



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Football

A. EVENTS (2)

Men's Event (1)	Women's Event (1)
16-team tournament	12-team tournament

B. ATHLETES QUOTA

1. Total Quota for Football:

	Qualification Places	Host Country Places	Total
Men	270 (15 teams)	18 (1 team)	288 (16 teams)
Women	198 (11 teams)	18 (1 team)	216 (12 teams)
Total	468 (6 teams)	36 (2 teams)	504 (28 teams)

2. Maximum Number of Athletes per NOC:

	Quota per NOC
Men	18 (1 team)
Women	18 (1 team)
Total	36 (2 teams)

3. Type of Allocation of Quota Places:

The quota place is allocated to the NOC.

C. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors). Only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games.

Age Requirements:

Men's competition:

All athletes participating in the qualification events for the Rio 2016 Olympic Football Tournaments must be born on/or after 01 January 1993. No over-age players will be permitted to participate in any qualification competition matches.



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All athletes participating in the final competitions of the Rio 2016 Olympic Football Tournaments must be born on/or after 01 January 1993 with the exception of a maximum of three (3) over-age players who may be included in the official list of players.

Women's competition:

There are no age limits for the women's qualification competitions and the Rio 2016 Olympic Football Tournaments.

D. QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

The qualification competitions shall be organised by FIFA in collaboration with its relevant continental confederations.

The continental confederations will establish a competition format which shall require approval from FIFA. Some confederations may use existing tournaments as qualification events for the Olympic Football Tournaments (OFTs) and in that case they are solely responsible for the organisation of such a qualification tournament.

QUALIFICATION PLACES

The qualification events are listed in hierarchical order of qualification.

MEN

Number of Quota Places	Qualification Event																
16	<p>Men's Olympic Football Tournament</p> <p>The allocation of the 16 quota places (including the Host Country place) per continental confederation for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games was approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 21 March 2014 as follows:</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Quota Places</th></tr><tr><td>AFC (Asia)</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>CAF (Africa)</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)</td><td>2.5*</td></tr><tr><td>CONMEBOL (South America)</td><td>1.5*</td></tr><tr><td>OFC (Oceania)</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>UEFA (Europe)</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>Host Country</td><td>1</td></tr></table> <p>* The 3rd place team from the CONCACAF qualification competition will play-off against the 2nd place team from the CONMEBOL qualification competition. The winner of this play-off match will qualify their NOC for the men's OFT.</p>		Quota Places	AFC (Asia)	3	CAF (Africa)	3	CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)	2.5*	CONMEBOL (South America)	1.5*	OFC (Oceania)	1	UEFA (Europe)	4	Host Country	1
	Quota Places																
AFC (Asia)	3																
CAF (Africa)	3																
CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)	2.5*																
CONMEBOL (South America)	1.5*																
OFC (Oceania)	1																
UEFA (Europe)	4																
Host Country	1																



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QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

Asia: The 2016 AFC U-22 Championship to be played in January 2016. The top three (3) teams will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Africa: The CAF U-23 Championship will be organised in Congo DR in 2015 (exact dates to be confirmed). The top three (3) teams will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

North America, Central America and the Caribbean: The CONCACAF Men's Olympic Qualifying Championship is scheduled to be played in the USA from 16 – 27 March 2016. The top two (2) teams will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

**Play-off:* The third placed team will play-off against the second placed team from CONMEBOL to determine which team qualifies for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

South America: The South American U-20 Championship will be played in Uruguay in January / February 2015. The winner of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

**Play-off:* the second placed team will play-off against CONCACAF.

Oceania: The OFC Men's Olympic Football Tournament Qualifying competition will be played from 7 to 13 December 2015 in Fiji. The winner of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Europe: The UEFA European U-21 Championship will be held in Czech Republic between 17 and 30 June 2015. The four (4) best ranked teams of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

WOMEN

Number of Quota Places	Qualification Event																
12	<p>Women's Olympic Football Tournament</p> <p>The allocation of the 12 quota places (including the Host Country place) per continental confederation for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games was approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 21 March 2014 as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <th></th><th>Quota Places</th></tr> <tr> <td>AFC (Asia)</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>CAF (Africa)</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>CONMEBOL (South America)</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>OFC (Oceania)</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>UEFA (Europe)</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>Host Country</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>		Quota Places	AFC (Asia)	2	CAF (Africa)	2	CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)	2	CONMEBOL (South America)	1	OFC (Oceania)	1	UEFA (Europe)	3	Host Country	1
	Quota Places																
AFC (Asia)	2																
CAF (Africa)	2																
CONCACAF (North, Central America & the Caribbean)	2																
CONMEBOL (South America)	1																
OFC (Oceania)	1																
UEFA (Europe)	3																
Host Country	1																



