

SELECTION AND QUALIFICATION OF LIFTERS – the following is an extract from the BDFPA Handbook, and all members should note these rules carefully.

All lifters participating in sanctioned events must be current members in good standing of the Association. The following levels and criteria apply:-

DIVISIONAL and Below - current BDFPA membership. Lifters participating in a divisional championship must have their permanent address in the division concerned, at the date of the event in which they compete - unless otherwise exempted under BDFPA rules.

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NATIONAL - current BDFPA membership. (For new members - minimum 3 months and participation in at least one prior BDFPA competition). N.B. Those whose membership of the Association has lapsed for a full membership year or more - will also be classed as “new” members, and be subject to the 3 month minimum. (NC Ballot Nov 2003). In addition, qualification will be by achieving minimum standards as laid down by the Association.

(The Championships Secretary may, under certain circumstances, exercise discretion in the application of these qualifying standards.)

Lifters wishing to qualify for a British Championships must do so by lifting in a divisional championship in their own area, unless:- (1) The lifter is the current British Champion in the weight, age & lifting category in which they seek to take part (2) The lifter is prevented by injury from complying with the above, in which case the lifter will be permitted to take part in a divisional competition in another area, subject to proof of injury being made available (3) Other circumstances beyond the lifter's control prevent him/her from participating in his/her own divisional competition, in which case the same applies as for (2), subject to approval by the BDFPA Championship Secretary. (1999 AGM) (4) other BDFPA rules apply, see the following:

OTHER CONDITIONS FOR NATIONAL QUALIFICATION - (NC Ballot June 2003)

(i) The totals of Master lifters who qualify at their divisionals in a given age group, but who will be in the next age group at the date of the British championships, will be considered valid in the next age group. This also applies to OPEN lifters taking part in the M1 category.

(ii) Lifters who qualify at their divisionals in the Unequipped section – will automatically also be eligible for participation in the Equipped section of the Nationals – and vice versa.

(iii) Lifters who participate at their divisionals in an attempt to qualify for the British – but who are unsuccessful – may try again at another sanctioned event(s) elsewhere, without any restraints on the number of attempts allowed.

(iv) If a divisional qualifying event has already taken place – new members (ONLY) joining as members of that division after that date, may qualify at any other divisional/qualifying event, subject to all other conditions of eligibility being complied with.

(v) A lifter whose own division is running a divisional championship may not qualify in another divisional event, unless exemptions covered by the current rules apply.

(vi) Where the number of members in a division (based on the previous end-of-year figures) is SEVEN or less, that division has the option to combine its divisional/qualifying championships with that of a neighbouring division.

(vii) Where the number of members in a division (based on the previous end-of-year figures) is THREE or less, lifters in that division have the option to qualify for the British Championship at any sanctioned qualifying event.

[N.B. (vi) and (vii) are optional. They are NOT mandatory. There is nothing to stop a division with very few members from running their own competition and taking steps to attract new members by so doing.]

(viii) Lifters who are temporarily based away from their usual division of residence (more than 3 months in each year), may qualify for British Championships at divisionals in the area where they are temporarily based.

(ix) RAF and other services championships to have divisional/qualifying status.

If a Division is **unable** to hold its own Divisional Championship, members of that Division may qualify for British Championships at another Division's Championships. (2003 AGM)

N.B. 'unable' does not mean 'unwilling'. It is expected that divisions will make every effort to run their own qualifying event during the year.

The status of qualifying event may be conferred on competitions other than divisional championships, at the discretion of the National Council. (NC Ballot January 2003)

Service personnel may qualify for British Championships at any BDFPA sanctioned qualifying event (NC Ballot Aug 2004).

Lifters qualifying in their divisionals in the following age groups, but who are in the next age group at the time of the British, should be required to have reached the necessary qualification standard in the next age category: (NC Ballot Sept 2005.)
ALL TEEN CATEGORIES and JUNIOR

The selection of lifters for **National Single Lift Championships**, will be based on single lift performances registered at divisional championships, but will also take into account individual lifts registered as part of a 3-lift total (subject to the necessary BDFPA single lift qualifying standards being met). (NC Ballot Nov 2003.)

(N.B. In practice this means that whereas lifters qualifying for the British Single Event Championships by taking part in a Divisional Single Lift section will normally automatically receive an invite - those who want to qualify for the British Singles by virtue of lifts registered as part of 3-lift totals – must apply to the Championships Secretary for an invite. It will not be issued automatically.)

All members please note:- there are NO other ways of qualifying for entry to any British Championship. No member will now be granted entry merely by virtue of “lifting in front of a referee”, or be given permission to apply for a permit to run any “special” event other than a normal scheduled divisional or other recognised qualifier. Under no circumstances will totals/ lifts registered in other organisations be accepted in lieu of normal qualification at BDFPA events.

Members should also note that there is no provision under the rules for performances done in WDFPF International events to count as qualifiers for the following British Championships.

***** N.B. Participation in any BDFPA sanctioned national event is strictly by invitation.**

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INTERNATIONAL - current BDFPA membership (as conditions for national competition).

Lifters must participate in the British Championship in order to be invited to take part in a WDFPF International event. (NC Ballot Sept 2005.)

Normally, class winners from National Championships will automatically be invited as members of an international team representing England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland at World, European or other W.D.F.P.F. championships in their events - and in their relevant age & bodyweight classifications. At the discretion of the Championships Secretary, other lifters, including national finalists, may also be invited to be members of the international team - either as second &/or third entries in certain categories, or if class winners are unavailable for the event concerned.

In exceptional cases, lifters wishing to qualify for a WDFPF International event, who are unable for genuine reasons, to attend the qualifying British Championship event, may apply in writing** for an invitation to compete as a member of their national team. Permission to be granted subject to:

- (i) *a bona fide reason being accepted for the lifter's inability to qualify at the relevant scheduled BDFPA British Championships event.*
- (ii) *the lifter having attained the WDFPF qualifying standard at some other time during the year.*
- (iii) *the invitation complying with WDFPF rules of team composition, and that priority for team places is given in all cases to lifters who have attended the relevant British championships event.*
- (iv) *all normal conditions of membership being complied with.*

** in writing to the President or Championships Secretary, who will put the matter for consideration to a 'Qualification Panel' (NC Ballot Sept 2005.)

BDFPA members in **Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland** should contact their Divisional Representative for details. Rules pertaining to eligibility, membership, and qualifying standards apply equally to 'home countries' lifters as to lifters in England.

***** N.B. Participation in any W.D.F.P.F. sanctioned international event is strictly by invitation.**

Members who do not receive a formal invitation to lift in national or international events, but who believe that they may be so entitled - can apply for consideration to the Championships Secretary.