

International Rowing Federation (FISA)

EVENTS

Boat Class	Men	Men Lightweight	Women	Women Lightweight
Single Sculls (1x)	x		x	
Pairs (2-)	x		x	
Double Sculls (2x)	x	x	x	x
Fours (4-)	x	x		
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	x		x	
Eights (8+)	x		x	

ATHLETE / NOC QUOTA

Athlete quota: 350 places for men
 194 places for women
 4 places for Tripartite Commission Invitations
 2 places for Host Nation
 Total of 550 athletes

Maximum per NOC: 1 boat per event

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Attribution of qualification

At the 2007 World Rowing Championships in Munich which serves as the 1st 2008 Olympic Games qualification opportunity, it is the NOC that qualifies the places in a certain event, not the rowers who participate in the event. The NOC may therefore enter a crew with different rowers in this event at the 2008 Olympic Games and these rowers may row in different events at the Olympic Games than those in which they competed in 2007. However, at the three continental Olympic qualification regattas and the final Olympic qualification regatta in Lucerne, the rowers qualifying in a certain event must participate in that event if they participate at the Olympic Games. These rowers may also participate in another event in which their NOC has qualified.

Reserve rowers

NOCs will not be granted additional quota places for reserve rowers. However an ill or injured rower may be replaced in accordance with the FISA Rules of Racing and have his/her accreditation transferred to the replacement.

NUMBER OF CREWS PER EVENT

The following numbers of crews are entitled to participate in the Olympic Regatta as follows (subject to the reallocation of unused quota places):

Boat Class	Continental Qualification Regattas					Total Boats	Total Athletes
	2007 Worlds	Asia	Africa	Latin America	Final		
Men							
Single Sculls (1x)	11	6	4	6	3	30	30
Pairs (2-)	11	-	-	-	2	13	26
Double Sculls (2x)	11	-	-	-	2	13	26
Fours (4-)	11	-	-	-	2	13	52
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	11	-	-	-	2	13	52
Eights (8+)	7	-	-	-	1	8	72
Men Lightweight							
Double Sculls (2x)	11	3	1	3	2	20	40
Fours (4-)	11	-	-	-	2	13	52
Women							
Single Sculls (1x)	9	5	3	5	3	25	25
Pairs (2-)	8	-	-	-	2	10	20
Double Sculls (2x)	8	-	-	-	2	10	20
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	7	-	-	-	1	8	32
Eights (8+)	5	-	-	-	2	7	63
Women Lightweight							
Double Sculls (2x)	8	3	1	3	2	17	34
Host Nation Places						2	2
Tripartite Places							4
Boats	129	17	9	17	28		
Athletes	402	23	11	23	85		550

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

The crews will be qualified through the following methods:

a) 2007 FISA World Rowing Championships in Munich (GER)

Open to all NOCs whose NFs are members of FISA. An NOC whose NF's crew achieves a certain place at the 2007 World Championships will qualify and is permitted to select and enter a crew in that event in the 2008 Olympic Games. For the various events, the highest placed nations at the 2007 World Championships according to the places indicated below will qualify:

Boat Class	Men	Men Lightweight	Women	Women Lightweight
Single Sculls (1x)	11	-	9	-
Pairs (2-)	11	-	8	-
Double Sculls (2x)	11	11	8	8
Fours (4-)	11	11	-	-
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	11	-	7	-
Eights (8+)	7	-	5	-

b) FISA Continental Olympic Qualification Regattas and the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta

Crews achieving a certain placing indicated in the following table at the relevant Continental Qualification Regatta or at the Final Qualification Regatta will qualify and the NOC will be permitted to select and enter a crew in that event in the 2008 Olympic Games.

There will be three Continental Qualification Regattas, not all of which include all events, and a Final Qualification Regatta that are only open to certain countries and/or events, namely:

- Asia: Open to NOCs that are members of the Olympic Council of Asia;
- Africa: Open to NOCs that are members of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa;
- Latin America: Open to NOCs that are members of Organización Deportiva Panamericana, with the exception of USA and CAN;
- Final Regatta: Open to all NOCs except in the M1x; LM2x; W1x and LW2x events where the NOCs from Africa, Asia and Latin America are excluded.