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QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

Asia: AFC will organise a Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament Asia in three rounds. The first round will be played between 9 and 15 March 2015. The second round will be played between 6 and 13 September 2015 and the third round will be played late 2015/early 2016. More details to be provided after the decision of the AFC Women's Committee. The top two (2) teams will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Africa: The CAF Executive Committee will take a decision on the format in the near future and FIFA will inform the IOC accordingly. The two (2) best ranked teams of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

North America, Central America and the Caribbean: The CONCACAF Women's Olympic Qualifying Championship is scheduled to be played from 21 – 31 January 2016. The two (2) best ranked teams of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

South America: The Women's Copa América will form the basis of the qualifying competition, and will be played in August and September 2014. The winner of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Oceania: The OFC qualifying process will be played in two stages: Stage 1 – in Fiji on 7 – 13 December 2015; Stage 2 – home and away play-off between winner of Stage 1 and New Zealand in March 2016. The winner will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Europe: The FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015 will serve as the qualification for Rio 2016. The three (3) best ranked teams of this tournament will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The Host Country is guaranteed two (2) quota places: one (1) team for the men's Olympic Football Tournament and one (1) team for the women's Olympic Football Tournament.

E. CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

Following each qualification event, FIFA will publish the results on its website www.FIFA.com/mensolympic and www.FIFA.com/womensolympic and inform the respective NOCs of their allocated quota places. The official acceptance form will be sent to all NOCs/Member Associations with circular letter no. 1 once all teams have qualified. The NOCs will then have two (2) weeks to confirm if they wish to use these quota places, by returning the official acceptance form to FIFA, as detailed in paragraph **H. Qualification Timeline**.



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F. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

If an allocated team quota place is not confirmed by the NOC by the confirmation of quota place deadline or is declined by the NOC, the quota place will be reallocated to the next best ranked team, not yet qualified from the respective qualification event.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Should the Host NOC decide not to use the quota place(s) allocated, the Host Country quota place would be reallocated to the next best ranked team at the South American (CONMEBOL) tournament upon ratification by the FIFA Executive Committee.

G. GENERAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING THE USE OF P ALTERNATE ATHLETES

P ALTERNATE ATHLETES

P alternate athletes are non-competing athletes, and are not included within the athlete's quota as described in Paragraph **B. Athletes Quota**. More detailed information about entitlements and quotas can be found in the '*Accreditation at the Olympic Games – Users Guide*'. P alternate athletes can only become competing athletes as per the conditions outlined in the '*IOC/Rio 2016 Late Athlete Replacement policy*'.

Eligibility:

P alternate athletes must comply with the same eligibility rules as competing athletes as described in above paragraph **C. Athlete Eligibility**.

Quota:

Each qualified team is entitled to four (4) P alternate athletes.

H. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
	Men's Olympic Football Tournament
2015 (date tbc)	CAF U-23 Championship in Congo DR
January-February 2015 (TBC)	South American U-20 Championship in Uruguay
17 – 30 June 2015	UEFA European U-21 Championship in Czech Republic
7 to 13 December 2015	OFC Men's Olympic Football Tournament Qualifying competition in Fiji



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January 2016 (TBC)	2016 AFC U-22 Championship (location TBC)
16 – 27 March 2016	CONCACAF Men's Olympic Qualifying Championship in USA
August-September 2014 (TBC)	Women's Olympic Football Tournament Women's Copa América in South America (location TBC)
6 June – 5 July 2015	FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015
7 – 13 December 2015	Stage 1 of OFC qualifiers (location TBC)
21 – 31 January 2016	CONCACAF Women's Olympic Qualifying Championship (location TBC)
late 2015 / early 2016 (TBC)	Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament Asia (location TBC)
March 2016	Stage 2 of OFC qualifiers (location TBC)
TBC	CAF qualification tournament: <i>The CAF Executive Committee will take a decision on the format in the near future.</i>
March 2016 (exact date TBC)	FIFA to send official acceptance form to all qualified NOCs two weeks after the last qualification competition is completed
March 2016 (exact date TBC)	NOCs to confirm use of allocated quota places to FIFA at the latest two weeks after notification from FIFA is received.
TBC	FIFA to reallocate all unused quota places
18 July 2016	Rio 2016 Sport Entries deadline