

Baku 2015 European Games Qualification System Principles

Preamble

European Games Qualification Systems (EGQS) are the regulations established by each of the European Federations (EFs) that consist of rules and criteria for the participation of athletes in the competitions of the European Games. The EGQS shall conform to the Olympic Charter and the present Qualification System Principles as approved by the European Olympic Committees (EOC) Executive Board.

EGQS vary from sport to sport and are established to give a fair and equitable opportunity for the best European athletes to participate in the European Games, to promote a broad and universal participation of European nations in each Sport, but also to limit the number of athletes for each event.

European Games Qualification Principles:

The following qualification principles will apply across all EGQS for the Baku 2015 European Games:

- EGQS must allow for the participation of the best European athletes through a fair and transparent process within the framework of the Olympic Charter. These must also include a principle relating to universal participation and guarantee that the host nation is represented.
- EFs have the exclusive authority to propose the EGQS that are applicable to each successive edition of the European Games as approved by the EOC Executive Board.
- NOCs have the exclusive authority to select athletes duly qualified through the EGQS for the European Games.
- Only existing EFs competitions or ranking systems should be used to determine qualification places.
- The EGQS must allow for the allocation of places to either specific athletes or to an NOC. If places are allocated to an NOC, it should be clear whether NOCs have an open right of selection, or if there are technical requirements for athletes to meet minimum eligibility requirements.
- For sports in which qualification is based on meeting minimum technical standards, the respective EFs shall specify the events in which such standards must be met, and implement clear regulations regarding the distribution and verification of the results from these events.

- The qualification period for the 2015 European Games shall run from 1st November 2013 until 1st April 2015.
- All sports will have a common closing date for NOCs to enter athletes' into the European Games by name. This date will be specified by the EOC following consultation with BECOG but will be following the final qualification deadline (1st April 2015) and at least two weeks prior to the Opening Ceremony of the European Games.
- The EGQS for each sport and discipline on the European programme, once approved by the EOC Executive Board, shall not be changed or published in any other format without the EOC and BECOG's agreement.

Universality:

- The principle of universal European participation across a cross section of sports is a fundamental component of the European Games and shall be reflected in each of the EGQS
- Each NOC may participate in the European Games with a minimum of three (3) male and three (3) female athletes.
- Each EF is to make available to the EOC approximately 5% of the individual sports /discipline quota to be allocated against the principle of universality by an EOC technical group in conjunction with the appropriate European Federation.
- Only NOCs who don't reach the three plus three threshold following the final qualification date (1st April 2015) will be eligible to apply to the EOC for universality places.
- Any unused universality places will be returned to the EF for reallocation.
- The host nation is not entitled to universality places.

Reallocation of unused places:

- In order to avoid unused quota places, the EGQS should include a process and timeline for an NOC's confirmation or rejection of a place, and a process for its reallocation to another athlete or NOC.
- In principle, the timeline for notification of the use of quota places to the EFs by NOCs should be two weeks from the date from which qualification were achieved.



Host nation places:

- The EGQS should make provision for the host nation to participate in each sport and discipline on the European Games programme, subject to the athletes and teams reaching an acceptable technical standard as defined by the EF.

Issue resolution:

- Any dispute between the EF and the NOC should be resolved through the direct consultation process with the EOC. The Court of Arbitration of Sport shall be the last step for the resolution of disputes.

Eligibility:

The eligibility of athletes to participate in the European Games is determined by the standard individual eligibility criteria set by each individual European Federation for participation in their own sanctioned events.