

1. Introduction

1.1 Programme Policy Dates

The 2023/2024 Cadet/Junior EPP squad will run from September 2023 to 31st August 2024.

1.2 Programme Scope

- 1.2.1 England Judo aims to develop young fighters to progress onto the British Judo World Class Performance Programme and achieve senior performances at Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 1.2.2 A selection for EPP is intended to provide greater focus on performance level training and competition, increase time on task and connection to the British Judo World Class Performance Programme (WCPP).
- 1.2.3 The focus is on having professional behaviours on and off the mat. Commitment to Judo and aspiring to perform at the world class senior level.

2. Eligibility

2.1 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the England Performance Potential (EPP), fighters must meet the following criteria:

- Hold a current BJA or affiliate membership
- Hold a valid British passport – or meet the new IJF/EJU policy requirements regarding Refugees and Junior and Younger Immigrants and aspire to represent GBR as a senior international fighter.
- Fighters born between 2004 and 2009.
- Full engagement with the EDS programme.

3. Identification

3.1 Following the English Closed, fighters must attend the Induction Day in October. Places on EPP will be based on the following considerations.

- Previous International results and performances.
- Performances at Domestic events.
- Attendance and results from the Induction Day.
- England programme coaches' previous knowledge of the fighter, which will include, but is not limited to:
 - High professional behaviours on and off the mat.
 - Engagement with the programme and the coaches.

3.2 Additional EPP squad places may be allocated to fighters via a continuous review at the discretion of the England Coaches throughout the year.

- Maintaining a place on EPP is dependent on fighters' continually meeting the expected professional standards of behaviour on and off the mat.

3.3 Injury

Whereby a fighter who has previously been a member of the England Squad has suffered a long-term injury preventing them from fulfilling the identification requirements, a decision will be made based on previous performances, attendance at England Squad trainings, professional behaviours and future potential.

4. EDS/EPP Training

4.1 Calendar

- 4.1.1 The 2023/2024 annual calendar will be published by **5th August 2023**. This will be updated as necessary.
- 4.1.2 EDS and EPP Squad training dates will be fixed as much as possible but may change due to unforeseen circumstances. In the event of date changes and additional opportunities becoming available, we will endeavour to provide updated information as quickly as possible.

4.2 Attendance & Communication

- 4.2.1 Fighters' attendance at EDS and EPP squad trainings is expected and will be continually reviewed.
- 4.2.2 Fighters who miss sessions without advanced communication may be withdrawn from the EDS/EPP Squad.
- 4.2.3 Non-attendance with a valid reason **MUST** be received via Spond within the timelines of the calling notice.
- 4.2.4 Where calling notices are not responded to the England Programme has the right to remove Fighters from the EPP squad.

4.3 Performance Pathway Training

- 4.3.1 There is an expectation that EDS/EPP Squad members will attend weekly identified ETDC training sessions/training camps where geographically possible.
- 4.3.2 Attendance to ETDC weekly sessions is taken into consideration when selections are made for international or domestic competitions and training camps.

4.4 Accepted Absences

The following reasons will be accepted as absences and will therefore not be counted as missed sessions:

- Injury or illness
- Other circumstances which have been communicated and appointed by the England coaches in advance.

4.5 Training Invites & Additional Opportunities

- 4.5.1 Additional invitations to train with the EDS/EPP Squad will be issued by the England Coaching Team on an individual basis and **not by request**.
- 4.5.2 The England Programme may identify further training opportunities. These will be communicated in due course together with any criteria for identification.

5. International Events

EPP members will be provided the opportunity to compete in the following International Competitions and Camps on a self or part-fund basis:

- Priority consideration for selection for European Cups based on current stage of development and experience.
- Two International Open events per year (E.g., Harnes, Antwerp Open, Venray, Bremen/Thuringia, Danish Cup etc.)

5.1 Selection for Part-fund contributions

The England Programme has a limited budget and can offer a small number of part-fund contributions to selected EPP fighters towards European cup ID events.

The decision on who will receive these contributions will be based on the criteria outlined in point 3.1.

Additional factors that contribute towards part-fund contributions are:

- The potential for a fighter to qualify for European Championships (Cadet and Junior), EYOF (Cadet only) or World Championships (Junior only) within the current squad year and forthcoming years.
- A fighters' physical and mental capability to complete the required volume of training when at domestic and international camps.
- Ability to accept and process constructive feedback (Coachability).
- A commitment to personal development.

The England programme reserves the right to not select anyone from a weight category if there is nobody at the correct level.