

2016 OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES – RIO DE JANEIRO

AGREEMENT FOR THE SELECTION OF ATHLETES
FOR THE SPORT OF:

Rugby

Table of Contents

Page	Contents
2	OCI Selection
4	National Federation Nominations
4	Eligibility for Consideration
4	Close of Nominations to the OCI
5	Appeals
5	Team Member Agreement
5	Announcement of Team Selection
5	Communication of Information
6	Advance Information
6	Key Deadlines
Appendix 1	Qualification System – Rugby

2016 OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES – RIO DE JANEIRO

AGREEMENT FOR THE SELECTION OF ATHLETES
FOR THE SPORT OF:

Rugby

The Olympic Council of Ireland (“OCI”) and the Irish Rugby Football Union (“the National Federation”) agree the following nomination and selection standards and procedures for the selection of athletes for the 2016 Olympic Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro (the “Olympic Games”) for the sport of Rugby.

The parties acknowledge and agree that the standards and procedures set out in this Agreement may exceed those stipulated by the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the International Rugby Board (IRB) (“International Federation”)

Accordingly, the parties agree that an athlete or team will not be considered eligible for selection as a member of the Irish Olympic Team for the Olympic Summer Games, even though he/she may have achieved the standard stipulated by the International Federation and/or the IOC, unless he/she fulfils the relevant criteria and/or achieves the relevant standard(s) pursuant to and in accordance with this Agreement.

IT IS AGREED THAT:

1. OCI Selection

- 1.1. The parties acknowledge that under Paragraph 2.1 of Rule 28 of the Olympic Charter the OCI has the exclusive power for the selection and participation of the Irish Olympic Team at the Olympic Summer Games. The parties further acknowledge that under Paragraph 2.1 of the Bye-law to Rules 28 of the Olympic charter, the OCI is required to constitute, organise and lead its delegation at the Olympic Games and that the OCI has the exclusive power in accordance with that Bye-law, to “decide upon the entry of athletes proposed by their respective national federations. The National Olympic Committees (NOCs) must ensure that the entries proposed by the national federations comply in all respects with the provisions of the Olympic Charter”.

- 1.2. Under paragraph 2.3 of the bye-law to Rules 28 - The NOC have the sole and exclusive authority to prescribe and determine the clothing and uniforms to be worn, and the equipment to be used, by the members of their delegations on the occasion of the Olympic Games and in connection with all sports competitions and ceremonies related thereto.

This exclusive authority does not extend to specialised equipment used by athletes of their delegations during the actual sports competitions. For the purposes of this rule, specialised equipment shall be limited to such equipment acknowledged by the Olympic Council of Ireland as having a material effect on the performance of athletes, due to the specialised characteristics of the equipment. Any publicity in respect of any such specialised equipment must be submitted to the Olympic Council of Ireland for approval if there is any reference, express or implied, to the Olympic Games.

- 1.3. In accordance with its exclusive authority, the OCI reserves the right to require any individual nominated by the National Federation to undergo a medical examination carried out under the control of the OCI Chief Medical Officer (and/or his/her appointed representative) at any time prior to, or during the Olympic Games to determine an individual's medical fitness to perform to the best of his/her ability at the Olympic Games and/or to determine whether or not an individual has breached any of the rules contained in or referred to under the Olympic Charter or the Team Member's Agreement in force at the time.
- 1.4. If, pursuant to and in accordance with the results of any such medical examination, the Chief Medical Officer considers in his/her reasonable opinion that an individual nominated and/or selected for the Olympic Games is not physically fit to perform and/or has breached any of the rules referred to in the Team Members' Agreement, the OCI may at its absolute discretion not select or may de-select such an individual.
- 1.5. The parties agree that pursuant to and in accordance with the OCI's exclusive authority, the OCI may at its absolute discretion refuse to select an individual nominated by the National Federation for selection to the Team.
- 1.6. The OCI agrees to notify the National Federation of its selection or refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the OCI receives the National Federation's relevant nomination.
- 1.7. No Team Member's selection will be ratified by the OCI until all relevant documentation and required procedures are fully completed.

2. National Federation Nominations

- 2.1. The National Federation agrees to submit to the OCI its nomination of any individual(s) or team(s) eligible for consideration under clause 3 below within the relevant deadlines set out in clause 9 below.
- 2.2. The National Federation agrees to provide the OCI with all such relevant documentation, including official results and ranking listings as the OCI may require in order to verify the eligibility of any individual so nominated by the National Federation at the time of nomination.

