



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

## BTF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Following the IOC Boxing Task Force (BTF)'s decision to restructure the remaining qualification path for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, the list of FAQ below was created to address questions we have received and to provide further clarity. Please also note that we have included a reference documents section at the end of this document. Should you have any additional questions, please contact [info@olympicboxing.sport](mailto:info@olympicboxing.sport)*

### General questions

#### **1. What rules will be applied at the qualifiers and at the Games?**

The IOC Boxing Task Force complemented the existing AIBA regulations with specific amendments to create the [IOC Boxing Task Force Tokyo 2020 Event Regulations](#).

### Qualification System

#### **2. Where can I find the updated Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for Boxing?**

The new Qualification System can be found [here](#) on the Athlete365 Boxing page.

#### **3. Is the European Qualifier taking place?**

Yes, the event will take place in Paris (FRA) from 4 to 8 June 2021.

#### **4. Is the Americas Qualifier taking place?**

Yes, the event will take place in Buenos Aires (ARG) from 10 to 16 May 2021.

#### **5. Is the Final World Qualifier taking place?**

No. Following the Boxing Task Force's decision to restructure the qualification path to Tokyo 2020, the Final World Qualifier was cancelled to ensure that all athletes from all regions have a fair and equal opportunity to qualify, optimise sport performances and have adequate time for recovery and preparation for the Olympic Games, and to protect the integrity of the process. See Question 11 regarding the allocation of the 53 quota places from this event.

#### **6. Was it not possible to host the European Qualifier in April?**

Taking into consideration the feedback received from the NOC/NF surveys, consultations with the BTF athlete ambassadors, technical experts and medical advisors, and the ongoing challenges posed by travel restrictions and quarantine requirements, the BTF decided it was not possible to host the European qualifier in April. Because the event is an Olympic qualifier in which quota places are earned on a nominal basis (by name), it is imperative to ensure that athletes are able to attend the event, which was not feasible for April according to the feedback received from the European NOC/NF survey.

**7. Did you consider organising the Final World Qualifier on/at a different date/location before cancelling it?**

Yes. A thorough assessment was conducted prior to the decision to cancel the World Final Qualifier, involving the NOCs/NFs, BTF athlete ambassadors, technical experts and medical advisors. Given the importance of protecting the continental qualifiers and preserving a minimum period of 30 days between events (to ensure that boxers from all regions have the same opportunity to recover and properly prepare for both the qualifiers and Tokyo 2020), there was no other viable solution.

**8. Have any updates been made to the athlete eligibility criteria for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020?**

As has always been the case, boxers who participate in one of the Olympic Qualification events are eligible for a quota place. Additionally, the BTF has expanded the eligibility criteria to include those boxers who were not present in their respective continental qualifiers but have been awarded points in at least two of the selected events considered for the BTF Rankings.

This amendment takes into account those who were not able to compete in the continental qualifiers but have been successful in elite international events in recent years, with a considerable track record of anti-doping testing.

**9. What if my boxer was not able to attend or participate (i.e. medical withdrawal) in their continental qualifier?**

If a boxer was not able to attend their respective continental qualifier, the allocation through the BTF Rankings of the 53 quota places (32 men and 21 women) originally belonging to the Final World qualifier will be the only alternative pathway for an Olympic quota place allocation for the boxer in question.

**10. Can boxers who turned pro still take part in the Americas and European Qualifiers?**

Yes, the definition of "Elite" boxer within the BTF Event Regulations has not changed.

**[Olympic quota place allocation](#)**

**11. What happens to the 53 quota places originally assigned to the Final World Qualifier that has been cancelled?**

The 53 quota places (32 men and 21 women) of the Final World Qualifier will be distributed equally across all regions (Africa, Asia/Oceania, Americas and Europe) and weight categories. Following the fundamental principle of universality, one nominal quota place (by name) will be allocated to the best ranked athlete not yet qualified per region and per weight category, across both genders, based on the [BTF Rankings](#) at the conclusion of each respective continental event.

**12. What happens to the quota places that have already been obtained at the Asia/Oceania, African and European Qualifiers?**

Nothing changes. Athletes and NOCs that have already obtained an Olympic quota place will retain this.

