



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY BOARD

Rugby

A. EVENTS (2)

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

B. ATHLETES QUOTA

1. Total Quota for Rugby:

	Qualification Places	Host Country Places	Total
Men	132 (11 teams)	12 (1 team)	144 (12 teams)
Women	132 (11 teams)	12 (1 team)	144 (12 teams)
Total	264 (22 teams)	24 (2 team)	288 (24 teams)

2. Maximum Number of Athletes per NOC:

	Quota per NOC
Men	12 (1 team)
Women	12 (1 team)
Total	24 (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: All athletes must comply with the provisions of the IRB Elite Rugby Age Guidelines <http://www.irbplayerwelfare.com/?documentid=25>

Additional IF Requirements:

To be eligible to participate in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, all athletes must comply with IRB Regulation 8 – Eligibility requirements

http://www.irb.com/imgml/IRB/irbhandbook/IRB_Handbook_Online_EN/index.html#/132/



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

D. QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

QUALIFICATION PLACES

The qualification events are listed in hierarchical order of qualification.

MEN

Number of Quota Places	Qualification Event
4	<p>2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series</p> <p>The teams ranked 1 to 4 in the final rankings of the 2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series will qualify directly a quota place for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.</p> <p>It is intended that the 2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series will consist of nine (9) tournaments and will commence in October 2014 and finish in May 2015. The number of tournaments in the Series and the dates of each tournament will be confirmed by July 31 2014.</p> <p>With regard to the qualification process for Great Britain, if more than one team from England, Scotland and Wales qualify to participate as core teams in the 2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series, then by no later than 30 June, 2014 the BOA must designate the lead team which solely will be able to obtain qualification for Great Britain to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.</p>
6	<p>2015 IRB Regional Association Men's Sevens Championships</p> <p>The winner of each of the 2015 IRB Regional Association Men's Sevens Championships will qualify a quota place for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Africa (CAR) - 1 team○ Asia (ARFU) - 1 team○ Europe (FIRA-AER) - 1 team○ North America and the Caribbean (NACRA) - 1 team○ Oceania (FORU) - 1 team○ South America (CONSUR) - 1 team <p>All 2015 IRB Regional Association Sevens Championships are intended to take place between 1 June 2015 and 31 December 2015. The dates for each IRB Regional Association Sevens Championship will be confirmed by 31 December 2014.</p> <p>Teams that have already qualified quota places for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games through the 2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series are not eligible to participate in the Regional Qualification tournaments.</p>



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

1	<p>Final Olympic Qualification Tournament</p> <p>The winner of the Final Olympic Qualification tournament will qualify a quota place for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.</p> <p>The final qualification tournament will be a 16 team tournament with the following quota of the best ranked teams from each IRB Region invited to participate, based on rankings from the 2015 Regional Tournaments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Africa (CAR) - 3 teams ○ Asia (ARFU) - 3 teams ○ Europe (FIRA-AER) - 4 teams ○ North America and the Caribbean (NACRA) - 2 teams ○ Oceania (FORU) - 2 teams ○ South America (CONSUR) - 2 teams <p>Teams that have already qualified quota places for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games are not eligible to participate in the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament.</p> <p>The tournament will take place at a time between the end of the Regional Qualification process and 30 June 2016. The date of the tournament will be confirmed by 30 November 2015.</p>
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WOMEN

Number of Quota Places	Qualification Event
4	<p>2014/15 IRB Women's Sevens World Series</p> <p>The teams ranked 1 to 4 in the final rankings of the 2014/15 IRB Women's Sevens World Series will qualify directly a quota place for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.</p> <p>It is intended that the Series will consist of 6 tournaments and will commence in December 2014 and finish in May 2015.</p> <p>The number of tournaments in the Series and the dates of each tournament will be confirmed by 31 July 2014.</p> <p>With regard to the qualification process for Great Britain, if more than one team from England, Scotland and Wales qualify to participate as core teams in the 2014/15 IRB Women's Sevens World Series, then by no later than 30 June, 2014 the BOA must designate the lead team which solely will be able to obtain qualification for Great Britain to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.</p>
6	<p>2015 IRB Regional Association Women's Sevens Championships</p> <p>The winner of each of the 2015 IRB Regional Association Women's Sevens Championships will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Africa (CAR) - 1 team ○ Asia (ARFU) - 1 team



