

WEIGHTLIFTING FOR REFUGEES

IWF Refugee Team

Approved by the IWF EB on 03.12.2024 in Manama/Bahrain

1. Scope

- 1.1. A Refugee athlete shall be residing in / hosted by an IWF Member Federation (country), and is eligible to participate at IWF events, subject to IWF Technical and Competition Rules & Regulations and IWF Anti-Doping Rules.
- 1.2. The athlete's application must be sent, with the Refugee Team Application Form (including the Annexes) to the IWF (refugee@iwf.sport).
- 1.3. The Athletes are not considered for the OG Qualification System and Olympic Games. This is why the IOC Refugee Team exists. For the IOC Refugee Team the Athletes can only apply via the NOC.
- 1.4. The Working Group decides on participation in the competitions (senior, junior, youth). In the case of participation in continental championships, the president of the respective continent will be contacted and involved in the decision. All within the approved budget.

2. IWF Refugee Team size

- 2.1. 2 female and 2 male Athletes appointed by the Refugee Working Group. The objective is to have gender balance. Optionally, the working group can decide to increase if necessary.
- 2.2. One Manager of the Refugee Team appointed by the Refugee Working Group.
- 2.3. One Physiotherapist appointed by the Refugee Working Group.
- 2.4. The Refugee Working Group shall make all selection and appointment decisions in its sole discretion and may amend or revoke such decisions at any time during the term, including, without limitation, in cases when a person under the scope of this Policy violates any of the rules set out herein or in the IWF regulations.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1. Athletes should be officially recognised as refugees in their country and according to UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency for the duration of the term, and may be entered in IWF Events. Asylum' seeker status is not accepted. As soon as the athlete acquires citizenship, he or she immediately leaves the team. The IWF must be provided with the evidence for this annually and without being asked. In future, the Refugee Working Group will focus more on refugees from war zones and areas affected by environmental disasters.

- 3.2. Athletes are required to have a valid travel document. Moreover, each athlete must indicate the travel possibilities and/or limitations related with his/her travel document (example: it is only valid within European Union, Gulf/Middle East countries, etc).
- 3.3. In accordance with article 5.5.16 of the IWF Anti-Doping Rules whereabouts information of the athletes shall be submitted at minimum three (3) months prior to the event.
- 3.4. In case the athletes are unable to submit whereabouts information through ADAMS for justifiable reasons, the information can be filed on the following link:
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=QaDnKbMpWki6eoCPD-LIEtzD8EImKyDdo9caEPePeaVUQ0ZXUVY0MjVBVUxRVzVVR0Q4SEJZQkpEWc4u>

4. Name of the team

- 4.1. The use of "IWF Refugee Team" and the corresponding delegation code "WRT"

5. Flag

- 5.1. The use of the official flag of the IWF for the IWF Refugee Team, in same way as the Olympic Flag is used for the Refugee Olympic Team.

6. Anthem

- 6.1. IWF Anthem

7. Anti-Doping

- 7.1. All athletes must fully comply with IWF 2025 Anti-Doping Rules. The Athletes must sign an Anti-Doping Declaration.

8. Anti-Doping Education

- 8.1. All athletes and athlete support personnel (Coach, etc) must complete the WADA ADEL online course before competing and present their certificate to the IWF/ITA.
- 8.2. In accordance with article 17.2.2 of the IWF Anti-Doping Rules, IWF may also decide to request that Athletes complete Education activities before and/or during their participation in select Events as a condition of such participation. The list of Events for which Athletes will be required to complete Education activities as a condition of participation will be published on IWF's website.
- 8.3. In case there is an education (booth, Anti-doping seminar) organized by IWF during the event in which the athletes compete, their participation is mandatory.

9. Application process

- 9.1. All applicants must send the Refugee Team Application Form (including the annexes) to the IWF (refugee@iwf.sport) by **16 February 2025**.

10. Important information

- 10.1. IWF does not guarantee that the selected athletes will be able to enter the country in question. It is always possible that the authorities may refuse entry for various reasons unknown to the IWF. The IWF cannot therefore be held liable for such cases or complaints. Please bear this in mind when applying.
- 10.2. If there is a request for additional expenses of the athlete, the Refugee Working Group will decide on its approval as long as it remains within the approved budget. Corresponding receipts must be provided for reimbursement.
- 10.3. The decision on admission to the IWF WRT will be taken by the Working Group.

11. Term

- 11.1. The duration of the Refugee Team from the appointment until 31 December 2028

12. IWF x IOC Refugee Team

- 12.1. IOC Refugee Athletes Scholarship holders shall be automatically member of the IWF Refugee Team, as additional members to the 2+2 team, subject to meet the IWF requirements. Maximum 1 + 1 Athletes can join the IWF Refugee Team.

13. Special conditions

- 13.1. The Refugee Working Group may dismiss an athlete from the team without giving reasons.
- 13.2. IWF will provide a Training Suite, Singlet and some T-Shirts.
- 13.3. This Policy may be amended from time to time by the IWF Executive Board.
- 13.4. In any event, the Refugee Working Group has the right to differ from the Policy with a justified decision or in case of exceptional circumstances.

Timeline

07 January 2025	Application opens
16 February 2025	Application deadline to IWF Refugee Team (WRT)/Manager/Physiotherapist
30 June 2025 (Updated)	Decision on WRT by the Working Group