



**Policy and Procedure
2026 Cadet European
Championships
Selection Procedure**

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BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

2026 CADET EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

SELECTION PROCEDURE

29 JUNE - 02 JULY 2026 | GRAN CANARIA, ESP

INTRODUCTION

This policy details the identification process and criteria for the 2026 European Cadet Championships (ECC).

The purpose of the home nation programmes is to prepare athletes for future success at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The home nation programmes are committed to:

- Develop technical proficiency in the trademarks: **Throw for Ippon & Win in Newaza.**
- Develop professional performance behaviours for junior & senior success.

The ECC GB Team will be a maximum of 10 entries for males and 10 entries for females, a maximum of 2 athletes can be entered in each weight category. The maximum number of athletes per delegation is 20.

The ECC delegation size and home nation places are subject to home nation funding. Home nations reserve the right to support athlete places at their discretion, dependent on the funding available.

ELIGIBILITY

1. To be eligible for selection to the ECC, athletes must meet the following criteria:
 - 1.1. Be born between 2009-2011;
 - 1.2. Hold a valid British passport or meet the IJF / EJU policy requirements regarding refugees. See the International Judo Federation rules here: [IJF Rules](#);
 - 1.3. Hold a valid membership of British Judo or a home nation;
 - 1.4. Be a member of a home nation development programme;
 - 1.5. Not serving a period of ineligibility as a result of a transfer of allegiance;
 - 1.6. Not serving a provisional or permanent suspension for an anti-doping violation or any other reason;
 - 1.7. Has not, whether by an act or omission, brought British Judo into disrepute;
 - 1.8. Has not been disciplined by British Judo for misconduct.

SELECTION MEETING

2. The GB Team for the 2026 Cadet European Championships (wk27) will be selected as follows:
 - **Week 18: w/c Monday 27th April - Final Stage Selection**

IDENTIFICATION COMPETITIONS

3. Domestic Competitions
The positional results and the number of contests for each fighter will be logged from the following identified domestic competitions and displayed in the GB Cadet Identification ranking:

1	Welsh Open (Cadet)	25 October 2025
2	British Cadet Championships	13 December 2025
3	Scottish Open (Cadet)	17 January 2026
4	English Open (Cadet)	21 - 22 February 2026

5	Northern Ireland Open (Cadet)	11 - 12 April 2026
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4. International Competitions

The positional results and the number of wins for each fighter will be logged from the following international competitions and displayed in the GB Cadet Identification ranking:

	2026 Identified International Selection Events	Date
1	Cadet European Cup Italy (Genova)	7- 8 February 2026
2	Cadet European Cup Slovakia (Samorin)	14 - 15 February 2026
3	Cadet European Cup Croatia (Porec)	28 February - 01 March 2026
4	Cadet European Cup Turkiye (Antalya)	07 – 08 March 2026
5	Bremen (Male) /Thuringia (Female) Internationals	20 - 21 March 2026
6	Cadet European Cup Czech Republic (Teplice)	28 – 29 March 2026
7	Cadet European Cup Germany (Berlin)	25 - 26 April 2026

International event support will depend on which home nation athletes compete for. Athletes are required to gain identification to international events through their home nation programme and should seek to discuss any identification with their respective Home Nation Lead Cadet Coaches.

RANKING POINTS

5. Cadet Identification Ranking points are awarded as follows:

Placing	Domestic Ranking Points		International Ranking Points	
	Home Nation Opens	British Championships	Cadet European Cup / International Open	Wins at 2026 internationals
1 st	25	30	35	5 additional points per international win
2 nd	20	25	30	
3 rd	15	20	25	
5 th	10	15	20	
Participation	1	1	3	

- 5.1. A fighter's best 3 domestic and best 3 international performances from the competitions listed in this policy will count towards a fighter's cadet ranking.
- 5.2. If a fighter moves up a weight category during the identification period, they will transfer half the points earned at the identification competitions stated. Fighters who move down a weight category during the identification period will not transfer any of the points earned at the identification competitions.
6. If any competition is cancelled or postponed, it may be removed from the criteria. A replacement competition may be identified, but this is not guaranteed.
7. Important details to note:
 - 7.1. No points will be awarded should a fighter place but not win a contest.
 - 7.2. If an athlete (who has competed in their own weight category) also competes in a heavier category to enable athletes to have more contests (due to lack of entries), they will not receive ranking points in the heavier category.
 - 7.3. Whether they receive a medal will be at the tournament organisers discretion.
 - 7.4. Any athlete who has contests because of other athletes moving up a weight to provide them an opportunity to fight (due to poor entry in their category), must win at least one contest to receive ranking points, decided by their finishing position in the whole group.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

