the first pool, the next six to a second pool and so on.

Should more than six fencers be undefeated after the two seeding pools, the top pool will be enlarged to include them.

In the first and second round, pool size is determined as follows:

- a) If numbers permit no pool will be smaller than five or larger than six.
- b) If numbers permit, pools will all be the same size.

Seeding pools will be deemed to have the same number of fencers. A dummy fencer is used to make up any shortfall. A fencer always wins against the dummy with a score that represents the performance of the fencer in the pool. If the fencer has 0 defeats, the score is 5-0. If the fencer has 1 defeat, the score is 5-1 and so on to a maximum of 5-4.

### Medallists

First, second and third place will not initially be determined by second or third indicators. If two or more fencers are equal on victories, they will barrage for position. If the barrage does not produce a decision on victories, second and third indicators will be used, calculated over both encounters between the fencers involved.

### Abandon

If a fencer withdraws partway through any pool, the results of any bouts completed by the outgoing fencer will be ignored.

If a fencer withdraws during either of the seeding rounds of pools, he/she will be ranked in last place in the tournament. If two or more fencers withdraw, they will be ranked in the last places, in the order of their original seeding.

If a fencer withdraws from the final round of pools, he/she will be ranked last in that pool. If two or more fencers withdraw, they will be ranked in the last places, in the order of their seeding to that round.

### General:

All bouts are to five hits or three minutes of fencing time.

If the score is equal at time, the bout will continue with unlimited time until a deciding hit is scored.

## **6. Equipment:**

It is the responsibility of each fencer to ensure that personal equipment complies with British Fencing guidelines. BVF recommends FIE standard clothing and masks for personal safety and requires maraging blades for the safety of others at Foil and Epée. Sabre blades must comply with current standards of stiffness and be dated 2000 or later.

## **7. Organisation:**

The organisers reserve the right to make any changes that they deem necessary to the smooth running of the competition.

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