



The New IJF Tournament System

FAQ - Frequently asked questions: Judo Qualification System for London 2012 Olympic Games

- 1) Each country can be eligible for one place out of the total Continental Union quota. Does this mean one place out of the male AND one place out of the female quota?

No. The Continental Union quota allows for no more than one athlete per country (if eligible). This will guarantee that Judo will have more than 100 countries participating in the next Olympic Games 2012!

- 2) What chances does an athlete have of qualifying for the OG if he starts appearing on the international scene from 2010 only?

Of course, it will depend on his/her results in 2010 – 2012, and in any case, by missing the competition year 2009 he/she would not be losing as many points as if he/she missed e.g. the season 2011 / 2012.

In any case, it is important to start competing at the beginning of 2009, because until 30th April 2009 there are only 5 IJF events in the Calendar to be counted /even though 25% only/.

- 3) My athlete has qualified for the OG through the world ranking list. What happens if he/she gets injured before the Olympics and is unable to compete. Has the country (NOC) the right to replace him or her?

Only if there is another athlete from the same country placed among the first 22 Men or 14 Women in the world ranking list. Only the best ranked world athletes are eligible to compete in the Olympics and not just anybody can replace an athlete who achieved his qualifying merit through his results in world class competitions.

Performance in judo is impossible to measure exactly, but imagine that X has beaten the Olympic high jump limit – let us say 228cm - and after his injury Y is sent to the Olympics even though his personal best is 198cm only. Y's only merit would be sharing the nationality of athlete X who has qualified.

- 4) Will there be substitutes in case of withdrawal of some qualified athletes due to injury, or other reason?

Yes. The list of reserves for every weight category will be established immediately after all the qualifying places from the WRL and Union quota are allocated. Again, an athlete with the highest position on the WRL / the highest total of points / among the reserves in a particular weight category will replace the one who has withdrawn.



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- 5) Does a replacement need to be from the same Continent as an athlete who has withdrawn?

No, top ranking athlete from the list of reserves will be called in to fill up the vacated qualifying place in a particular weight category regardless of the Continent.

- 6) For the purposes of the ranking list, the best 5 results count in each 12-month period, which gives a maximum of 20 results for the Olympic Qualification. Is it not too many competitions?

The IJF Calendar is quite busy compared to previous Olympic periods, but this is an offer of competitions, not an obligation. Each year there will be the Continental Championships, the World Championships, and in addition to that, one or more IJF Olympic qualification events will be organized annually from now on by every Continental Union. In the worst-case scenario, it would be necessary to travel once a year to another continent in order to compete in an IJF event/s/ at a different level, i.e. the level one believes he or she can succeed in.

- 7) Is the IJF Calendar fixed for the whole Olympic period or can it be modified due to an increase in the number of IJF events in the continents?

The World Ranking List is fluid and any changes to the IJF Calendar such as an additional World Cup or a change in the date of a certain event will cause no problem. IJF expects that the Continental Unions will hold more World Cups in the near future.

- 8) The Continental Quota is 100 athletes in total for all the continents. What formula was used in allocating places to the different continents?

The formula is as follows: the number of National Federations affiliated to each Continental Union divided by 2 as guaranteed minimum of places per continent.

- 9) What procedure will be used to allocate the qualifying places from the Continental quota to athletes?

After the direct qualification is determined /of the top 22 men and 14 women in each category from the WRL /, each Continent will focus on its athletes to find the best one / the one with the highest total of points / across the genders and weight categories on the WRL. All these athletes will be located “ under “ the line of 22 M / 14 W.

When such an athlete is found, he/she is assigned the qualifying place for the Olympics. Consequently his/her country will be removed from the list for Union’s quota. The procedure will be repeated until the whole Union quota is filled up.



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10) Would the above procedure not disturb the ratio men / women established for total judo quota at the Olympic Games?

Not, because of the regulation: a maximum of 2 / two / athletes per category can qualify through the Union quota.

11) If a country will get one / or more / athletes qualified directly through the WRL, will other athletes of that country be taken into account for allocation of a place from the continental quota?

Yes, conditions for the Union quota allocation are equal for all the member countries /NF's/ with no exception.

12) What kind of competition system will be used at the London 2012 Olympics?

The Quarter Final repechage competition system.

13) When is the deadline that will determine Olympic Qualification?

The World Ranking List as of the 30th April 2012 will determine the allocation of all the places to athletes for London 2012 Olympics.

14) What rules will be applied at the drawing of the Olympic tournament?

Placing for the top 8 / eight / athletes in each weight category according to the WRL as of the 30th April 2012.