



Presidents and Secretaries General of the
**Boxing National Federations and
National Olympic Committees**

Sports Department

Lausanne, 15 May 2020

Ref. KML/lay

Boxing Road to Tokyo 2020 Updated Qualification System

Dear Presidents, Dear Secretaries General,

Following the joint [decision](#) by the IOC, Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee and the Japanese Government to reschedule the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 to start on 23 July 2021, and the receipt of the [revised principles](#) for the Tokyo 2020 Qualification Systems from the IOC, the IOC Boxing Task Force (BTF) focused on finalising the necessary adaptations to the current Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing and is now pleased to share it with you in [English](#) and [French](#).

We would like to reiterate that the existing results and the Olympic quota places earned and allocated thus far in the Continental Olympic Qualifiers for boxing (including the first three days of the European Olympic Qualifier in London) remain valid for the boxing tournament of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. In addition, we would like to remind you that athletes who did not earn a quota place, irrespective of whether or not they competed in their Continental Olympic Qualifier, may be registered to participate in the Final World Olympic Qualifier in any weight category that their NOC/NF has not already earned and accepted a quota place in.

The primary objective of this updated version of the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing is to provide guidelines and clarity on the qualification pathway for the rescheduled Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. An updated version will follow once specific dates and locations are confirmed for the remaining Qualifying Events.

The amendments of the updated Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing have been made in consultation with BTF Athlete Ambassadors (non-competing) and medical experts and can be summarized as follows:

Age requirements

As per the previous version of the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System eligible boxers had to be born between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 2001, a window that set a specific age range (at least 19 and maximum 40) in order to compete in the qualification events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Upper age limit

In accordance with the principle that athletes who have previously qualified for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will retain that qualification, the revised Tokyo 2020 Qualification System extends the upper age limit eligibility to ensure that all athletes who are eligible in 2020 will remain eligible to compete at the qualification events and Olympic Games in 2021. Therefore, the BTF, with the approval of our medical experts, agreed to increase the upper age limit by one year (to age 41) so that boxers born in 1980 will be eligible to compete in 2021.

Lower age limit

In consultation with its Athlete Ambassadors and experts, the BTF decided to confirm the same lower age limit criteria set by previous rules, meaning that all athletes competing in any event taking place in 2021 must be at least 19 years old in the year of the event. Therefore, all boxers must be born by 31 December 2002 in order to compete in the remaining Olympic Qualification Events and Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, all of which will take place in 2021.

New dates for the remaining qualifying events

To ensure that athletes will be able to properly prepare for the remaining qualification events, while still recognizing the ongoing effects of COVID-19, the BTF has established the following timeline for the remaining qualifying events:

- European Olympic Qualifier (*continuation from the day it was suspended*): FEB - MAR 2021
- Americas Olympic Qualifier: FEB - MAR 2021
- Final World Olympic Qualifier: MAY - JUN 2021

The exact dates and locations cannot yet be confirmed but will follow at a later date as the impact of the COVID-19 continues to evolve. We are committed to confirm the dates and locations of the remaining qualification events with at least 3 months advance notice, in order to guarantee the boxers an adequate preparation period.

We greatly value your patience and understanding during these challenging times and look forward to continuing this journey with you on the Boxing Road to Tokyo. We encourage you to promote the content on [Athlete365](#) to your boxers, which includes the latest information on COVID-19 considerations for athletes, physical and mental health advice, anti-doping information, and details on the IOC's #StayStrong campaign. It's available in 9 languages.

We remain at your disposal should you have any questions and look forward to staying in close contact.

Please take care and stay safe.

With many thanks and very best regards,

Boxing Task Force