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Europe (FIRA-AER) - 1 team○ North America and the Caribbean (NACRA) - 1 team○ Oceania (FORU) - 1 team○ South America (CONSUR) 1 team <p>All 2015 IRB Regional Association Sevens Championships are intended take place between 1 June 2015 and 31 December 2015.</p> <p>Teams that have already qualified quota places for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games through the 2014/15 IRB Women's Sevens World Series are not eligible to participate in the Regional Qualification tournaments.</p> <p>Final Olympic Qualification Tournament</p> <p>The winner of the Final Olympic Qualification tournament will qualify a quota place for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games</p> <p>The final qualification tournament will be a 16 team tournament with the following quota of the best ranked teams from each IRB Region invited to participate based on rankings from the 2015 Regional Tournaments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Africa (CAR) - 3 teams○ Asia (ARFU) - 3 teams○ Europe (FIRA-AER) - 4 teams○ North America and the Caribbean (NACRA) - 2 teams○ Oceania (FORU) - 2 teams○ South America (CONSUR) - 2 teams <p>Teams that have already qualified quota places for their NOC to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games are not eligible to participate in the Final Qualification Tournament.</p> <p>The tournament will take place at a time between the end of the Regional Qualification process and 30 June 2016. The date of the tournament will be confirmed by 30 November 2015.</p>
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HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Men

Brazil is guaranteed a quota place in the Men's competition subject to participation in IRB approved international Rugby Sevens competitions.

The Brazil NOC must confirm acceptance of the quota place by 31 May 2015.

Women

Brazil is guaranteed a quota place in the Women's competition subject to participation in IRB approved international Rugby Sevens competitions.

The Brazil NOC must confirm acceptance of the quota place by 31 May 2015.

E. CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

Following each qualification event, IRB will publish the results on its website **www.irb.com** and inform the respective NOCs of their allocated quota places within three days (3) of the conclusion of the qualification event. The NOCs will then have fourteen days (14) to confirm if they wish to use these quota places, as detailed in paragraph H. **Qualification Timeline.**

F. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

Men

If an allocated 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 as follows:

- If the team qualified through the 2014/15 IRB Men's Sevens World Series, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the 2014/15 Series.
- If the team qualified through the Regional Qualification Tournament, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the same Regional Qualification tournament.
- In respect of the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament, the NOCs of all teams that have qualified to participate in the tournament must confirm prior to the tournament that the NOC will accept the qualification place. If due to exceptional circumstances the quota place cannot be filled then it will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament.

Women

If an allocated 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 as follows:

- If the team qualified through the 2014/15 IRB Women's Sevens World Series, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the 2014/15 Series.
- If the team qualified through the Regional Qualification Tournament, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the same Regional Qualification Tournament.
- In respect of the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament, the NOCs of all teams that have qualified to participate in the tournament must confirm prior to the tournament that the NOC will accept the qualification place. If due to exceptional circumstances the quota place cannot be filled then it will be reallocated to the next highest ranked team from the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Men

If the Brazil NOC does not wish to use its allocated quota place, it will be reallocated to the second highest ranked team from the Final Olympic Qualification tournament.

Women

If the Brazil NOC does not wish to use its allocated quota place it will be reallocated to the second highest ranked team from the Final Olympic Qualification tournament. Should Brazil qualify through the IRB Women's Sevens World Series, the place will be reallocated to the next best ranked NOC, not yet qualified, from the IRB Women's Sevens World Series.



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G. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
1 October 2014 to 31 May 2015	IRB Men's and Women's Sevens World Series Tournaments
31 May 2015	NOC of Brazil to confirm use of Men's and Women's Host Country places to IRB
31 May 2015	Rankings for Men's and Women's World Series Tournaments confirmed. IRB to inform NOCs / NFs of their allocated quota places
7 June 2015	NOCs to confirm the use of allocated quota places to IRB
1 June 2015 to 31 December 2015 (TBC by 31 December 2014))	Regional Association Men's and Women's Sevens Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Africa (CAR) Regional Sevens Championships• Asia (ARFU) Regional Sevens Championships• Europe (FIRA-AER) Regional Sevens Championships• North America and Caribbean (NACRA) Regional Sevens Championships• Oceania (FORU) Regional Sevens Championships• South America (CONSUR) Regional Sevens Championships
End of Regional Qualification process to 30 June 2016 (TBC by 30 November 2015)	Men's and Women's Final Olympic Qualification Tournaments
TBC	IRB to reallocate all unused quota places
18 July 2016	Rio 2016 Sport Entries deadline

*To Be Determined