



WINTER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES LAUSANNE 2020

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM PRINCIPLES

PREAMBLE

The Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Qualification System Principles (QSP) were created to ensure that the pillars of continental representation, performance, host country representation and gender equality remain the focus for participation in all competitions on the programme of the YOG.

In addition, a number of other technical principles have been established to provide a basis for the development of Qualification Systems for all sports at the YOG.

1. Continental representation:

To ensure the widest possible participation, specific continental quotas should be defined by each IF in order to adequately reflect the usual sport-specific participation balance across continents.

2. Performance and qualification events:

The Qualification Systems will allow for the participation of the best athletes through a fair and transparent process. Existing events and/or rankings already approved by the respective IF should be used for qualification where possible.

For sports in which qualification is based on meeting specific 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 results from these events.

Should an IF not already have existing events to qualify for the YOG, it may instead request that NOCs submit a list of preferred disciplines/events in which to participate. Upon receipt of each list, the IF will be in a position to analyse the performance level of candidates presented by each NOC, or suggest candidates meeting participation criteria to eligible NOCs. Such places can only be allocated based on set objective criteria approved by the IOC.

3. Host country participation:

In principle, all sports and disciplines should include quota places for host country participants. However, these places cannot be attributed automatically and should therefore be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, subject to athletes or teams reaching a minimum level of performance.

4. Gender equality:

All sports and disciplines should achieve gender equality.

5. NOC delegations:

5.1. NOCs have the exclusive authority to decide upon the **representation** of their respective countries at the Youth Olympic Games.

5.2. **NOC quotas:** A maximum number of athletes per NOC will be set within each sport, discipline or event to ensure a broad participation of NOCs.



6. Allocation and reallocation:

- 6.1. For each sport, the qualification system should clearly indicate whether the allocation of places is for specific athletes by name or at the NOC's discretion. If places are allocated to the NOCs, it should be clear whether NOCs have an open right of selection or if athletes must meet minimum eligibility requirements.
- 6.2. The IF shall confirm qualified athletes and teams to NOCs immediately following the last qualifying event. NOCs will then have up to one week to confirm to the IF and YOG Organising Committee (YOGOC) that they will use the obtained qualification places.
- 6.3. Provision should be made within the qualification systems for the reallocation of any places not used by an NOC. NOCs offered quotas due to reallocation will need to confirm that they will use the quotas to the IF and the YOG Organising Committee (YOGOC) within 24 hours of notification.
- 6.4. All sports/disciplines will have a common closing date for athlete entries by name, to be specified by the IOC in coordination with the YOGOC.
- 6.5. In exceptional circumstances, if the maximum athlete quota per IF is not allocated or reallocated by the time of the reallocation process (as seen in the Timeline below), a supplementary reallocation may be suggested by the IF for the IOC and YOGOC review and approval.

The reallocation will be made in view of maximizing the quota, first within the same event in the opposite gender, then within the same discipline (with priority given to the same gender as the original unfulfilled quota place), but always within the same sport, and in view of the gender balance and universality participation in the games.

7. **Amendments:** The Qualification Systems for each sport, once agreed upon by the IOC and IFs, shall not be changed without the agreement of the IOC and shall not be published in any other format without the IOC's approval.

8. Eligibility:

- 8.1. All athletes participating in the YOG sport competitions must be 15, 16, 17 or 18 years old on 31 December in the year of the YOG. Age group classifications will be based on the actual age of the athlete on 31 December in the year of the YOG. For the Lausanne Youth Olympic Winter Games in 2020, athletes born between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2005 are eligible to participate in the YOG sports competitions.
- 8.2. Each IF will propose to the IOC for approval a specific age group classification for its sport, disciplines or events. In principle, these age groups will have to respect the athlete's age participation eligibility and could be a one, two, three or four-year age bracket, e.g. 15, 15/16, 15/16/17, or 15/16/17/18.



TIMELINE*

Deadline	Description
15 March 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IOC EB to approve the Qualification System Principles
9 July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IOC EB to approve the Event Programme (events and quota)
9 July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letters to IFs confirming the programme for Lausanne 2020
3 November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft of Qualification Systems by sport/discipline submitted by IFs to IOC
December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IF Qualification Systems for all sports approved by IOC EB• IF Qualification Systems for all sports released
1 January 2018 – 8 December 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• YOG 2020 IF qualification period
9 – 15 December 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final period for NOCs to confirm to IFs and to YOGOC if they will use the obtained quota places• Reallocation process conducted by IFs
16 December 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entries deadline (by name) for all sports• End of reallocation process conducted by IFs
9 - 22 January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd Winter Youth Olympic Games in Lausanne

** Updated November 2018*