



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

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

Lausanne, 15 April 2021

Subject: Update on the Boxing Road to Tokyo Americas Qualifying Event in Buenos Aires

Dear NOCs and Boxing NFs,

We hope this letter finds you and your athletes well.

We greatly appreciate your continued support and partnership throughout the Boxing Road to Tokyo journey.

As previously communicated, the IOC Boxing Task Force (BTF) has been carefully reviewing the implementation of tighter travel restrictions and lockdowns across the Americas region, which has significantly disrupted international travel and brought about much uncertainty ahead of the planned Americas Qualifying Event.

Over the last week, the BTF has been in contact with and received communications from many teams who have shared their concerns about the logistical challenges they are facing trying to get to/from Buenos Aires and, as a result, their ability to ensure the participation of their athletes.

The BTF met on 13 April 2021 to discuss the aforementioned points and possible scenarios and ultimately fully agreed on the following key principles which have been applied to all aspects of the Boxing Road to Tokyo Olympic qualifying process:

- a. protect the health and safety of the athletes; and
- b. safeguard a fair and equitable Olympic qualification, provide certainty to the athletes and allow sufficient time for them to prepare for Tokyo 2020

Therefore, after exploring all possible scenarios, and based on the great uncertainty that all teams and athletes would be able to travel and return to their home countries, the BTF has taken the very difficult decision to cancel the Boxing Road to Tokyo Americas Qualifying Event, which was scheduled to be held in Buenos Aires (ARG) from 10 to 16 May 2021.

Given the nature of the event being an Olympic qualifier with a large number of quotas (49) for Tokyo 2020, ensuring fair access and a safe environment for all athletes and officials is of the utmost importance, but unfortunately the current situation across the region does not provide the assurances that this can be accomplished.

In addition, with the complexity and nature of the sport of boxing and the large number of international participants (400 people from 80 nations, including technical officials) it was not possible to change the location with less than four weeks to go or reschedule to a later date, in spite of all our efforts to do so.

Allocation of the Americas Olympic Boxing Qualifier quotas

In light of the outstanding situation of the cancellation of the Americas Olympic Boxing Qualifying Event and following a thorough analysis and consultation with the BTF's Athletes Ambassadors and Boxing experts, the BTF has decided the following:

- a. Considering that only the boxers registered to compete in the Americas Qualifying Event would have had a chance to earn an Olympic quota place originally at stake in the event, the allocation of the 49 athlete quotas (33 for men, 16 for women) of the Americas Olympic Qualifying Event shall remain exclusive to the athletes registered for the event.
- b. All 49 quota places of the Americas Olympic Boxing Qualifying Event will be allocated via the BTF Ranking in accordance with the section D.3 currently found in the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing (dated 2 March 2021).
- c. The reallocation of the 13 quota places originally due to be obtained at the World Olympic Qualifier and redirected to the Americas shall be conducted only after the allocation of the 49 athlete quotas of the Americas Olympic Qualifying Event and follow the Eligibility Criteria found in the current Tokyo 2020 Boxing Qualification System.

It should be noted that the registration of the athletes by their relevant National Federation and NOC to participate in the Americas Olympic Boxing Qualifiers shall be understood as "participating in one (1) of the Olympic Qualification Events organised by the Boxing Task Force" and serve, along with the other criteria, for the purposes of allocating such quota places.

In the event that any of these quota places remain unallocated or unused after applying the abovementioned process, the BTF retains the right to define the allocation criteria for such additional tiebreakers to be reflected in the 'Summary on Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo', which will be updated together with the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System.

An updated version of the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for boxing - reflecting the aforementioned changes - will be published following the formal approval of the IOC Executive Board, which is expected by 7 May 2021.

The BTF would like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing collaboration and commitment to protecting the athletes and the sport of boxing, and for your great partnership on the Boxing Road to Tokyo.

Stay safe and stay strong.



Morinari Watanabe
IOC Boxing Task Force Chair