**13. Why did the BTF decide to distribute the quota places originally allocated to the Final World Qualifier equally between continents and weight categories?**

The BTF decided to reallocate quotas equally across all continents and all weight categories following the principle of universality, in accordance with IOC Qualification

System Principle no. 5: “The principle of universality shall be reflected in qualification systems through continental representation. A maximum number of athletes per NOC will be set within each sport, discipline or event to ensure a broad participation of NOCs.”

Several other scenarios were considered but given the different advancement status of the continental qualifiers and the ever-evolving international situation, the BTF deemed this the best solution to ensure equality for all regions on the qualification path to Tokyo 2020. The decision was taken after thorough analysis, and only after consulting with athlete ambassadors and technical experts.

**14. Which competitions will be used to allocate the 53 quota places (from the Final World Qualifier) through the BTF Rankings?**

The BTF Rankings (developed in consultation with the BTF athlete ambassadors and technical experts, including Boxing NF representatives from various regions) were published in February 2020 prior to the start of the BTF Olympic qualifiers. The BTF Rankings consider selected boxing events from 2017 to 2021 (World Championships and regional events), including the BTF continental qualifiers. The events awarding points in the rankings are listed in the “Summary on Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020”.

**15. When will the boxers from Africa, Asia and Oceania have their quota places via the BTF Rankings officially confirmed?**

The allocation of the Olympic quota places will be sent to the respective NOCs on 18 March.

**16. Can a boxer who earned a quota place be replaced by a new boxer?**

No, quota places are nominal (by name). If an NOC that has a confirmed allocated quota place would like to withdraw this, no substitution will be allowed, and the quota place will be reallocated in accordance with the reallocation process found in the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for Boxing (“Tokyo 2020 QS”)

**17. How many quota places will be distributed at the Americas and European Qualifiers?**

Nothing changes. The allocation of the athlete quotas at the upcoming Americas and European Qualifiers is confirmed as per the Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for Boxing (“Tokyo 2020 QS”).

**18. When will the tripartite places be allocated?**

The Tripartite Commission Invitation Places will be allocated after the completion of the last continental qualifier - European. These 8 quota places (5 Men, 3 Women) are exclusive to the eligible NOCs that have submitted their requests to the IOC before the deadline.

**BTF Rankings**

**19. How were the BTF Rankings defined?**

A working group was created including representatives of Boxing National Federations from all regions, with the task of establishing a fair ranking system to be used as the baseline to seed boxers at the Olympic Qualifying Events and at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The BTF Rankings system was released on 3 February 2020, before the start of the boxing qualification pathway to Tokyo 2020. It is based on points awarded for individual results achieved at selected events between 2017 and 2021 (World Championships and regional events), including the BTF qualifiers. Not all event results carry the same weight in the BTF Rankings (for example, the 2017 Men's World Championship results earn fewer points than the 2019 Men's World Championship results). BTF continental events grant more points than any other event. A detailed breakdown of the number of points awarded for each event factored into the BTF Ranking is included in the [Summary of Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020](#).

#### **20. Where can I find the BTF Rankings?**

You can find the latest version of the BTF Rankings [here](#).

#### **21. Are the BTF Rankings final?**

The BTF Rankings will be updated after the completion of each remaining continental qualifying event (Americas, 10-16 May 2021 and Europe, 4-8 June 2021). Therefore, the BTF Rankings will be final only after completion of the European qualifier.

The final version of the BTF Rankings will be used to determine the seeding at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

#### **22. Why did the BTF not take into account youth/junior events in the BTF Rankings?**

The BTF Rankings system was established over a year ago and focused on considering results from the main elite international events of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic cycle. We appreciate that the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games has created a greater opportunity for younger boxers to qualify for Tokyo, but the BTF Rankings system honours and protects the boxers who have been active and successful during the current Olympic cycle.

#### **23. Regarding the BTF Rankings, what happens to boxers who have changed their weight categories between 2017 and 2021?**

BTF Rankings points are not lost in case of a weight category change. If boxers change their weight category voluntarily, they will take 75 per cent of their points into the new weight category. If a boxer's original category is merged into a new category, he/she will take 100 per cent of the points to the newly established category.

