



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

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Presidents and Secretaries General of
the National Olympic Committees

Office of the Director General

By e-mail only

Lausanne, 28 June 2019

Boxing at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020: IOC Session decisions

Dear NOC Presidents and NOC Secretaries General,

As noted in our letter of 24 May, relating to the situation of AIBA, the IOC Session approved during its last meeting the details related to the organisation of a boxing tournament at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and we would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a summary of the decisions made. In particular, the full Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing approved by the IOC Session can be found here.

We strongly encourage you to share this information with your boxing athletes and your National Federation, and specifically pass on this correspondence, to ensure that everyone involved in the sport of boxing is fully informed of the measures put in place by the IOC to protect the athletes and facilitate the Olympic Boxing tournament at Tokyo 2020.

Boxing Task Force

The IOC Session approved the creation of a Boxing Task Force to guarantee the successful organisation of five qualification events and the boxing tournament at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The Boxing Task Force is led by Mr Morinari Watanabe (JPN), IOC Member, who is joined on the taskforce by four (4) other members who will bring their diverse expertise:

- Mr William Frederick Blick (UGA), IOC Member, NOC President
- Mr Willi Kaltschmitt Lujan (GUA), IOC Executive Board Member
- Ms Aya Medany (EGY), IOC Athletes' Commission member
- Mr Marius Vizer (AUT), President of the International Judo Federation.

Tokyo 2020 Event Programme

The boxing tournament will be composed of thirteen (13) weight categories, eight (8) for men and five (5) for women (compared to ten for men and three for women at Rio 2016), as already approved by the IOC EB in June 2017.

This decision confirms weight categories as per AIBA's original proposal and avoids changes in weight categories, as this could have been a negative impact on the preparation of athletes. The full weight categories are as follows:

**Men's Events (8)**

Fly (48 kg to 52 kg)
Feather (52 kg to 57 kg)
Light (57 kg to 63 kg)
Welter (63 kg to 69 kg)
Middle (69 kg to 75 kg)
Light Heavy (75 kg to 81 kg)
Heavy (81 kg to 91 kg)
Super Heavy (91 kg to +91 kg)

Women's Events (5)

Fly (48 kg to 51 kg)
Feather (54 kg to 57 kg)
Light (57 kg to 60 kg)
Welter (64 kg to 69 kg)
Middle (69 kg to 75 kg)

Tokyo 2020 boxing quota

The overall quota of 286 athletes is maintained: there will be 186 places available for men across the eight weight categories and 100 places for women in the respective five weight categories (compared to 250 men and 36 women at Rio 2016). This is consistent with the IOC's commitment to achieve a more gender balanced event programme and athlete participation.

The continental athlete quota distribution in the qualification system has been based on participation and results at the past two Olympic Games and two World Championships to reflect the landscape of global boxing.

Tokyo 2020 qualification events

A total of five qualification events will be organised under the jurisdiction of the boxing Task Force. There will be four continental events (Asia & Oceania event will be combined), and one World Qualification Event to be staged between January and May 2020.

As per the qualification system principles approved for boxing, each athlete has two chances to qualify, having the possibility to take part to the respective Continental Event and also in the World Qualification Event.

The **host cities** for the qualification events have been selected among former and future Olympic Games host cities and countries as follows:

- Asia/Oceania: (tbc), China
- Africa: Dakar, Senegal
- Europe: (tbc), Great Britain
- America: Buenos Aires, Argentina
- World Qualification Event: (tbc), Japan

Athlete eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 all athletes must meet the criteria listed in the Qualification System, which include:

- i. The participation to at least one of the Olympic Qualification Events organised by the Boxing Task Force; and
- ii. Being examined and cleared to box by a physician, acting under the responsibility of their respective NOCs and NFs, before each Boxing Olympic Qualification Event and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 as per the medical requirements.

Under this joint responsibility, all NOCs and NFs will have the right to enter any athlete that fully complies with the qualification eligibility criteria, including professional boxers.



Sports entry process

We encourage all NOCs to continue to work with your National Boxing Federation (NF) with regards to the qualification events and the Tokyo 2020 boxing tournament. In this regard, all the entries for Qualification Events require both NFs and NOCs to confirm the entry of the athlete and the technical and medical standard of the athlete.

The IOC Session decided that in the case of boxing for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, if an NF has not recommended athletes to its respective NOC to be entered into the qualification events and/or the Games themselves, the NOC is empowered to enter their athletes without the recommendation of the NF.

Event Regulations

The Boxing Task Force will focus on the development of the *'Tokyo 2020 Boxing Task Force – Event Regulations'* for the qualification events and the Olympic Games. The regulations are planned to be published in September 2019. The current AIBA rules and regulations will be used as the baseline for review aiming to minimise the impact on the athlete preparations.

Anti-Doping

AIBA is still responsible for the general anti-doping programme for boxing, however the testing at the Olympic qualification events will be put in place by the Boxing Task Force and will be done on top of the existing AIBA programme in close collaboration with the International Testing Agency (ITA).

Referees and judges

The Boxing Task Force will use the AIBA database as part of the selection of referees and judges. A set of criteria will be established by the Boxing Task Force in order to determine the most fair and transparent selection procedures.

In each area of the work noted above, the IOC will keep athletes at the heart of all decisions.

Should you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the IOC Sports or NOC Relations Directors.

Yours sincerely,

Christophe De Kepper
IOC Director General

cc:
Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director
James Macleod, IOC NOC Relations Director