



ALREADY QUALIFIED ELSEWHERE BUT WANT TO BECOME REGISTERED AS AN ENGLAND FENCING COACH OR DOES YOUR CERTIFICATE JUST NEED UPDATING

Introduction. When Local Authorities, Schools Sports Partnerships etc wish to check the credentials of a coach they contact the National Governing Body (NGB) of the sport concerned. As the NGB for fencing in England, England Fencing (EF) can only verify the *bona fides* of coaches whose names appear on its coach register. Coaches who meet all the EF criteria for registration are placed on the EF Coaching Register and are fully insured to coach children and adults. This brief is for those coaches who wish to register with EF as a coach but who hold a valid coaching award from a recognised body other than EF at home or abroad.

Requirements and how to meet them. To become an EF registered coach you must

1. Be a member of EF (via BFA)
2. Hold a valid certificate of coach qualification from a recognised body at home or abroad.
3. Hold a current First Aid certificate* OR submit a signed England Fencing First Aid Policy Declaration
4. Hold a certificate of attendance from a valid Safeguarding & Protecting Children course*
5. Hold a Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Disclosure Certificate issued by the BFA *
6. Pay the relevant registration fee to EF (see below)

* These certificates must be no more than 3 years old from date of issue.

Registration Fees. If you once held a British Fencing coach award (pre 2005) and wish to convert it to a current EF award or if you hold a British Academy of Fencing Award and are seeking the equivalent EF award, the once-off fee is £10 per weapon certificate. If you hold a foreign coaching award and wish to transfer it to the equivalent EF Coach Award the once-off registration fee is £30. The certificates issued by EF have a five-year life. Revalidation thereafter is £5.

How to Register. You must send copies (NOT originals) of all required documentation (including a copy of your BF membership card) to The Administrator, England Fencing, Saracen's House, St Margaret's Green, IPSWICH, IP4 2BN

Specifications for Each Level

Level of Award	Specification
Level 4 Master	An EF Level 4 coach can deliver the requirements for a Level 3 coach with additional emphasis on tactics, timing and distance and can design, implement and evaluate the process and outcome of long-term/specialist coaching programmes for individuals and teams at performance and elite levels
Level 3 Senior	An EF Level 3 coach can deliver the requirements for a Level 2 coach demonstrating a wider variety of techniques and plan, implement, analyse and revise annual coaching programmes for groups and individuals at participation and performance level
Level 2 Coach	An EF Level 2 coach can prepare, deliver and review fencing sessions for groups and individuals at participation level
Level 1 Assistant Coach	An EF Level 1 coach may assist a more qualified coach in the delivery of fencing sessions and deliver without direct supervision pre-planned and prepared fencing sessions for groups at foundation level

Upgrading Your Qualifications. You may wish to upgrade your award through the England Fencing Coach Development Scheme. The coach education process involves studying fencing theory and technical topics (ie blade-actions and moves) appropriate to the weapon and level being studied and generic coaching skills including instructional technique, health and safety, interpersonal and communication skills under the guidance of an approved EF Coach Educator. Courses are arranged either as residential intensives over 5 or 6 days or as part-time courses arranged on weekend days over a number of months. Would-be coaches can also study on a part-time basis under the guidance of a coach educator at weekly club training sessions. The aim of the training is to prepare the candidate for the coach assessment for the level and weapon being studied. Ordinarily, to be assessed at Level 2 you would be expected to hold a Level 1 award or be a reasonably experienced and competent fencer in the weapon. Fencers seeking direct entry to Level 2 would find instructional or teaching experience helpful as well. A coach presenting for a Level 3 award would be expected to have passed at Level 2 and so on. Level 1 takes about 25 hours of study, Level 2 about 30 hours of study and a Level 3 about 40 hours. In addition, candidates for Level 3 would need to spend considerable time in their clubs preparing for the course, up to about 80 hours. Now the system has reduced to four levels in line with the UKCC standards, Levels 3 and 4 involve more than previously and the gap between 2 and 3 has increased. Similarly Level 4, being a more academic syllabus, will take longer in the preparation than on the course.

For more information email coaching@englandfencing.org.uk