#### **24. What happens if two boxers are tied in the BTF Rankings?**

The [Summary of Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020](#) details how ties will be resolved.

#### **25. How accurate are the calculations of competition results for the BTF Rankings?**

To ensure the utmost transparency and integrity of the allocation process, the BTF Rankings were reviewed by an external auditor to ensure that all results have been accounted for accurately and are in compliance with the BTF's [Summary of Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020](#).

If you have identified a possible mistake due to a boxer's identity (name change), please contact the BTF immediately at [info@olympicboxing.sport](mailto:info@olympicboxing.sport)

## COVID-19 protection measures at Americas and European Qualifiers

### **26. Which COVID-19 protocols will be in place for the remaining qualification events?**

The BTF and Local Organising Committees are working jointly with the local health authorities to define the event COVID-19 protection plans. Some of the countermeasures defined by the BTF include:

- Mandatory COVID-19 tests prior to the arrival of all participants
- COVID-19 tests during the competition period
- Reduction in number of Team Officials that will be allowed per delegation
- Limit of two *seconds* per boxer on the FOP
- Limit in transport capacity.

The BTF will share these details with the respective teams prior to the events.

### **27. Will a COVID-19 vaccine be mandatory for participants at the remaining qualification events?**

Nobody will be required to have received a vaccine in order to participate in the Americas and European qualification events. The policies and COVID-19 countermeasure protocols outlined in the Team Handbook will apply to all participants, whether or not they have been vaccinated.

### **28. Will participants need to submit a negative PCR test before travelling to and during the qualification events?**

Yes, a COVID-19 PCR test must be undertaken by all participants within 72 hours of departure for and upon arrival in the host city, and throughout the event (every four days). Additional details will be included in the Team Handbooks.

### **29. Are there plans to reduce the number of participants at the remaining qualification events?**

The BTF has decided to reduce the number of Team Officials per delegation by an average of 30 per cent, while fully eliminating all non-essential participation across the qualifying events, including the activation booths present at previous qualifiers. The Local Organising Committees will optimise operations and reduce their workforce accordingly.

### **30. Is it mandatory for participants of the Americas and European Qualifiers to obtain the appropriate insurance cover?**

Yes, all participants must have their own travel, medical, repatriation and liability insurance, including for COVID-19 care.

### **31. Will participants need to quarantine upon arrival in the host cities organising the remaining qualification events?**

Only individuals that have COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19 or are identified as having a high probability of being infected (via contact tracing) will have to quarantine upon arrival.

### **32. What happens if an athlete tests positive prior to their scheduled bout at the qualification events?**

In the case of a boxer who tests COVID-19 positive prior to their scheduled bout, the bout in question will not take place, with an official result being generated as "Win by Walk-Over" for the individual's opponent.

**33. What happens if an athlete tests positive to Covid-19 after having competed at the remaining qualification events?**

If an athlete is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or tests COVID-19 positive after having boxed in any phase of the competition, the results of the bouts that the athlete took part in will not change. This includes the Olympic quota places obtained in the event in accordance with the Boxing Qualification System for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

**34. If a team delegation member has to go into quarantine during the event period, who will be responsible for the accommodation and other additional costs?**

Event participants who have to quarantine will be responsible for any additional costs, including additional hotel nights and meals.

**35. Will face masks be provided to all participants at the remaining qualification events?**

All participants will be responsible for their own masks, and all masks must have a minimum of two layers. We remind everyone always to wear a mask when outside their hotel room, and change the mask if this is soiled.

**36. Will the LOC/BTF help participants arrange PCR tests before flying back home from the qualification events?**

Yes. Please make sure you are up to date on the requirements for entering your home destination country, as well as any countries you will pass through in transit. If you require a COVID-19 test to enter your country of transit or destination, testing logistics and the necessary documentation can be arranged by the Local Organising Committee. However, all pre-departure tests are the full responsibility of the respective team delegations, including the costs of these tests.

**[Reference documents](#)**

- [Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for Boxing \(updated\)](#)
- [IOC Boxing Task Force Tokyo 2020 Event Regulations](#)
- [BTF Rankings system - Summary on Ranking & Seeding for the Olympic Boxing Qualifying Events and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020](#)
- [BTF Rankings](#)