



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

## **Games of the XXXI Olympiad, Rio 2016 Olympic Games Tripartite Commission Invitation Places**

### **Allocation Procedure and Regulations (Hereinafter the “Regulations”)**

#### **PREAMBLE**

Qualification systems are the rules established by IFs, in consultation with the IOC, which consist of rules, procedures and criteria for participation in the competitions of the Olympic Games. They are established to give a fair and equal opportunity for the best athletes in the world to participate in the Olympic Games, as well as to ensure universal representation. Universality, as specified in the Olympic Charter, is a fundamental aspect of the Olympic Games.

The principle of universality is reflected in the qualification systems through the continental representation of athletes and teams. The IOC also seeks to provide additional opportunities with the allocation of Tripartite Commission Invitation Places (hereafter the “**Invitation Places**”) through the Olympic Games Tripartite Commission (IOC / ANOC / ASOIF) for the Olympic Games (hereafter the “**Commission**”).

#### **1. OBJECTIVES, COMPOSITION AND COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSION**

##### **A. Objectives**

The objective of the Commission is to manage the allocation procedure for Invitation Places offering the opportunity to NOCs, which have traditionally sent small delegations to the Olympic Games, to be represented at the next edition of the Games. A further objective of the Commission is contribute to enhancing and reflecting universality by selecting athletes from such NOCs, which are unable to qualify, so that they may have an opportunity to be invited to compete in sports and disciplines for which Invitation Places have been reserved.

##### **B. Composition**

The Commission is composed of a representative from the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), a representative from the International Federations (IFs) and a representative from the IOC. The NOCs are represented within the Commission by the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the IFs by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

##### **C. Competence**

The allocation of Invitation Places is the responsibility of the Commission.

The Commission has full authority to take decisions regarding the allocation of Invitation Places. All decisions taken by the Commission in relation to these Regulations or to the allocation of Invitation Places are final. Any dispute relating to any application or interpretation of any Commission decision may be resolved solely by the IOC Executive Board, whose decision shall be final.



## **2. TRIPARTITE COMMISSION INVITATION PLACES FOR THE RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES**

Invitation Places are quota places which have been reserved within the total athletes' quota for the concerned sport/discipline and for which the allocation process is managed by the Commission, instead of by the relevant IF.

Two types of Invitation Places are thus made available within this process:

- Invitation Places allocated directly within the athletes' quota (see Section 2A below)
- Invitation Places confirmed through the reallocation process of unused quota places (see Section 2B below).

The unqualified entries/universality places in Athletics and Swimming are not Invitations Places; they are allocated by the IAAF and FINA, respectively, and are not managed by the Commission. NOCs must refer to the detailed qualification systems for Athletics and Swimming to obtain further detailed information regarding the process and timelines for the allocation of these unqualified entries/universality places.

### **A. Invitations Places included within the athletes' quota:**

A total of 110 places in 16 individual sports will be available for allocation to all eligible NOCs. The number of Invitation Places to be allocated to an eligible NOC, if any, remains at the full discretion of the Commission, depending on the availability of places, NOC and athlete eligibility, as well as the allocation criteria for Invitation Places (ref. Sections 3, 4 and 5 below).

The Commission will review all applications received from eligible NOCs and the final allocation of Invitation Places will be made in relation to the end of the qualification period of each sport. In agreement with each concerned IF, the Invitation Places will need to be approved by the Commission before the allocation can be confirmed to the NOCs.

All Invitation Places that cannot be allocated to eligible NOCs will be returned to the relevant IFs for reallocation according to the principles defined in their qualification systems.

*See Annex 1 for sports with Invitation Places (within quota)*

### **B. Invitation Places subject to the principle of reallocation of unused quota places:**

At the completion of the qualification events, NOCs must confirm whether they accept or decline the qualification places they obtain through the qualification events. A number of unused qualification places (hereafter "**Unused Qualification Places**") or unused host country places (hereafter "**Unused Host Country Places**") (if any) may be reallocated as Invitation Places to athletes from eligible NOCs fulfilling the eligibility requirements of the given sport/discipline. Such reallocations may concern either Unused Qualification Places or Unused Host Country Places.

