

EUSA

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

SPORT ASSOCIATION

COMPETITION GUIDE

British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS)
National University Sports Association for the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



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EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES COMPETITIONS

The European Universities Sports Association (EUSA) organises the European Universities Games and European Universities Championships held in alternative years and invite BUCS to enter teams and individuals who qualify through domestic competitions, with athletes at EUSA competitions representing their university. EUSA event information can be found on the BUCS [website](#).

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES GAMES

Held in even-numbered years, the next Games will be in 2026. This two-week, multi-sport event brings top university teams together at one location, making it the largest European student sports competition. Participants represent their institutions, not their countries. Details on hosts and sports are announced on the EUSA [website](#).

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Held in odd-numbered years, the next Championships will be in 2027. These events focus on individual sports across multiple locations, featuring around 25 disciplines. Participants represent their institutions, not their countries. Details on hosts and sports are announced on the EUSA [website](#).

SPORT DISCIPLINES

On the right is a list of sport disciplines that feature in BUCS and are EUSA competitions that BUCS will enter in 026. Qualification is via BUCS the leagues and knockout programme or BUCS events.

Sport Discipline	Format	BUCS Qualifying Competition
EUSA Games 2026 – Sport Disciplines		
Badminton	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
Basketball	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
3x3 Basketball	Team	Basketball National Championship – League and Knockout
Beach Volleyball	Team	Beach Volleyball Championships – Event
Football	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
Futsal	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
Handball	Team	Handball Championships – Event
Rugby 7's	Team	Rugby 7's Championships - Event
Table Tennis	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
Tennis	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
Volleyball	Team	National Championship – League and Knockout
EUSA Combat Sports Championships		
Taekwondo	Individual	National Governing Body Selection
Judo	Individual	Judo Championships – Event (BUCS Nationals)
Karate	Individual	Karate Championships – Event (BUCS Nationals)
EUSA Rowing Championships		
Rowing	Team	Rowing Championships - Event

QUALIFICATION

The qualification to European Universities Games and European Universities Championships is through the BUCS domestic leagues and events, subject to specific entry requirements set by the relevant organising committees.

Qualification through BUCS domestic league and events qualifies the member institution, of which, the university can enter any athlete, not necessarily the athlete(s) who gained qualification for the EUSA competition. This allows members to maximise opportunities for students.

This can be a once in a lifetime opportunity for students.



LEAGUE AND KNOCKOUT DISCIPLINES

Institutions with teams in National Championships will receive qualification details in 2025 and can opt out by start of January 2026. Teams reaching semi-finals (top four) automatically qualify for EUSA competitions. See Appendix A for applicable sports.

EVENT DISCIPLINES

Institutions competing in BUCS events will receive qualification details 4–6 weeks before the event via entry info and event guides.

Qualifiers:

Team sports: Top 4 finishers

Individual sports: Top 2 per category (e.g., judo, karate, taekwondo). Gold/silver qualify; extra spots may be agreed with NGBs.

Attendance must be confirmed within 7 working days. Events after early April use the previous season results, and these teams will be contacted. See Appendix B for applicable sports.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For sports with both event and league formats, qualification is based on the BUCS National Championship league results as EUSA competitions are team-based.

QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Sports with alternative formats (e.g., 3x3 basketball) qualify via the BUCS programme format. Opt-out notifications will cover both versions.

All qualification is subject to EUSA regulations and delegation requirements.

September-December	Teams scheduled for the National Championship are given the option to opt out and confirm whether they wish to attend EUSA competitions if they reach the semi-finals.
September-February	Qualification details for BUCS event sports are published on event pages 4–6 weeks before the event. Attendance must be confirmed within 7 days after the event. For events held after early April, qualification is based on the previous season's results.
Nov / December	BUCS EUSA Competition Guide sent to relevant for Institution/Composite Team Administrators.
Nov / December	Confirmed attendance of event sport disciplines from previous season, for events occurring after first week of April this season.
December	Closure of opt-out for sport disciplines with a BUCS National Championship.
December	Confirm attendance for event-based sports qualified from the previous season, for events scheduled after the first week of April in the current season.
November-February	Event guides updated to include qualification details for teams and individuals in sports held before early April, which are used for qualification.
November-February	Confirmed attendance of qualified teams from events (for events occurring before first week of April).
December	Confirmed attendance of sports not included in BUCS domestic programme and their qualification method announced by BUCS International department.
January - February	BUCS webinar on administrative processes for EUSA competitions.
Mid-March	National Championship semi-finalists confirmed as qualified, knowledge of who will attend EUSA competitions known prior due to opt-out process.
April	All EUSA teams competing in the 2026 season confirmed with the institutions completing all administration process.
June-September	Attend EUSA competition(s).

