

XXX GAMES OF THE OLYMPIAD, LONDON 2012

-QUALIFICATION SYSTEM PRINCIPLES-

PREAMBLE

Qualification systems are the regulations established by IFs that consist of rules, procedures and criteria for participation in the competitions of the Olympic Games. These systems shall conform with the Olympic Charter and Qualification System Principles and be approved by the IOC Executive Board.

Qualification Systems vary from sport to sport and are established to give a fair and equitable opportunity for the best athletes in the world to participate in the Games as well as to ensure a universal participation, but also to limit the number of athletes for each sport/discipline/event as approved by the IOC Executive Board.

ISSUE RESOLUTION

Any dispute between the IF and the NOC should be resolved through the direct consultation process with the IOC. CAS shall be the last step for the resolution of disputes.

TRIPARTITE COMMISSION PLACES

Invitation places shall only be made through the IOC-IF-ANOC Tripartite Commission. Allocation of Tripartite Commission Places will be reviewed with International Federations, ASOIF and ANOC to achieve a system which enables the best athletes from an NOC unable to qualify any athletes through the IOC/IF Qualification system to be represented. This program should work closely with Olympic Solidarity in order to maximize the value of Athlete Scholarships.

PRINCIPLES

- The qualification system for each sport, once agreed by the IOC and IFs, shall not be changed without the IOC agreement and shall not be published in any other format without the IOC approval.
- Qualification systems must allow the participation of the best athletes through a fair and transparent process within the framework of the Olympic Charter.
- The principle of universality shall be reflected in qualification systems through continental representation.
- Athletes/teams shall have more than one opportunity to qualify, however the qualification systems should not necessitate extensive and expensive travel requirements. Where possible Continental Events should be used.
- In principle, existing IFs approved events should be used for qualification.
- The qualification period should cover a maximum of two years prior to the entry deadline.
- All sports/disciplines will have a common closing date for athlete entries by name, to be specified by the IOC in coordination with the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (approximately three weeks prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games).

- The qualification period should conclude early enough to allow enough time for NOCs to accept nominations from NFs and complete entry formalities prior to the OCOG's entry by name deadline.
- The qualification system texts should clearly indicate whether the allocation of places is to either specific athlete by name or at NOC's discretion. If places are allocated to NOCs, it should be clear whether NOCs have an open right of selection, or if there are requirements for athletes to meet minimum eligibility requirements.
- According to the Olympic Charter the NOCs have the exclusive authority for the representation of their respective countries at the Olympic Games and could decide not to accept an allocated quota place. In order to avoid un-used quota places and apply the fairness of the system to all athletes and countries competing to participate in the Olympic Games, the qualification system should include the process and timeline for NOC confirmation/rejection of place, and process for reallocation of unused places. This shall be clearly elaborated in qualification system texts. In principle, the timeline for notification by NOCs should be two weeks from the date which qualification was achieved and confirmed by the respective IF. Such confirmation should not be sought more than six months prior to the Olympic Games.
- For events that are final Olympic team qualifying competitions the qualification system texts should clearly indicate whether NOCs/NFs are required to submit any form of preliminary documentation related to the acceptance of quota places. Team sports are defined as follows: Football, Indoor Volleyball, Basketball, Hockey, Handball and Water polo.
- Strict deadlines should apply to the determination and publication of allocated quota places by IFs, as well as to the NOCs confirmation/non-acceptance of quota places.
- When publishing the allocated quota places and list of qualified athletes, IFs need to communicate directly with NOCs at the same time as with their respective NFs.
- For sports in which qualification is based on meeting specified minimum standards, the respective IFs shall specify the events in which such standards must be met, and implement clear regulations regarding the distribution and verification of the results information from these events.
- In principle all sports/discipline should include Host Nation places. However these are not automatic and should be dealt with specifically in each qualification system to the athletes/teams concerned attaining an acceptable level of performance.

-STRUCTURE / CONTENT OF QUALIFICATION SYSTEM TEXTS-

The structure and content of the qualification system texts for each sport/discipline shall be as follows:

- Specification of events in the Olympic programme
- Number of athletes (quota for the sport/discipline, breakdown of male and females, maximum number by NOCs, maximums per event where applicable, team size, etc)
- General principles of the qualification system
- Qualification system in detail (including specifications of the attribution of qualification, host nation considerations, replacement principles, rules and regulations specific to sport qualifications)
- Qualification timeline (period of qualification, details of specific event dates, dates at which rankings are considered etc.)
- Process and timeline for NOC confirmation/rejection of place, and detailed process for reallocation of unused places
- Special considerations (age requirements, medical certification, reference to additional IF regulations etc.)