



Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028 – Judo Qualification System

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. The qualification period is maximum 2 (two) years long.

When exactly does it begin and end?

The Olympic qualification will begin on 15th June 2026 and will finish on 12th June 2028.

2. There will be 6 team invitation places for the judo Mixed Team Event.

What is the qualification process?

Generally, each nation with athletes able to compete in all 6 (six) mixed team weight categories will take part in the Mixed Team Event in the LA 2028 Olympic Games. All those athletes must be qualified for the individual event. Additionally, each of the five continents has one mixed team event invitation place. The sixth (6th) Mixed Team event invitation place will be allocated to the highest -ranked eligible country from the Seniors Mixed Teams World Ranking List of the Olympic Qualification period.

Eligible countries are those with only five athletes qualified instead of the required six mixed team weight categories. Athletes who receive a mixed team event invitation place qualify automatically for both the individual and the mixed team event at the Olympic Games.

3. I have already qualified athletes for the individual categories of -48kg, -63kg and -70 kg for women and -73kg, -90kg and +100kg for men. Can I request an extra team invitation place for the -57kg or +70kg mixed team weight category?

No. Please note that invitations for mixed team competitions will only be given to mixed teams that do not have any qualified athletes fulfilling a specific mixed team weight category. For instance, if a nation has already qualified athletes for the individual competition in the -48kg, -63kg and -70kg weight categories and -73kg, -90kg and +100kg, they have fulfilled the criteria for the mixed team competition. Therefore, the nation cannot request a team invitation place in this case.

In such a scenario, an athlete in the mixed team would compete in the -48kg individual competition and fulfil the -57kg mixed team category, the -63kg individual competitor fulfils the criteria for the -70kg mixed team weight category place, and the -70kg individual competitor will be inscribed and compete in the +70kg mixed team weight category for the mixed team competition, alongside the three athletes in the men's mixed team categories.

Senior Mixed Team Olympic Games	-57 kg	Women (48 kg, 52 kg, 57 kg*)	Up to and including 57.0 kg
	-73 kg	Men (60 kg, 66 kg, 73 kg*)	Up to and including 73.0 kg
	-70 kg	Women (57 kg, 63 kg, 70 kg*)	Up to and including 70.0 kg
	-90 kg	Men (73 kg, 81 kg, 90 kg*)	Up to and including 90.0 kg
	+70 kg	Women (70 kg, 78 kg, +78 kg*)	Over 70.0 kg
	+90 kg	Men (90 kg, 100 kg, +100 kg*)	Over 90.0 kg

4. What category is missing in my Mixed Team if I have one qualified athlete in the -52 kg and -70 kg weight categories for women, and all men's categories are already filled?

The athlete competing in the -70 kg individual category may participate in either the -70 kg mixed team category or the +70 kg mixed team category. Therefore, the missing mixed team categories could be either -70 kg or +70 kg.

4a. How is the missing mixed team invitation place allocated (in this example)?

If the National Olympic Committee (NOC) has a Mixed Team event invitation place, it is awarded to the highest-ranked athlete who can fill one of the empty spots in either of the missing mixed team weight categories. For the -70 kg mixed team category, this would include athletes in the -57 kg and -63 kg individual weight categories, and therefore the individual qualified -70 kg individual weight category athlete would compete in the mixed teams weigh category +70 kg. For the +70kg mixed team category, it would involve athletes in the -78kg and +78kg individual weight categories, and therefore the individual qualified -70 kg athlete would compete in the mixed teams -70 kg.

5. Who can receive a mixed team event invitation places?

Invitations will be extended to the best nations on each continent, selected from the IJF Senior Mixed Teams World Ranking List (WRL) (published on the 13th of June 2028), that have athletes qualified in only 5 (five) mixed team weight categories. In the case of an unused mixed team invitation place for a continent(s), the place will go to the next best nation, regardless of continent, selected from the IJF Senior Mixed Teams World Ranking List.

6. In case an NOC already has an athlete qualified through continental quota, is the NOC also eligible for a Mixed team event invitation place?

Yes, the conditions for the mixed team invitation allocation are equal for all NOCs/federations, whether athletes are directly qualified or participating through continental quota.

7. What happens if there is an injury during the individual event and the mixed team only has 5 (five) or 4 (four) athletes able to compete for the mixed team event?

In this case, the mixed team will be able to take part because the main conditions were fulfilled: the NOC/federation has a minimum of 1(one) athlete qualified for each mixed team weight category, with a minimum 6 (six) athletes qualified for the Mixed Team Event.

8. Will there be a 5 % (five percent) weight tolerance as for world championship mixed team events?

Yes, the same conditions and competition system will be applied as for world championships. The only difference is that a maximum of 14 athletes can be part of the mixed team and all of them will receive medals.

9. If a player is injured before the individual event and recovers in time for the Mixed Team Event, is he/she allowed to compete?

Yes, he/she can take part in the Mixed Team Event, but no 5 % (five percent) tolerance will be allowed for such cases.

