

QUOTA AND QUALIFICATIONS WORKING PARTY REPORT

PARIS 2024 QUOTA & QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

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1. WORKING PARTY MEMBERS

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2. QUALIFICATION AND QUOTA PRINCIPLES

2.1. The Working Party had consideration to the following Qualification and Quota Principles.

- Give a fair chance for the best teams to qualify
- Ensure broad participation in the Qualifying Process and at the Olympic Games
- Encourage emerging and developing teams to try and compete for the Olympics

2.2. The Working Party believes that there is opportunity for the World Sailing Board to provide strategic leadership and outline what would constitute a successful Olympic Games for Sailing. This would allow Working Parties, such as the Q&Q WP, to then translate the broader prioritised strategic goals as to how they relate to the Qualification and Quota process.

3. PARTICIPATING MNA'S

3.1. There is a lot of discussion regarding the number of MNA's that participate within the Olympic Sailing Competition and the number of MNA's that seek selection to the Olympic Games.

3.2. Both metrics are important to World Sailing. It is generally accepted that the number of MNA's that seek qualification for the Olympic Games is the primary metric for participation used by the IOC. However, it is also important to note that country participation within the Olympic Games is what typically drives viewership of the broadcast. The audience of our 10 Events is a key factor in determining the distribution World Sailing receives from the IOC.

3.3. At the Tokyo 2020 we had 65 MNA's participate within the Olympic Sailing Competition. The Working Party based on their recommendations upon World Sailing at least maintaining this level of MNA participation going forward.

3.4. Quota is a key determinate of the number of MNA's participating at a Olympic Sailing Competition. As expected, larger quota allows for a larger number of countries to participate within the Games.

3.5. For Tokyo 2020 we had the following:

Continent	NOCs at Tokyo 2020	Total NOCs in Continent	Total MNAs in Continent	% NOC qualified to Tokyo 2020
Africa	7	54	21	13%
Asia	8	44	31	18%
Europe	30	50	48	60%
Oceania	6	17	11	35%
North America & Caribbean	7	41 combined	21	37%
Central & South America	8		15	
	65	206 NOCs	147 MNAs	32%

4. TOKYO 2020 - ATHLETE QUOTA

4.1. To refresh the Events Committee memory, the Q&Q WP previously designed the Tokyo 2020 Athlete Quota to achieve gender neutrality in the number of Athletes to overcome the fact that there was not gender neutrality in available medals.

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Tokyo 2020	Boat Quota	Athlete Quota
Men's Windsurfer	25	25
Men's One Person Dinghy	35	35
Men's One Person Dinghy (Heavyweight)	19	19
Men's Two Person Dinghy	19	38
Men's Skiff	19	38
Women's Windsurfer	27	27
Women's One Person Dinghy	44	44
Women's Two Person Dinghy	21	42
Women's Skiff	21	42
Mixed Multihull	20	40
TOTAL	250	350

5. PARIS 2024 – PROPOSED ATHLETE QUOTA

- 5.1. For Paris 2024, the total number of Athlete Quota has been reduced by the IOC from 350 to 330. As we transition from Tokyo 2020 to Paris 2024, this will result in 20 fewer individual athlete quota available.
- 5.2. The Working Party Members who attended the sessions on Athlete Quota unanimously agreed the following recommendation.

Paris 2024 Event	Boat Quota	Reasoning
W Windsurfing	24	- Similar to Tokyo 2020 number that is a multiple of 3 and 4 to enable manageable slalom heats. - WP recommends reviewing the growth of participation in the Event with a view to increasing the quota for LA2028 in line with that growth level and universal participation rate.
M Windsurfing	24	
W Kite	20	WP recommends reviewing the growth of participation in the Event with a view to increasing the quota for LA2028.
M Kite	20	
W Dinghy	43	WP recommends at least 40 to optimise the participation rates and enable new countries to be part of the Olympic Games and no more than 45 to avoid diluting the Olympic fleet standard.
M Dinghy	43	
W Skiff	20	The Tokyo 2020 quota of 19 plus 1 to recognise the growth in the Event.
M Skiff	20	
MX Dinghy	19	Maintain Tokyo quota for Two Person Events at 19.
MX Multihull	19	
Boats	252	250 boats at Tokyo 2020.
Athletes	330	Target 65 NOCs to participate at Paris 2024

6. PARIS 2024 – PROPOSED QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

- 6.1. The Qualification events are listed in hierarchical order of qualification, irrespective of the actual calendar of Events.

