REFEREE ADVISORY GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

Last Updated: Date

Last Approved: **Date**

1. PURPOSE

British Fencing have an ambition to increase the reputation and influence of Great Britain internationally. A key part of this ambition is being recognised as a leading nation for our refereeing quality and standards.

This includes developing a diverse pool of referees capable of refereeing internationally as a FIE referee at future Olympics, Paralympics and Senior World Championships and increasing the standard of refereeing at the highest level of competition in the UK. It also recognises that to bring up the next generation of international athletes, we need a strong base of domestic referees as well.

The British Fencing Referee Advisory Group will advise, guide and support the British Fencing Executive Team in their work in bringing this ambition to life.

2. MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

The main responsibilities of this group include:

- To advise and support the development of a referee development plan which shapes the work and delivery of the BF Workforce Development Team.
- Provide input into the referee pathway and any developments needed.
- Provide advice on governance, policy and procedures of referees.
- To advise on the selection and development of referees, throughout the season and their broader journey on the GBR Referee Pathway Programme
- To work on programmes to support referee education, mentoring and development.

DRAFT

3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Reporting requirements are:

- Annually, to present a short report on activities and progress to members to be published in the BF Annual Report.
- Additionally, to report to the CEO and/or Board whenever circumstances require.

4. CORE COMPOSITION

This includes, as far as possible, persons (typically up to 6) with experience in all the following areas in either standing or wheelchair fencing:

- Domestic refereeing
- International refereeing (EFC/FIE / World Abilitysport)
- Referee Development & Assessment

Additionally, British Fencing will provide an executive team member as chair of this group as well as administrative support. A deputy-chair will be appointed by the group.

The group have the right to call in individuals, approved by BF, for defined periods of time with specific expertise related to upcoming projects or matters arising. BF also reserve the right to remove individuals.

5. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

To be considered for the group, individuals should, in addition to the core composition, meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Have had Head Referee Experience
- Involvement in the delivery of L3 / L4 exams
- Involvement in the production of referee training materials
- Active International Referee

The makeup of the group will include representation across the weapons.

Additionally, members should be willing to bring positive and constructive collaboration to both BF and their peers. Individuals should be a member of British Fencing, but do not necessarily have to be British for international competitions.

The application process will be as follows:

Step 1 – The opportunity will be published out to the referee community.

Step 2 – Expressions of Interest will be received by the BF Coaching and Workforce Development Team

Selections will be recommended by a British Fencing Exec. Team and approved by the CEO.

6. MEETING FREQUENCY

The Referee Advisory Group will meet at least quarterly and whenever the situation demands. Initially the group might meet more frequently in the development of a plan.

7. ADVISORY GROUP REVIEW

An interim review will take place every two years on the composition and effectiveness of the group whilst a full review looking at the group's Terms of Reference will take place every four years.

DRAFT