8. To be considered for identification for the European Cadet Championships athletes should meet the criteria below by **Sunday 26th April 2026**.
9. **First Stage:** Athletes will be considered for selection by the Selection Panel ('the Panel') if they have been identified and nominated for selection by their home nation. Athletes will be identified as follows:
 - 9.1. Top 5 in the weight category on the GB Cadet Identification Ranking List;
 - 9.2. Engaged with the home nation programme.
10. **Second stage:** The Panel will review the nominated athletes from the first stage, who have met the following performance standards (listed in priority order below) and will evaluate each athlete against the criteria specified in Section 12:
 - 10.1. A medal and a top 7 placing in any of the 2026 identified international competitions listed in section 4;
 - 10.2. A medal at any of the 2026 identified international competitions listed in section 4;
 - 10.3. Two top 7 placings (which must include a minimum of 2 wins in 1 day) at one of 2026 identified international competitions listed in section 4.
11. If the number of qualified athletes exceeds the limit of 10 men or 10 women, and more than two athletes in any single weight category have achieved equivalent performance levels as outlined in sections 10, the Panel will determine which athlete(s) to select. This decision will be made at the Panel's discretion, taking into account the factors listed in section 12 and the provisions of section 21.
12. When considering selections in section 10.1 – 10.4, in addition to the level of performance achieved by an athlete, the Panel shall take into account, and give such weight as it considers appropriate, to the following factors:
 - 12.1. An athlete's performance behaviours and engagement in their home nation programme;
 - 12.2. An athlete's past results (when considering results, factors other than the final placing may be taken into account such as the standard of the event, the draw, the opposition, officiating, injury and any other factors that may have influenced the final results);
 - 12.3. An athlete's compliance to the British Judo's Weight Control Guidance document and the ability to make their fighting weight safely;
 - 12.4. Current level of physical fitness;
 - 12.5. Current medical/injury status;
 - 12.6. An athlete's future potential as a junior or senior athlete;
 - 12.7. An athlete's commitment to developing Throw for Ippon and Win in Newaza trademarks in training and competition;
 - 12.8. An athlete's resilience in challenging environments including randori, conditioning, international competition and training camps;
 - 12.9. An athlete's suitability as a team member and/or as an ambassador for the BJA (when considering 'suitability', factors such as behaviour and previous disciplinary record will also be taken into account).

A young person's physical development during the Pre-Cadet and Cadet years is extremely important and therefore we do not support athletes from cutting weight before competition. Athletes are encouraged to maintain a healthy diet and physical preparation programme in order to maintain and progress physical capabilities inline with the British Judo Weight Control Guidance which can be found here <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/Weight-Management-Guidance>.

SELECTION PANEL

13. The Panel shall comprise of the following voting and non-voting members:
 - 13.1. Voting members:
 - GB Home Nations Coach
 - One representative from each home nation
 - 13.2. Non-voting members:
 - Chairperson, British Judo Performance Manager
 - Independent Observer
 - Recording Officer
14. The Chairperson and the independent observer shall be responsible for ensuring that due process is followed and decisions are made in accordance with this selection policy.
15. Any selection decisions shall be made by way of a majority decision. Each voting member will have one vote each. The GB Home Nations Coach will have a casting vote should it be required.
16. The Recording Officer will take notes and document selection decisions as appropriate.
17. The GB Home Nations Coach, in conjunction with the home nation lead coaches, will be responsible for compiling results and other relevant details on athletes for consideration by the Panel at the selection meeting.
18. Any individual involved in the selection process must declare any association / conflict of interest concerning any athlete being considered for selection.

COMMUNICATION OF SELECTIONS

19. The Chairperson of the Selection Panel will provide the identification recommendations, together with any material that the Panel considers appropriate to justify such selections, to the Performance Leadership Team (PLT) for ratification. The PLT shall ratify the selections if the correct procedures were followed by the Panel in the decision-making process.
20. Once selections have been ratified by the PLT, these will be immediately communicated to the relevant athletes by email and published on the BJA website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

21. The Panel, in considering the best interests of British Judo, retains the discretion to:
 - 21.1. Determine whether to select two, one, or no athletes in any given weight category.
 - 21.2. Identify reserve athletes in the event of a withdrawal. Reserve athletes must have been nominated by their home nation and have been assessed by the Panel against the criteria in section 12.

FITNESS

22. Athletes may be required to undergo fitness tests and/or 'fit to compete' tests at any time.

DE-SELECTION & APPEALS

23. For the de-selection process refer to the De-Selection Policy which can be found on the BJA website – <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/gb-judo/support/gb-judo-policies/>.
24. An athlete may only appeal a selection or de-selection decision on the grounds that the Panel failed to follow the applicable criteria. The BJA Fast Appeals process is the only method of appeal should an athlete wish to appeal a selection or de-selection decision. Any appeal must be made within 24 hours of the selection or de-selection decision being communicated to the athlete. The BJA Fast Appeals Process can be found on the BJA website – <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/gb-judo/support/gb-judo-policies/>

