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## 1ST SUMMER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES IN 2010

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### QUALIFICATION SYSTEM PRINCIPLES

#### PREAMBLE

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

In the application of the following principles a distinction has been made between individual and team sports.

#### PRINCIPLES

1. **Universality:** The participation of all two hundred and five (205) National Olympic Committees (NOCs) is the key factor in ensuring the universality of the YOG.
  - 1.1. **Individual sports:** In each sport a specific number of places for NOCs (referred to as *NOC universality places*) will be reserved in order to ensure that at least four (4) athletes per NOC will be given the possibility to participate in the YOG. The number of places reserved per sport will be decided in agreement with the IOC. NOCs will be asked to provide a list of the preferred sports and disciplines in which they would like to enter the four (4) athletes (in order of preference, in at least two (2) different sports and with a **balanced gender repartition**). The distribution will be done by a YOG tripartite commission within all individual sports.
  - 1.2. **Team sports:** Football, Hockey, Handball and Volleyball will consist of six-team tournaments for men and women, which will feature at least one team from each of the five continents.
2. **Performance:** The principle of performance will be ensured through the Qualification Systems developed by each International Federation (IF), which will allow for the participation of the best athletes through a fair and transparent process. Existing events and/or rankings already approved by their respective IFs should be used for qualification.
  - 2.1. **Individual sports:** A reasonable percentage of the quota shall be distributed on the basis of performance within continents and shall reflect the specificities of each sport in terms of quota distribution between continents.
  - 2.2. **Team sports:** The six-team tournament shall consist of one national team per continent as well as a sixth team which shall either represent the host NOC or be proposed by the IF for IOC approval. Participation in team sports shall be limited to one women's and one men's team per NOC across team sports (Football, Handball, Hockey and Volleyball). The reallocation process for team sports should be defined accordingly, in the event that an NOC qualifies more than two teams across the different sports. All NOCs may be asked to indicate which of the four sports they would prefer to enter, should they manage to qualify more than two teams.



3. **Host Country participation:** In principle, all sports 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.
  - 3.1. **Individual sports:** The number of host country places per sport, discipline or event by NOC will be decided in agreement with the IOC.
  - 3.2. **Team sports** (Hockey, Football, Handball and Volleyball): A maximum of one Host Country team (Men or Women) can qualify per sport, subject to the attainment of a minimum level of performance set by the IF.
  
4. **NOC delegation:**
  - 4.1. NOCs have the exclusive authority for the **representation** of their respective countries at the Youth Olympic Games.
  - 4.2. NOCs have the right to **send competitors, team officials and other team personnel** to the Youth Olympic Games.
  - 4.3. **Minimum NOC delegation size:** At least four (4) athletes per NOC are guaranteed to participate in the YOG.
  - 4.4. **Maximum NOC delegation size:** A maximum number of athletes per NOC will be set within each sport, discipline or event to maximise universality and avoid overly significant delegation sizes. In addition, and irrespective of the number of athletes qualified, an NOC delegation may comprise a **maximum of seventy (70) athletes in individual sports**.
  
5. **Allocation and reallocation:**
  - 5.1. Following IF confirmation of qualified athletes/teams, to be done no later than two (2) weeks following the qualifying event, each NOC will have up to one (1) month to confirm to the IFs and YOG Organising Committee (YOGOC) that they will use the obtained places.
  - 5.2. NOCs that manage to qualify over seventy (70) athletes will be asked to designate their final team composition.
  - 5.3. Provision should be made within the IFs qualification systems for the reallocation of any places not used by an NOC due to the above points 5.1 and 5.2 and for unused NOC universality places.
  - 5.4. No universality places may be returned to an IF by an NOC.
  
6. **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 IOC approval.



## TIMELINE

April 2008	✓ QSP presented to NOCs during IOC-ACNO meeting in Beijing
June 2008	✓ QSP presented to IOC EB in Athens ✓ QSP presented to IFs during IOC-ASOIF meeting in Athens ✓ QSP sent to NOCs and IFs
July 2008	✓ Draft of Qualification Systems by sport submitted by IFs to IOC ✓ ACNO comments on draft of Qualification Systems by sport
December 2008	✓ IFs Qualification Systems for all sports approved by IOC-EB in Lausanne ✓ IF Qualification Systems for all sports released
March 2009 to May 2010	✓ YOG 2010 IF qualification period (14 Months)
June to 14 July 2010	✓ NOCs to confirm to IOC, IFs and YOGOC their delegation quotas places and names ✓ Reallocation process conducted by IOC with NOCs and IFs
15 July 2010	✓ Entries deadline (by name) for all sports ✓ End of reallocation process conducted by IOC with NOCs and IFs
August 2010	✓ 1 <sup>st</sup> Summer Youth Olympic Games