

BCFA YOUTH RANKING SYSTEM

Introduction

The British Columbia Fencing Association (BCFA) has an initiative to help youth development in the sport. A part of this initiative is a youth ranking system that will allow young fencers to track their development and to encourage attendance at club, provincial, and national youth tournaments.

The BC Youth ranking system will award fencers points for results obtained at local, provincial, western and national tournaments.

For cadet and above categories the CFF rankings will be used as the provincial rankings.

Ranking Categories

The ranking of BCFA youth fencers will be done for the following categories:

1. Foil

- A) Y10 Mixed
- B) Y12 Mixed
- C) Y14 Men and Women;

2. Epee

- A) Y12 Mixed
- B) Y14 Men and Women

3. Sabre

- A). Y14 Men and Women

Age Categories

Age categories are based on year of birth for each season. The season starts after the summer CFF nationals tournament, and finishes at the summer CFF nationals the following year. Thus the 2009/10 season will run from July 2009 to July 4th 2010, and the age categories will be:

- Y10: Born 1999 or later
- Y12: Born 1997 or later
- Y14: Born 1995 or later

Points Categories

Points will be awarded to a fencer based on their results from a competition as well as the strength of the competition. Points are awarded in each of the following categories

1. First;
2. Second;
3. Third and Fourth
4. Fifth through Eighth
5. Ninth through Sixteenth
6. Seventeenth and below

Competition Strength

The BCFA encourages all of its fencers to compete in age appropriate and skill appropriate events. The BCFA recognizes the following strength of tournaments:

1. Level 1

Local BCFA sanctioned tournaments;

2. Level 2

Local BCFA sanctioned tournament event with more than 36 competitors in the event.

The BCFA Provincial Championships

CFF sanctioned U15 Western Canadian Championships

CFF sanctioned U15 National Competitions;

(note that U15 is the same age category as Y14)

Points Grid

The following chart shows the points grid:

	1 st place	2 nd place	3 rd and 4 th place	5-8 th place	8-16 th place	17 th and below place
Level 1	10	8	6	4	2	1
Level 1 but less than 8 competitors	5	4	3	2	na	na
Level 2	16	12	8	6	4	2

Points awarded

Points will be awarded for the total of the best results obtained by each fencer for a maximum of four Level 1 events and two level 2 events

Points will only be awarded for Y14, Y12, and Y10 events, no points will be awarded for cadet, junior or senior events.

Local Club Tournaments

The BCFA will only sanction local tournaments upon written request of the organizing club at the start of each fencing season. For the 2009/10 season the youth tournaments posted on the BCFA website will be used for rankings. For the 2009/10 season only clubs outside of the lower mainland can submit tournaments for consideration at least 4 weeks prior to the tournament date. The BCFA will determine if the tournament will be ranked based on individual assessment of each tournament.

There will be no fee for sanctioning tournaments

Fencers must be members of the BCFA and CFF, or equivalent, to compete in sanctioned events

To obtain sanctioning for points the club must provide:

A list of participating fencers, including CFF number or evidence of equivalency

The results of each sanctioned event

BC Provincial tournament

The BCFA will automatically update points for results achieved at the provincial championships.

CFF EVENTS

To be awarded points for CFF events the individual fencer must provide evidence of the event entered and the result achieved. This can be done by reference to the results on the CFF website.

Requests must be received within 2 weeks of the end tournament

Awards

The BCFA will provide awards to the top ranked fencers at the end of each competitive season.

Conclusion

It is hoped that the new ranking system will:

- a) Provide a transparent mechanism for identifying the best young fencers in BC
- b) Provide a mechanism for young fencers to track their development in the sport
- c) Encourage attendance at club, provincial, and CFF events
- d) Provide a platform for the growth of the sport in BC