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Number of Boat Quota Places	Qualification Events
114	2023 Sailing World Championships The highest placed NOCs in each of the ten Sailing events at the 2023 Sailing World Championships will be qualified as per the quotas in the table below.
14	2024 Class World Championships (2024 ILCA World Championship) The highest placed NOCs, not already qualified at the 2023 Sailing World Championships as per the quotas in the table below.
76	2023/2024 Continental qualifier The highest placed NOCs, not already qualified at the 2023 Sailing World Championships or the 2024 Class World Championships, in each of the regionally nominated competitions will be qualified as per the quotas in the table below.
30	2024 Last Chance Regatta The highest placed NOCs, not already qualified at the 2023 Sailing World Championships, 2024 Class World Championships, or Continental qualifier as per the quotas in the table below. The Last Chance Regatta will be held after the Continental Qualifications so that any declined or unallocated boat quota places from the 2023 Sailing World Championships, Continental qualifiers, Host NOC and 2024 Class World Championships are known. The Board will select the Last Chance Regatta, on advice from the Events Committee. Events can use different regattas and the Events Committee can draw from both Class regattas (e.g., World Championships) and Multiclass regattas (e.g., Hyeres). The Last Chance Regatta should be completed by 31 April 2024.
8	Emerging Nation, Developing Nation and Tripartite

6.2. Quota Allocation

Paris 2024	Host NOC	Sailing World Champs	2024 ILCA World Champs	Continental Qualifiers						Last Chance Regatta	Tripartite	ENP Places	Boat Quota
				Africa	Asia	Europe	Oceania	North America & Caribbean	Central & South America				
W Windsurfing	1	12		1	1	1	1	1	1	3		1	24
M Windsurfing	1	12		1	1	1	1	1	1	3		1	24
W Kite	1	10		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			20
M Kite	1	10		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			20
W Dinghy	1	16	7	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	43
M Dinghy	1	16	7	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	43
W Skiff	1	10		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			20
M Skiff	1	10		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			20
MX Dinghy	1	9		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			19
MX Multihull	1	9		1	1	1	1	1	1	3			19
												TOTAL Boats	252
												TOTAL Athletes	330

7. QUALIFICATION SYSTEM CONSIDERATIONS

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7.1. 2022 Qualification

- 7.1.1. Due to the delayed Event decisions and Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, there is a consensus view within the WP that 2022 is too early to commence Paris 2024 Olympic qualification.
- 7.1.2. The 2022 Class World Championships retain critical importance as they are the primary qualification pathway to the 2023 Sailing World Championships.
- 7.1.3. It is recommended that Qualification Events should commence from the 2023 Sailing World Championships.

7.2. Sailing World Championships

- 7.2.1. The Working Party recommends that the Sailing World Championships be reviewed with the intention to evolve the championship.
- 7.2.2. The basis of concern revolves around the championships becoming so large that individual Events within could potentially become compromised due to the strain on the competition schedule and resources required to manage a competition of this scale outside of an Olympic Games level infrastructure.

7.3. 2024 ILCA World Championships

- 7.3.1. Due to the respective Event's quota size, universal access and fleet depth it is proposed that the 2024 ILCA World Championships (held in the Southern Hemisphere in February) receive quota within its own right to ensure the best athletes attend the Paris 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition.
- 7.3.2. Please note that other Class regattas (e.g., Class Worlds or Europeans) may be selected as the Event's Last Chance Regatta.

7.4. Continental Qualification

- 7.4.1. The number of MNAs that seek selection to the Olympic Games is an important metric to the IOC. Continental Qualification significantly increases the number of MNA's who participate at the Games and attempt qualification.
- 7.4.2. The Working Party has based their recommendation on World Sailing at least maintaining the Tokyo 2020 level of 65 MNAs participation going forward.

7.5. What constitutes a valid qualifier?

- 7.5.1. It is proposed for the qualifiers that there is a balance between providing opportunity for regions, increasing MNA participation, and ensuring the world's best athletes are able to compete at the Olympic Games.
- 7.5.2. While the regulations apply to all qualifiers, the WP recognised that it is primarily the continental qualifiers where there is the potential for qualification standards to fall too far.
- 7.5.3. The Working Party, by a slight majority, believes that there must be at least 2 nations to participate within the Event at a Qualifier to constitute a valid competition; the other members were looking for higher threshold.
- 7.5.4. The Working Party is unanimous in giving guidance that for the LA 2028 Qualification System that it intends to increase this to at least 2 unqualified nations to constitute a valid qualifier.
- 7.5.5. The Working Party strongly supports increasing the current threshold of what constitutes a valid qualifier. The Working Party does not believe it is sufficient for a single MNA to participate by themselves and secure Olympic Qualification. A wide range of scenarios were considered and debated by the Working Party including:

