Federal Selection Criteria for the

2026 European Cadet Championship

26-28/11/2026 – Bucharest (Romania)

0. Precaution

The BTF selects young athletes in order to participate in the Cadet European Championship and/or the World Cadet Championship. Preparation for and participation in these tournaments should be considered as an opportunity to gain experience within their long-term development, rather than a short-term goal of achieving high-level results. This prevents early specialization and harmful behaviors that may hinder their proper development.

1. General Information

1.1 Championship Date

The 2026 Taekwondo European Cadet Championship (ECC) will take place from 26-28/11/2026.

1.2 Venue

Bucharest (Romania)

1.3 Eligibility

To participate in the ECC, the taekwondoin must:

- Be of Belgian nationality.
- Be affiliated with a federation that is a member of the Belgian Taekwondo Federation.
- Hold a valid GAL.
- Be 4th Kup and above.
- Be born in 2014, 2013 or 2012.

1.4 Weight Categories

The weight categories open to selection are:

- Girls: -29, -33, -37, -41, -44, -47, -51, -55, -59, +59kg
- Boys: -33, -37, -41, -45, -49, -53, -57, -61, -65, +65kg

1.5 Number of Athletes Selected per Category

Only one taekwondoin per weight category and nation must be selected.

1.6 Registration Deadline

The registration deadline for selected taekwondoins is xx/xx/2026 (date to be determined, not yet known when drafting this document).

1.7 Selection Period

The selection period starts on 23/05/2026 and ends on 23/10/2026.

2. National Selection Criteria

2.1 Selection Criteria

To be eligible to participate in the ECC, the Belgian taekwondoin must meet at least the following condition :

Having won at least one bronze medal and silver medal in the following selection tournaments:

- Lux Open G1/E1 (23/05/2026)
- Riga Open G1/E1 (29/08/2026)
- Polish Open Warsaw Cup G1/E1 (26/09/2026)
- Dracula Open G1/E1 (23/10/2026)

Notes:

- A result will only be considered if at least one fight was won during the relevant tournament.
- The taekwondoin will be selected in the weight category where they fulfilled the selection criteria.
- Medals must be won within the same weight category.
- If any selection tournaments are canceled/modified, or if the registration deadline for the ECC falls within the selection period, the National Selection Committee reserves the right to adjust the criteria.

2.2 In Case of a Tie

If multiple athletes meet the selection criteria within the same category, the following tie-breaker will be applied:

The taekwondoin with the highest total points from three participations in the selection tournaments, within the relevant category, will be selected. Points are awarded based on the Table 1 below:

Result	G1/E1
1st place	10
2nd place	6
3rd place	3,6
5th place	2,16
9th place	1,51
17th place	1,06
33rd place	0,74
65th place	0,52

Table 1 : Points awarded by the WT according to the result obtained in the G1/E1 Open

Notes:

- A result will only be considered if at least one fight was won during the relevant tournament.
- The three best results must be obtained in the same weight category. Results from different weight categories cannot be combined

2.3 In Case of Further Ties

In case of further ties, the National Selection Committee will select the taekwondoin based on a multifactorial analysis of the case, considering parameters described in section 3.4.

3. Deliberation

The National Selection Committee may select a taekwondoin based on a multifactorial analysis of their case, oriented towards their chances of success. This deliberation is not automatic and is left to the discretion of the Technical Director from the federation with which the taekwondoin is affiliated.

3.1 Deliberation for a Taekwondoin Who Met the Selection Criteria

The National Selection Committee may propose that a taekwondoin who met the selection criteria but was not selected competes in a higher or lower weight category, provided that the category is vacant.

3.2 Deliberation for a Taekwondoin in Growth

Cadets are still growing. If a selected taekwondoin can no longer maintain their weight to remain in the category where they were selected, the Technical Director may request an analysis. Based on this, the taekwondoin may move up a higher category, provided that it is vacant.

If multiple taekwondoins in the same category are eligible but cannot maintain their weight, moving up will be proposed to the athlete who wins the tie-breaker (see 2.2 and 2.3).

The taekwondoin deliberated for growth who was proposed to move up cannot replace another who fulfilled the deliberation criteria in their own weight category.

3.3 Deliberation for a Taekwondoin Who Did Not Meet the Selection Criteria

A taekwondoin who did not meet the direct selection criteria (see 2) may still be selected through deliberation if they satisfy at least the following condition:

- Having won at least two bronze medals, with at least one fight won in each case, in the selection tournaments.

3.4 Factors Considered in Deliberation

The deliberation process takes into account the following (non-exhaustive list):

- Competition level.
- Number of fights won.
- Level of opponents they lost to.
- Level of opponents they defeated.
- Results achieved in other weight categories.
- Results achieved in other G/E-class opens.
- Weight stability.
- Body fat percentage.
- Standing height.
- Athlete’s age within the category.
- Training environment.
- Progression potential between the registration deadline and the objective.
- …

4. Validation of Selection

The National Selection Committee validates selection based on these criteria.

Note:

Selected cadet competitors must continue their training program to tackle the ECC in optimal shape. If prolonged or repeated absences from training result in a decline in competition level, the selection must be suspended or canceled.

5. Reference

In case of disputes over the understanding of the selection criteria, the English version of the text will prevail.

6. Note on Direct Selection Tournaments for 2026

The ETU is organizing direct selection tournaments for the 2026 ECC:

- European Club Championship (18-20/06/2026)
- WT President's Cup – Europe G3/E3 (05/06/2026)
- European Multi Games (11/09/2026)

The federation with which the selected Belgian athlete(s) is/are affiliated reserves the right to decide whether or not to provide financial support for the trip.

If two taekwondoins meet the national selection criteria in the same category, and one of them has qualified through a direct selection tournament, both taekwondoins will be selected.