ENTRY PROCESS- OVERVIEW

Institutions manage all entry processes and finances for EUSA competitions. BUCS handles administration for composite/individual sports (e.g., combat sports) and communicate directly with qualifying students.

Entry is in three steps:

1) General Entry:

This indicates you wish to enter and will pay a deposit. BUCS will invoice teams from universities for this deposit and pay EUSA on their behalf. This is the only point BUCS will be involved with team administration.

2) Quantitative Entry:

This indicates the number of athletes and officials (e.g. coaches) that will attend, and this is the number of people you will be invoiced for. 50% payment is due at this stage.

Universities must pay EUSA directly.

3) Individual Entry:

Upload personal information such as passport details. The remaining 50% payment is due.

ENTRY PROCESS - EUSA

(G)eneral Entry- BUCS administration

(Q)uantitative Entry- institution administration

(I)ndividual Entry and Travel Plans- institution administration

Institutions are responsible for entering their team(s). The BUCS international department, completes this for individuals who compete in composite sports (combat sports). All stages of the entry process must be processed by the institution administrator and/or sport department.

BUCS will invoice each university/team and pay the General Entry deposit on their behalf to secure their entry.

ADMINISTRATION

Institution administrators confirm team registration via BUCS International team.

A Team administrator should be appointed internally to complete the administration which includes:

- Confirming the team entering with BUCS.
- Confirming the number of people attending with EUSA online entry system at the Quantitative Entry.
- Organising payment of 50% of fee at the Quantitative Entry.
- Entering all personal details of participants and travel information.
- Organising payment of the remaining 50% fee at Individual Entry.

ENTRY PROCESS – GENERAL ENTRY

Qualified teams must provide BUCS with:

- Contact person details
- Preliminary delegation numbers (estimated numbers athletes and officials)

The contact person should manage all entries and will receive EUSA portal access. One non-competing official (e.g., team manager or coach) must travel with the team, this should not be a student. Delegation size and referee requirements will be confirmed by EUSA.

BUCS will rank teams based on season results and submit entries to EUSA. Approved entries proceed; deposits are refunded if not approved. After approval, the contact person completes remaining steps in the EUSA portal.

Key Points:

- BUCS submits confirmed teams and pays deposits
- Institutions receive invoices and must pay by deadline
- EUSA approves entries
- BUCS creates EUSA portal accounts
- Only entries with paid deposits are accepted

BUCS PROCESS

BUCS will complete the 'General Entry' of all teams and individuals once confirmation of attendance is complete. This is the only part of the entry process that BUCS will complete on behalf of institutions.

The 'General Entry' process involves confirmation of attendance to EUSA and a payment of a BUCS deposit. This deposit payment includes the general entry deposit and BUCS admin fee. At this point the deposit payment should be paid to BUCS who will then pay EUSA a deposit for all team(s) and individuals. Failure to complete payment to BUCS will result in no entry being processed.

Full financial obligations can be seen in Appendix C.



ENTRY PROCESS - QUANTITATIVE ENTRY

Quantitative Entry involves entering exact participant numbers (including referees if required) into the EUSA portal. This stage confirms delegation details, assigns a Head of Delegation, and closes the entries. No additions can be added afterward.

The system generates two invoices an EUSA Entry Fee invoice (typically €40 per person), which must be paid in full and in EURO by the deadline, and participation fee invoice (€85 per person per night). Institutions handle any transfer fees and should set up EUSA as a supplier.

EUSA Fee: €40

A set fee per participant to be paid to EUSA for hosting and organising the event.

Participation Fee: €85 per person, per night

A set amount **per night** that covers all services once in the country including accommodation, travel, transport, competition entry and food and beverage.

Key Points for the Quantitative Entry:

- Institution contact person enters number of male and female athletes and officials (participants).
- Institution contact person enters referees, if required.
- EUSA portal generates EUSA entry fee invoice.
- Institutions must pay the EUSA entry fee invoice before the Quantitative Form deadline.

BUCS are unable to complete these sections on behalf of institution this must be done by the contact person listed in the General Entry. Universities can have a reduced cost of EUSA Fee by becoming an associated member, see Appendix C.



ENTRY PROCESS – INDIVIDUAL ENTRY

Individual Entry (I Form) involves entering exact information for participants including full names and passport details.

The contact person completes this online and generates an Individual Entry Form (IEF).

The IEF must be printed, signed and sealed by the university as a certificate of Academic Eligibility.