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	Valid Continental Qualifier:	If not a valid continental qualifier, quota is reallocated to:
Current Position	Requires 1 unqualified MNA to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to next top ranked sailor (at an open competition)
Scenario 1 – Introducing Developing Nations for reallocation of quota place	Requires 1 unqualified MNA to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to top ranked Developing Nation at the Last Chance Regatta.
Scenario 2 – Requiring a minimum number of boats	Requires 2 boats (regardless of MNA) to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to top ranked Developing Nation at the Last Chance Regatta.
Scenario 3 Requiring a minimum level of competition through boats OR MNAs	Requires 2 MNA OR 3 boats (regardless of MNA) to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to top ranked Developing Nation at the Last Chance Regatta.
Scenario 4 – Requiring a minimum number of MNA's	Requires 2 MNA's to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to top ranked Developing Nation at the Last Chance Regatta.
Scenario 5 – Requiring a minimum number of unqualified MNA's	Requires 2 unqualified MNA's to participate within the continental qualifier.	Continental quota is reallocated to top ranked Developing Nation at the Last Chance Regatta.

7.6. Athlete Eligibility Standards

7.6.1. The Working Party Recommends the Tokyo 2020 Athlete Eligibility Standards for Paris 2024 are:

- Athlete to have appeared on the official World Sailing World Ranking List at any time in the qualification period.
- Must be fully paid members of the relevant international class association as required by those rules.
- Required to comply with the Olympic Charter, including satisfying the same nationality requirements as for the Olympic Games.

7.6.2. The WP recognises this paper doesn't include a number of technical details around competition and athlete eligibility that will need to be confirmed (such as doping controls, CAS authority, race official appoints) as per previous qualification systems and it is intended the Events Committee chair, the WP chair and the WS office finalise these with the IOC based on the precedent of Tokyo 2020.

7.7. Regatta Selection

7.7.1. In order to bring this report to the October 2021 Events Committee Meeting, the WP focused on the pathway and not specific competitions. The Working Party will identify a shortlist of possible existing competitions that should be considered as potential Qualifiers.

7.7.2. WS will publish a Request for Proposal for each of the Qualifiers so that continental sailing associations and potential organisers know the requirements to host the Qualifier in their continent. All Qualifiers will be subject to contract with WS to ensure suitable standards are in place across the entire competition and the entire qualification pathway.

7.7.3. Qualification Events to be decided by the Board on advice of the Events Committee. The Continental Qualifiers should ideally occur prior to 1st February 2024.

7.7.4. This structure and pathway also provide the Development & Regions Committee, along with the respective continental associations, a chance to plan ahead for the LA2028 Quad so that they can have a better engagement with their members and the regional games.

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7.8. The Last Chance Regatta

7.8.1. Overview

- 7.8.1.1. To receive at least 3 boat quota per Event and any declined or unallocated boat quota places from the 2023 Sailing World Championships, Continental Qualifiers, and 2024 Class World Championships.
- 7.8.1.2. The goal being to have the nations on the podium of the Last Chance Qualifier earn qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

7.8.2. Regatta Selection

- 7.8.2.1. The Last Chance Regatta will be held after the Continental Qualifiers so that any declined or unallocated boat quota places from the 2023 Sailing World Championships, Continental qualifiers, and for the Men's and Women's Dinghy Event the 2024 Class World Championships are known before racing starts.
- 7.8.2.2. The World Sailing Board will select the Last Chance Regatta, on advice from the Events Committee. The World Sailing Board may select more than one regatta so Events can use different regattas and the Events Committee can draw from both Class regattas (e.g., World Championships) and multiclass regattas (e.g., SOF in Hyeres).
- 7.8.2.3. It is expected the Last Chance Qualifier will be run by World Sailing partnering with an existing regatta to be selected through a Request for Proposal. The Last Chance Regatta should be completed by 31 May 2024, if possible.

7.8.3. Format

- 7.8.3.1. If possible, non-qualified NOCs in each Event shall compete in their own fleet. Meaning that at least the teams that achieve a podium finish will have qualified their country for selection by competing against their direct competitors.

7.9. Emerging Nations Program (#)

- 7.9.1. An athlete is eligible to be selected to the World Sailing Emerging Nations Program when their NOC has an MNA that is defined in either Resourced but not Developed, or Not Resourced or Developed categories according to the World Sailing Emerging Nations Definition. See attachment World Sailing Emerging Nations Definition December 2020, for latest version that currently lists 106 MNAs in these categories and it is strongly recommended that these categories are reviewed as per the document and published before the start of the Qualification Period.
- 7.9.2. At least the top 6 ranked athletes, ideally more depending on ENP resources, in each Dinghy and Windsurfing Event at the Sailing World Championships shall be selected for the ENP.
- 7.9.3. Athletes must continue to be members of the ENP by meeting the ENP requirements (such as training commitments and reporting, enter their Class World Championships and Continental qualifier, etc) to be eligible for the quota place.