The Commission will review all applications received from eligible NOCs and establish a priority list of athletes to whom any Unused Qualification Places or Unused Host Country Places could be reallocated. In agreement with each concerned IF, the Invitation Places must be approved by the Commission before any allocation of Invitation Places can be confirmed to the NOCs.

*See Annex 1 for sports with Invitation Places (principle of reallocation of Unused Qualification Places and Unused Host Country Place)*



### **3. NOC ELIGIBILITY**

Invitation Places can only be allocated to NOCs with an **average of eight (8) or less athletes** (athlete quota places) **in individual sports/disciplines** at the last two editions of the Olympic Games (Beijing and London).

As Invitation Places are available only in individual sports, the following team sports are not included in the calculation of NOC delegation sizes: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Handball, Hockey, Softball, Volleyball/Beach Volleyball and Water Polo.

See Annex 2 for list of eligible NOCs

### **4. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

The athletes proposed by their respective NOCs must have:

- international competition experience in one of the sports/disciplines offering Invitation Places
- an adequate sporting technical level
- shown willingness to qualify for the Olympic Games by participating in the relevant qualifying events

It is important to note that there are minimum eligibility requirements for athletes in each sport/discipline, including for those applying for, or receiving, Invitation Places. These requirements are defined in the qualification system of each sport/discipline concerned, which can be accessed on the IOC NOCnet (<http://extranet.olympic.org>).

The level of each athlete will be assessed by the Commission in collaboration with the respective IFs.

### **5. ALLOCATION CRITERIA**

The main criteria for the allocation of Invitation Places are the following:

- NOC priority : based on NOC preferences, as specified in the applications submitted
- IF priority: based on the assessment of the athletes' technical level and sporting merit during the qualification period
- IOC priority: based on various principles in relation to the objectives of the Commission, including:
  - Universality (by allowing more NOCs to participate in a given sport)
  - Continental balance
  - Gender equity
  - NOC and athlete eligibility
  - Technical level to compete safely and with dignity (based on the IF's assessment)
  - Olympic scholarships for athletes (provided by Olympic Solidarity)

The above-mentioned criteria are taken into consideration by the Commission altogether, without any pre-established order of priority or preference.

The Commission will endeavor to respect the priorities of all its represented stakeholders when possible (IOC / ANOC / ASOIF) and will do its utmost to satisfy as many requests as possible. However, as the number of applications is generally higher than the number of Invitation Places available, not all eligible NOCs may be awarded an Invitation Place.



## 6. ALLOCATION PROCEDURE

### A. Notice to Apply for an Invitation Place:

The IOC will contact only the eligible NOCs to notify them that the application process for Invitation Places has been launched.

### B. Submission of Application Requests:

Eligible NOCs are requested to submit their requests for Invitation Places using the relevant application form, which must indicate their priority order and include a complete application per athlete. The application form must be duly completed, signed by the NOC and returned to the Olympic Solidarity offices.

*See Annex 3 for the Invitation Place application form*

### C. Analysis of Submitted Applications:

Once received, the NOC application requests will be analysed by the Commission in collaboration with each respective IF, until the end of the qualification period of each sport.

### D. Allocation of Invitation Places:

The final allocations will be made in relation to the end of the qualification period of each sport/discipline, as specified in each qualification system and agreed with each IF. The IOC will confirm allocated Invitation Places to all concerned NOCs in writing.

### E. Confirmation of NOCs – 2 weeks after notification:

If an NOC's request for an Invitation Place has been approved by the Commission, such NOC's must, within 2 weeks after receiving notification of approval or one week prior to the final entry deadline (whichever occurs first), confirm their intention to use their Invitation Place.

## 7. FINAL PROVISIONS

The Commission reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, to make any amendments it deems necessary to these Regulations in order to ensure that the Commission's objectives are reached.

All matters related to the Invitation Places or the Commission must be addressed to the Olympic Solidarity Athletes Section.

These Regulations have been approved by the IOC Executive Board on 10 April 2014 in Belek, Turkey.



**ALLOCATION PROCEDURE SUMMARY FOR THE RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES**

(see page 4 for details)