The original IEF, passport and proof of student status (such as an ID card) is needed at the event to receive accreditation.

Confirmation of Eligibility:

- Academic status: student must be officially registered university or a similar institute of higher education. Recent graduates who obtained their academic degree or diploma in the year immediately preceding the EUSA competition are also eligible to compete.
- Age limits: participants must be between 17 and 30 years at the time of competition.
- Nationality: participants represent their university, not their country.
- Health Insurance: participants are responsible for providing their own international health insurance.

ENTRY PROCESS- REFEREE ENTRY

Some sports require teams to provide a qualified referee or pay a fee. Referee licenses must meet international or top national standards and be submitted by the Quantitative Entry deadline for approval. At this stage, institutions enter participant and referee numbers in the EUSA portal, which generates the entry fee invoice. Payment must be completed before the deadline.

If a sport requires providing a referee this is often just providing contact details to allow EUSA to recruit them for the event. If a sport has a referee fee the team must pay this amount as a condition of entry. Games regulations should be reviewed carefully to understand which sports this concerns.

BUCS International department are available to support with this.





ENTRY PROCESS- TRAVEL PLANS

Travel plans can only be submitted after the Quantitative Entry and should be completed alongside Individual Entry. They detail group arrival/departure information and must align with official event dates; deviations require approval and extra accommodation arrangements.

COMPETITION CLOTHING

Teams must wear their university kit throughout the competition and represent the colours of their university. A commemorative piece of Great Britain branded clothing can be purchased via the designated supplier.

Qualified teams will be provided with information on how to purchase this item.

WEBINARS

BUCS will host webinars during the season to provide guidance on EUSA competitions and entry processes.

TEAM LEADERS AND UNIVERSITY DELEGATION STAFF

Each sport must appoint a non-competing Team Leader responsible for all operational tasks, including accreditation and communication with organisers. Institutions with multiple teams need one Team Leader per team. Composite sports will have leaders appointed by BUCS or relevant bodies. Universities are encouraged to send extra staff (e.g., physios, coaches) to enhance welfare and performance, and to gain experience for future international roles.

APPENDIX

Additional information can be found in the appendix of this document:
Overview Diagram: explains the BUCS qualification and registration process per sport
Appendix A: League and Knockout Sports
Appendix B: Event Sports
Appendix C: Financial Obligations



OVERVIEW DIAGRAM

See overview diagram for qualification routes and registration process for the European Universities Games 2026, via the BUCS qualification process.

Sport	BUCS Qualifying Competition	Qualifying Competition	General Entry	Quantitative Entry	Individual Entry + Travel Plans	Event
Badminton	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Basketball	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
3x3 Basketball	Basketball National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Football	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Futsal	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Table Tennis	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Tennis	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Volleyball	National Championship – League and Knockout	2026 Semi Finalists	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Beach Volleyball	Beach Volleyball Championships – Event	Previous season qualification (4)	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Handball	Handball Championships – Event	Previous season qualification (4)	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026
Rugby 7's	Rugby 7's Championships – Event	Previous season qualification (4)	Deposit paid to BUCS – BUCS complete entry	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee	Team contact person completes and pays 50% Participation fee, EUSA Fee and Referee Fee	Attend EUG2026

Opt-out



APPENDIX A- LEAGUE AND KNOCKOUT SPORTS

A breakdown of the current domestic sport disciplines that feature in the BUCS league and knockout programme and EUSA competitions, in 2025-2026.

3x3 basketball qualification will be through the Basketball National Championship. Teams in the National Championship for basketball will be asked to opt-out of both basketball and 3x3 basketball.

Sport Discipline	BUCS Qualifying Competition	Qualifying Competition
EUSA Games 2026 – Sport Disciplines		
Badminton	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Basketball	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
3x3 Basketball	Basketball National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Football	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Futsal	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Table Tennis	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Tennis	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists
Volleyball	National Championship – League and Knockout	Semi Finalists

Sport Discipline	BUCS Qualifying Competition	
EUSA Games 2026 – Sport Disciplines		
Beach Volleyball	Beach Volleyball Championships – Event	Previous season qualification (4)
Handball	Handball Championships – Event	Previous season qualification (4)
Rugby 7's	Rugby 7's Championships - Event	Previous season qualification (4)
EUSA Combat Sport Championships		
Judo	Judo Championships – Event	Current season qualification (2)
Karate	Karate Championships – Event	Current season qualification (2)
Rowing	Rowing Championships - Event	Current season qualification

APPENDIX B- EVENT SPORTS

A breakdown of the current domestic sport disciplines that feature in the BUCS Events and EUSA competitions.