8. QUOTA REALLOCATION PROCESS

- 8.1. The following table is designed to show the process of reallocating the athlete quota places assigned to each qualification competition. Reallocation could be needed for any number of reasons (such as the invitation is declined, the qualification competition or Event isn't held/completed, the qualification Event's minimum criteria isn't met); regardless of the reason, the reallocation process would be the same.
- 8.2. The philosophy is based on the following:
 - i. Sailing World Championship, Host NOC and ILCA Class World Championship places should be available for the best athletes as close to the Games as possible.

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- ii. Continental places should remain within the continent as much as possible; if not possible, then to be assigned to growth and universality. If still not used, then available for the next best athletes.
- iii. Before the Last Chance Qualifier entry deadline all athlete quota places for the above should be accepted or reallocated so athletes know how many places they are competing for. Results from the Last Chance Qualifier will be used to reallocate any subsequent athlete quota places that become available.
- iv. Tripartite and ENP places should remain within their context as quality permits; if not possible, then to be assigned to the next best athletes.
- v. Should the results list from the Last Chance Qualifier be exhausted or the Event not meet the minimum criteria, then the results from the respective Event's most recent World Championships will be used.
- vi. Further options are provided in the extreme situation that the process is not sufficient following the previous Olympic Games' concept of using the Events with Supplied Equipment as time is likely to be short and these are the most universal Events. A last resort process, to allow the World Sailing Board to select athletes from a list of suitable candidates is provided to give the sport the best chance to fill the assigned athlete quota.

Order	Qualification Competition	Initial position	Confirmation Deadline	Step 1 Reallocation	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
1	2023 Sailing World Championships	Top NOCs at Sailing World Championships	1 week before Last Chance Qualifier entries close	Quota added to Last Chance Qualifier	N/A		
2	Host NOC	Offered to the Host NOC					
3	2024 ILCA Class World Championships	Top NOC/s in the Event not yet qualified					
4	Continental Qualifier	Top NOC/s in the continent not yet qualified	1 month before Last Chance Qualifier entries close	Top ranked Developing Nation(s)* at the last Chance Qualifier not yet qualified	Quota added to Last Chance Qualifier	N/A	
5	Last Chance Qualifier	Top NOC not yet qualified	2 weeks from invitation	Next top ranked NOC at the Last Chance Qualifier not yet qualified	Top NOC not yet qualified at the most recent Class World Championships	Quota place added to Dinghy Event of same gender taking the next top ranked NOC	Quota place added to Windsurfing Event of same gender taking the next top ranked NOC
6	Tripartite Invitation	Athlete invited by IOC Tripartite Commission	2 weeks from invitation	Next IOC chosen Athlete not yet qualified	Quota added to Last Chance Qualifier	N/A	
7	Emerging Nations Program #	Top ENP NOC at Last Chance Qualifier	2 weeks from invitation	Next Top ENP NOC at Last Chance Qualifier	Quota added to Last Chance Qualifier		

8.3. For reference, in recent Games the reallocation process has not had to proceed past Step 1 of the Last Chance Qualifier and this is expected to continue. The above depth is provided to ensure that the

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Qualification System addresses all foreseeable scenarios to avoid any expensive legal challenges and not because they are likely or desired.

8.4. Last resort process

8.5. Should the entire reallocation process above be exhausted and athlete quota places remain available with reasonable time to meet the Sport Entry Qualification deadline, the World Sailing Executive Office, led by the Training and Development Manager and Director of Events shall take advice from the respective Class and prepare a ranked candidate list of NOCs with named athletes for the World Sailing Board to select sufficient Athlete's from to fill the athlete quota places. The candidate list shall be prepared in the following order:

- i. Athletes of the original Event quota place
- ii. Athletes of the opposite gender in the same Event; not applicable for mixed Events
- iii. Athletes of the original gender for the Dinghy Event
- iv. Athletes of the opposite gender for the Dinghy Event
- v. Athletes of the original gender for the Windsurfing Event
- vi. Athletes of the opposite gender for the Windsurfing Event
- vii. Athletes of the same gender for any fleet racing Event

9. DEFINITIONS

9.1. Developing Nation (*)

9.2. Is an NOC that has not qualified via an 'at large' athlete quota place (ie a World Championships place: Sailing Worlds or Class Worlds), regardless of acceptance of the place, in either of the last 2 Olympic Sailing Competitions. This includes nations that have been offered a reallocated quota place based on their performance at a Sailing Worlds or Class Worlds. See attached MNAs Developing Nation for Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification.

9.3. Continent assignment

9.4. Following the precedent from Tokyo 2020, the WP has not changed the assignment of MNAs to a qualification continent, it has just assigned the new MNAs to a continent. See attached MNAs Continent for Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification.

ENCLOSED

MNAs Continent for Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification

MNAs Developing Nation for Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification

World Sailing Emerging Nations Definition December 2020