3. Eligibility for Consideration

- 3.1. The parties agree that they shall not consider any individual or team eligible to participate as a member of the Irish Olympic Team at the Olympic Games (the "Team") unless he/she/ they have achieved or exceeded, as agreed with the OCI, the relevant qualification method or standard as set out by their International Federation and agreed with the IOC and the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and complies with the nationality requirements as set out in the Olympic Charter and to provide the relevant information to the OCI.
- 3.2. The National Federation agrees that it shall not nominate any individual whose form and/or consistency does not merit nomination. Further, the National Federation agrees to monitor, and if necessary test, an athlete on an ongoing basis in order to ensure his/her current form is of a standard to perform at the Olympic Games.
- 3.3. The National Federation shall not nominate any athlete who is the subject of an anti-doping ban.
- 3.4. The National Federation shall inform the OCI immediately of the results of any anti-doping test of any athlete who is on the long list submitted to the OCI.
- 3.5. The National Federation shall not submit nominations for athletes who have received Tripartite (IOC/ANOC/IF) invitations, re-allocated places or wildcards or who have achieved qualification by means other than that described in the IOC/ANOC/IF qualification system and in this agreement.

4. Close of Nominations to the OCI

The closing date of the nominations to the OCI of athletes for the sport of Rugby is 4th July, 2016

5. Appeals

- 5.1. The National Federation shall have an appeals process available to Team member's and have submitted same to the OCI no later than 22nd May, 2015. Any internal appeals process must be concluded prior to nomination to the OCI.
- 5.2. Appeals to the OCI may be heard by the OCI Executive Committee or a sub-committee appointed by the Executive Committee for that purpose. It is agreed by the parties that the decision of the OCI is final.

6. Team Members Agreement

- 6.1. Each team member must sign the OCI's Team Members Agreement and the IOC eligibility form.
- 6.2. Failure to sign the agreement and eligibility form will prevent entry to the Olympic Games.

7. The Announcement of Team Selection

- 7.1. The National Federation agrees not to disclose any nominated athlete's name to the press or any other media until the OCI have selected the team member for the Rio Olympic Games and announced it to the press and other media.
- 7.2. The National Federation further agrees not to make any announcement to the press or other media in any form relating to any individual or team selected or proposed to be selected by the OCI as a member of the Team unless any such announcement is made jointly by the OCI and the National Federation under the OCI's management and control.
- 7.3. The parties agree that no commercial organisation shall be involved in any way in any publicity or advertising at any such joint OCI and National Federation announcement other than one or more of the OCI's sponsors and/or commercial partners.

8. Communication of Information

- 8.1. The National Federation shall circulate the information contained in this agreement and its Schedule(s) to the athletes, team managers, coaches and other relevant individuals within its sport and shall procure their compliance with it.

- 8.2. The OCI and the National Federation shall publish this agreement and its schedule on their websites.
- 8.3. The OCI shall issue the agreement to all National Federations.
- 8.4. The NF shall publish this agreement subsequent to the OCI doing so.
- 8.5. The NF shall indemnify the OCI for any loss or damage suffered by it as a result of or in connection with the nomination procedure other than those arising from the OCI's negligence.

9. Medical Data Capture Form

- 9.1. Each team member must complete the OCI Medical Data Capture Form

10. Advance Information

- 10.1. Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation must submit their selection policy of Athletes for the Olympics for recommendation to the Olympic Council of Ireland and the approval of the Olympic Council of Ireland.
- 10.2. Prior to 22nd May, 2015 the National Federation are required to submit their "fit to perform policy for approval by the Olympic Council of Ireland"

11. Key Deadlines

30th January, 2015

The 'Long List' of all potential team members to be submitted by NF and received by the OCI and this must include an updated athlete profile.

29th January, 2016

Revised (Short) list to be submitted by National Federation and received by the OCI.

TBC when the final IRB calendar of qualification events is known

National Federation nominations to be received by the OCI with all supporting information for selection.

Signed by:

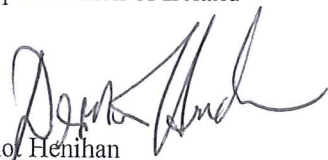


Patrick Hickey
President
For and on behalf of
Olympic Council of Ireland

Signed by:



Louis Magee
President
For and on behalf of
Irish Rugby Football Union

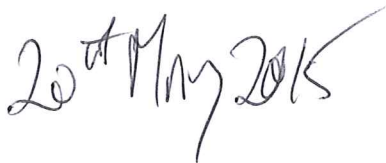


Dermo Henihan
Honorary General Secretary
For and on behalf of
Olympic Council of Ireland



Philip Browne
Chief Executive Officer
For and on behalf of
Irish Rugby Football Union

Date:



Date:



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>
---	---

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>
---	--

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.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

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