Team sport disciplines allow four teams to qualify per event.

Individual sport disciplines allow one or two qualifiers per category, with further subject to National Governing Body discussion.

APPENDIX C FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

See below a summary of all financial obligations for EUSA competitions. The EUSA portal will automatically calculate invoices for the Participation, EUSA Entry Fees and Referee fee.

To note, Participation Fee and EUSA Fee must be paid in Euros and any international transfer fees should be handled on the side of the payee. International transfers may take some days to process; this payment should be completed in advance of the deadline.

EUSA Fee:

EUSA Fee is set at 50 EUR per participant for universities and 40 EUR per participant for universities that are Associated members, which many UK universities are.

Becoming an Associated member is free of charge, more information can be found on the following link:

[Associated Members | EUSA](#)

BUCS recommends all institutions to become an Associated member.

Sport Discipline	Amount	Recipient	Deadline
Participation Fee	85 EUR/Person/Night	Organising Committee	Q Form 50% and I Form 50%
EUSA Entry Fee	40 EUR/Person	EUSA	As per invoice
Team Deposits			
EUSA Games 2026 – Sport Disciplines			
Badminton	1971 GBP	BUCS	17:00 16 JANUARY 2026
Basketball	3942 GBP		
3x3 Basketball	986 GBP		
Beach Volleyball	986 GBP		
Football	3942 GBP		
Futsal	3942 GBP		
Handball	3942 GBP		
Padel	986 GBP		
Rugby 7's	3942 GBP		
Table Tennis	986 GBP		
Tennis	986 GBP		
Volleyball	3942 GBP		
EUSA Championships 2026 – Sport Deposits			
EUSA Combat Sports Championships			
Taekwondo	To be confirmed	BUCS	To be confirmed
Judo	To be confirmed		
Karate	To be confirmed		
EUSA Rowing Championships			
Rowing	To be confirmed		To be confirmed

Additional to the above are:

Referee fees: as detailed in the EUG2026 regulations

Competition kit: covered by universities with a memorabilia piece of clothing available to purchase.

APPENDIX D EUG2026 COMPETITION SCHEDULE



COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Sport	July 15th Wed	July 16th Thu	July 17th Fri	July 18th Sat	July 19th Sun	July 20th Mon	July 21st Tue	July 22nd Wed	July 23rd Thu	July 24th Fri	July 25th Sat	July 26th Sun	July 27th Mon	July 28th Tue	July 29th Wed	July 30th Thu	July 31st Fri	August 1st Sat	August 2nd Sun
Ceremony				Opening														Closing	
3x3 Basketball													A	GTM					D
Badminton											A	GTM							D
Basketball			A	GTM								D							
Beach Handball				A	GTM				D										
Beach Volleyball												A	GTM						D
Football										A	GTM								D
Futsal (M)	A	GTM									D								
Futsal (W)		A	GTM								D								
Handball											A	GTM							D
Padel			A	GTM					D										
Rugby 7's												A	GTM				D		
Table Tennis		A	GTM						D										
Tennis											A	GTM							D
Volleyball	A	GTM								D									

