

Olympic Quotas

Equal Opportunities for Sailors above 85kg

A submission from the International Finn Association

Purpose or Objective

Provide sailors above 85kg equal opportunities for participation at the Olympic regatta.

Proposal

To increase the Olympic quota for the Men's One Person Dinghy (Heavyweight) – Finn at the 2020 Olympic regatta and beyond, as the only Olympic sailing event suited for sailors above 85 kg

Current Position

Current Olympic quota for the Men's One Person Dinghy (Heavyweight) – Finn, represents **6%** of the overall Olympic quota and **11.7%** of the Men quota.

Finn sailors' weight (weight of top competitive sailors) ranges between 87 and 103 kg.

With the Star leaving the Olympic sailing programme, the Finn (Equipment for the Men's One Person Dinghy – Heavyweight event) is the only Olympic equipment suited for sailors above 85 kg and gives the opportunity for **23 sailors and countries** to compete at Olympic level in 2016, against a total of 57 sailors competing at the 2012 Olympic Games where the Star (17 boats / 34 sailors) was still sailed at the Olympics.

Male sailors under 85 kg will be able to compete at the 2016 Olympic Games in 5 different equipment (4 Men and 1 Mixed) representing **194 sailors**.

2016 Olympic Sailing event quota

Event Quotas	Total boats	Total Athletes
Men	151	197
Windsurfer	36	36
One Person Dinghy	46	46
One Person Dinghy (Heavyweight)	23	23
Two Person Dinghy	26	52
Skiff	20	40

Women	103	143
Windsurfer	26	26
One Person Dinghy	37	37
Two Person Dinghy	20	40
Skiff	20	40
Mixed	20	40
Multihull	20	40
Total	274	380

Reason

1. To increase the Olympic quota for male athletes above 85 kg is important in order to retain young athletes in sailing and ensure equal opportunities for all male athletes at the Olympic Sailing regatta.
2. The Finn (Equipment for the Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy) is seeing a steady increase in membership and spread worldwide including countries that are completely new to Finn sailing. This is due to several factors including
 - the growth of the world population size (height and weight) at a younger age than ever before,
 - the natural pathway between Laser to Finn,
 - competent training centres (like the Dinghy Academy in Valencia/Spain) for the youth and sailors coming from developing countries or countries without big sailing team budgets, and
 - the availability of the equipment worldwide and the durability of the equipment.

However, despite the steady and ongoing growth of the class at international level over the last decade, the Finn has lost two places on its Olympic quota since 2008.

3. The Finn is the third equipment with the most boats on the ISAF Sailing World Rankings after the Laser and Laser Radial.
 4. Based on the current world ranking, the first country to miss out on Olympic selection in the Finn is ranked 28th in the world.
 5. A recent survey realised by the International Finn Association among the top 100 Finn sailors shows that 70% of current top Finn sailors reached 90 kg under the age of 20. This number has been steadily increasing over the last decade and showing the increase in size of younger generations.
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