10. Can the athlete qualified via a team invitation place, compete in the individual competition even if her/his team cannot participate in the Mixed Team Event?

Yes, under some specific circumstances (for example four athletes injured/sick) the team cannot participate in the Mixed Team Event, but he/she can take part in the individual event.

11. When will the draw for the Mixed Team Event take place and what kind of competition system and which WRL will be used for seeding at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics?

The draw for the Mixed Team Event will take place at the same time as the draw for the individual events. The full and final Mixed Team Event athlete participation list will be required, at the latest, after the final block of +78 kg and +100kg.

Individual events will use the quarter-final repechage competition system with top 8 (eight) seeding according to the IJF Senior World Ranking List of the Olympic qualification period.

The Mixed Team Event will use the quarter-final repechage competition system with seeding for the top 8 (eight) teams according to the final ranking of the IJF Senior Mixed Teams World Ranking List at the end of the Olympic qualification period.

12. What procedure will be used to allocate the qualifying places from the continental quota in regard to gender equality?

After the direct qualification is determined, the remaining athletes will be merged in a global WRL list based on the highest total number of points, across genders and weight categories and continents from the IJF Senior World Ranking List. Then the athletes will be selected starting from the top, considering the category and the NOC. Once an athlete is eligible for his/her category, he/she is assigned the qualifying place for the Olympic Games, and his/her country will be removed from the list for the continental quota qualification. The procedure will be repeated until all continental quota places are filled. The allocation for continental quota places is as below:

Continent	Quota places men	Quota places women	Quota places total
Africa	12	12	24
Europe	13	13	26
Asia	12	12	24
Oceania	4	4	8
Americas	11	11	22
Total	52	52	104

13. If a nation has 1 (one) or more athletes qualified directly, will other athletes from that country be considered for allocation of a place from the continental quota?

Yes, the conditions for continental quota allocation are equal for all NOCs/federations.

14. If a category has more than 1 (one) athlete from the same country in the top 17 nations, which one will compete in the Olympic Games?

When an NOC/federation has more than one athlete directly qualified in the same category, it is up to the NOC/federation to decide who will represent the country at the Olympic Games.

15. Will there be substitutes in cases of withdrawal of qualified athletes?

Yes. After all qualifying places from direct qualification and continental quota are allocated, the list of reserves will be comprised of the remaining athletes on the IJF Senior World Ranking List and sorted by their ranking points.

16. Is there a difference between replacements for directly qualified athletes and athletes qualified through continental quota and what is the procedure to nominate reserves?

Yes, there is a difference between direct and continental quota replacements:

Direct qualification replacement:

If there is another athlete in the same category from the same country qualified among the first 17 qualified, then he/she will be the replacement. If there are more athletes among the best 17 qualified, the NOC/federation will decide who will be the replacement for the country at the Olympic Games.

In all other cases, a directly qualified athlete will be replaced by the athlete with the highest position on the reserve list for that category, regardless of the nation or continent.

Continental quota replacement:

An athlete qualified through the continental quota will be replaced by the athlete with the highest position on the reserve list who is from the same continent, regardless of weight category, but still fulfilling the continental quota gender rules. The nomination of reserve athlete(s) will be based strictly on the date and hour of the official announcement of withdrawal. Therefore, an athlete who has officially withdrawn is immediately replaced by the next reserve from the direct or continental quota. In the case of 2 (two) athletes being withdrawn at the same time (for example in the same e-mail from the same NOC/federation) then the directly qualified athletes will always be replaced first, and continental quota athletes will be replaced second.

17. My athlete has qualified for the Olympic Games directly through the IJF Senior World Ranking List of the Olympic Qualification Period. What happens if he/she gets injured before the Olympic Games and is unable to compete? Does the country (NOC) have the right to replace him/her?

Yes, but only if there is another athlete from the same country placed among the top 17 countries for men or women, in the IJF Senior World Ranking List of the Olympic Qualification period. The place is assigned to the athlete by name and not to the NOC/federation.

18. I have qualified for the Olympic Games, but I will not be able to, or I do not want to participate. Is there a possibility for me to withdraw from the event?

Yes, there is a procedure for withdrawal. The judoka must complete and submit a signed declaration officially stating that they withdraw from the event and voluntarily waive their right to compete in the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028. The deadline for the submission of this declaration to the IJF is the end of the Olympic Qualification period, which is 12th June 2028 23:59 CET. The declaration on withdrawal must be sent to the IJF Secretary General (gs@ijf.org). The consent of the NOC/federation is not required. After submission, the declaration on withdrawal is final, binding, and irrevocable. Following its submission, the replacement procedure outlined in this document shall be implemented.

*Please note that the terms provided in this FAQ are not exhaustive and are intended for informational purposes only. For comprehensive rules and regulations, please refer to the [QUALIFICATION SYSTEM GAMES OF THE XXXIV OLYMPIAD – LA28](#) for further details.