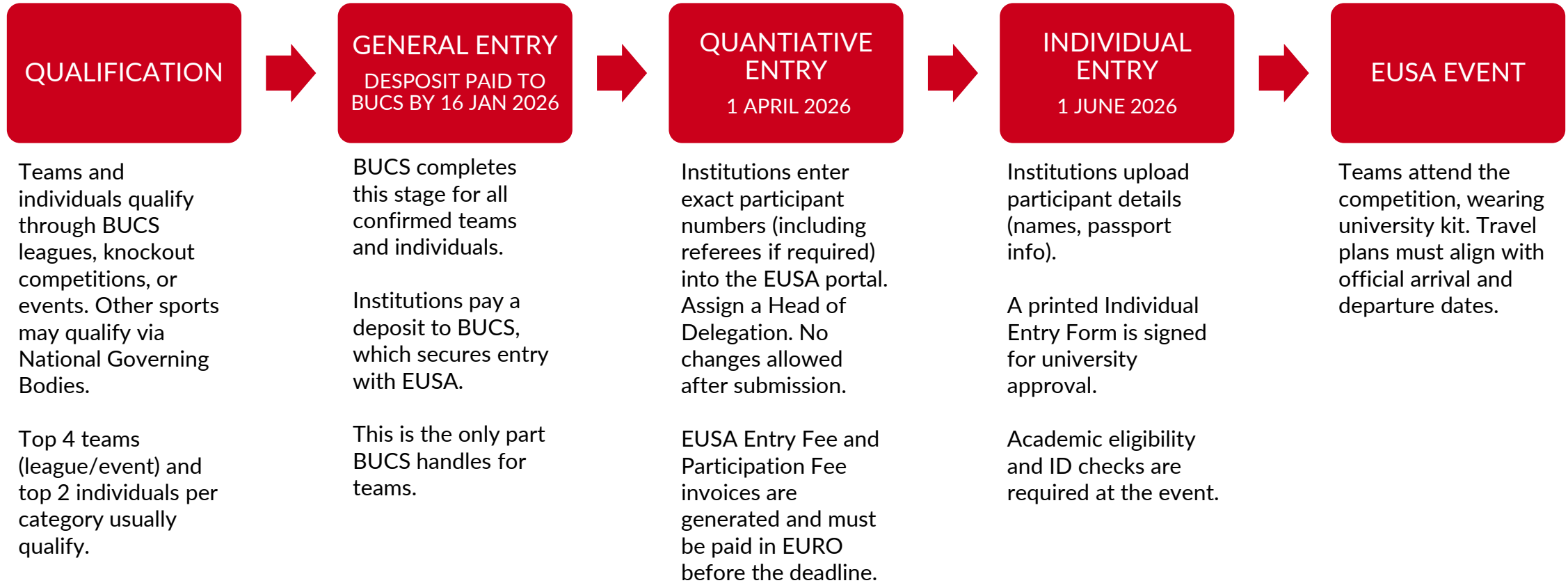


LEGEND

ARRIVALS	GTM
COMPETITION	DEPARTURES

APPENDIX E PROCESS SUMMARY

See below a summary of the process for students competing in EUSA events.



APPENDIX F REGULATIONS SUMMARY

See below a summary of key regulations for the European Universities Games 2026

ELIGIBILITY

Only the following may participate as competitors:

- Students who are officially registered for and pursuing a course of study at: university, or similar institute with the status as an institution of higher education recognised by the appropriate national authority of their country. (BUCS member institutions)
- Former students of the institutions mentioned above who obtained their academic degree or diploma in the year preceding the EUG; Competitor's age is defined by the formula: the EUG Year – competitor's year of birth = age. According to this formula competitor shall not be younger than 17 and older than 30 years.

REFEREE FEE

Referee fee is required and differs per sport and is confirmed in the EUG Regulations.

ENTRY DEADLINES

General Entry Deadline: 1 February 2026 (deposit to be paid to BUCS by 16 January 2026)

Quantitative Entry Deadline: 1 April 2026

Individual Entry Form Deadline: 1 June 2026

SAME JERSEY NUMBER

Competitors must wear the same jersey number for the whole event; numbers must be confirmed at accreditation. 50 EURO fine for each number change.

Full EUSA Games 2026 Regulations can be found here:

<https://www.eusa.eu/media/documents/eusa-events-rules-regulations>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

See below a summary of answers to frequently asked questions.

Q: Can I register for a EUSA event myself?

A: No. All entries, including for individual sports, must be submitted by your National University Sport Federation (BUCS) or the university sports department, who communicates with BUCS, on your behalf. They initiate the "General Entry" process and appoint a contact person at your institution to manage the subsequent steps.

Q: What documents are needed for registration and accreditation?

A: You will need to provide:

- A valid identity card/passport.
- An original **Individual Entry Form (IEF)**, signed and sealed by your university, which serves as a certificate of academic eligibility.
- Proof of student status or a copy of your degree if you recently graduated.
- A signed declaration of responsibility and an accommodation policy.

Q: Is there a specific deadline for individual entry forms?

A: Yes. Deadlines are strict and typically follow a three-step process:

- **General Entry (by NUSA):** 1 February 2026, with deposits paid to BUCS by 16 January 2026
- **Quantitative Entry (by university contact):** 1 April 2026
- **Individual Entry and Travel Plan (by university contact):** 1 June 2026

Q: Are there any fees involved?

A: Yes, there are generally two main fees and a referee fee per sport:

- **EUSA Entry Fee:** Approximately €40 per person, paid to EUSA with the quantitative entry.
- **Participation Fee:** A daily fee (e.g., €85 per person/per night) paid to the local Organising Committee, which typically covers accommodation, meals, and local transport. A deposit is also required with the general entry.
- **Referee Fee:** A fee paid which differs per sport and supports the deployment of high level referees for the event.

Q: Can I register on the day of the event/accreditation?

A: No, it is not possible to add individuals or change entries at the accreditation center. All steps must be completed by the stated deadlines.

Q: What happens if I lose my accreditation card?

A: You must report it in person at the accreditation center. A new card will be issued for a fee (typically €50).

BUCS