Boat Class	Asia	Africa	Latin America	Final
Men				
Single Sculls (1x)	6	4	6	3
Pairs (2-)	-	-	-	2
Double Sculls (2x)	-	-	-	2
Fours (4-)	-	-	-	2
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	-	-	-	2
Eights (8+)	-	-	-	1
Men Lightweight				
Double Sculls (2x)	3	1	3	2
Fours (4-)	-	-	-	2
Women				
Single Sculls (1x)	5	3	5	3
Pairs (2-)	-	-	-	2
Double Sculls (2x)	-	-	-	2
Quadruple Sculls (4x)	-	-	-	1
Eights (8+)	-	-	-	2
Women Lightweight				
Double Sculls (2x)	3	1	3	2

- The NFs can only enter one crew per event at the Qualification Regattas and only in the events in which their NOC has not already qualified;
- FISA will only accept entries that are received by the fixed closing date. The entries should be accompanied by a letter from the NOC confirming that they are aware of the entered crews and that, if their crew(s) qualify, the NOC will be required to confirm their selection for the Olympic Games up to a deadline of two weeks after the date of the qualification regatta.
- The FISA Olympic Qualification Regattas will be held according to the FISA Championships System with heats, repechages, semi-finals and finals;
- The FISA Council shall select the sites of the four qualification regattas by the end of 2006;

- NOCs with crews who wish to qualify in an event that is not on the programme of the relevant Continental Qualification Regatta, or if the event in the Continental Qualification Regatta has been cancelled due to insufficient entries, may compete in the Final Qualification Regatta;
- In each event at all Qualification Regattas, there must be at least one more crew entered than may be qualified, otherwise the number of qualifiers will be reduced to one less than the number of crews starting. At least two crews must compete in the event. If the race is not held, then the entered crew(s) may subsequently enter the Final Qualification Regatta.
- If a crew that has already qualified at the African qualification regatta in July 2007 should also achieve a qualifying place at the 2007 World Championships in September 2007, then the World Championship qualification will be validated and the next placing crew at the African qualification regatta will be offered a qualification for the Olympic regatta. If this qualification place is not taken by the next placing crew, this place(s) will then revert to "unused quota positions" described below.

c) Host nation qualification

In respect to the general qualification principles identified by the International Olympic Committee, provisions will be made to ensure the representation of the host nation by both male and female athletes. Should the host nation not have achieved a qualification place, "host nation" places may be allocated to allow the entry of at least one male and one female rower from the Olympic host nation in the single sculls events, based on results at the 2007 World Championships and the final qualification event. If not used, these places will be considered "unused" and will be allocated in accordance with the paragraph "reallocation of unused quota places" below.

d) Tripartite Commission (IOC-ANOC-FISA) Invitation places

NOCs may apply for Tripartite Commission Invitation places in accordance with the identified timeline. The deadline for NOCs to submit their requests for Tripartite Commission Invitation places is 15 November 2007. The allocation of Invitation places will be confirmed, in writing, to the NOCs from April – July 2008. "Tripartite" places may be allocated to the Invitation place applicants by the IOC/FISA/ANOC Tripartite Commission, pending an assessment of their technical level by FISA. This technical level will be based on performance at qualification events. If not used, these places will be considered "unused" and will be allocated in accordance with the paragraph "reallocation of unused quota places" below.

Further information on Invitation places is contained in the Information Paper for NOCs distributed with the qualification system manual.

QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

31 December 2006	FISA to determine location of Olympic Qualification Regattas
19 – 21 July 2007	FISA African Olympic Qualification Regatta on the occasion of the All Africa Games in Algeria.
26 Aug - 2 Sept 2007	2007 World Rowing Championships, Munich (GER)
15 November 2007	Deadline for the submission of requests for Tripartite Commission Invitation places by all NOCs
15 – 18 November 2007	FISA Latin American Olympic Qualification Regatta, Rio de Janeiro (BRA)
24 – 27 April 2008	FISA Asian Olympic Qualification Regatta, Shanghai (CHN)
31 May 2008	Deadline for NOCs to confirm to FISA use of qualification places gained at the 2007 World Championships and Continental Qualification Regattas in Asia, Africa and Latin America

2 June 2008	Closing date for entries for the Final Qualification Regatta
2 June 2008	FISA to confirm allocation of any additional qualification places for the Final Qualification Regatta
15 - 18 June 2008	Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, Lucerne (SUI)
3 July 2008	FISA to confirm reallocation of any available places arising from the final qualification regatta
April – July 2008	The Tripartite Commission will confirm, in writing, the allocation of Invitation places to the NOCs
23 July 2008	Deadline for the Beijing 2008 Organising Committee to receive entry forms submitted by NOCs

DATES / PROCESS OF CONFIRMATION OF PLACES

By the closing date of 31 May 2008, NOCs must confirm the use of qualification place(s) they have gained at the 2007 World Championships or at one of the three Continental Qualification Regattas, by entering the crews that will represent it in the Olympic Games rowing events to FISA. If the confirmed entry is not received by this date, or if it is made by the NF but not countersigned by the NOC, the qualification place(s) gained will be lost and FISA may allocate the relevant free places in accordance with the process specified below.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA POSITIONS

If an NOC has qualified in a certain event, but does not select a boat in that event, or if it enters the same rowers in two events or if the host nation does qualify a male boat or a female boat or if no tripartite places are allocated, the places that are not used will be automatically restored to FISA.

The FISA Executive Committee may allocate these places according to the paragraphs below, in agreement with the IOC.

- In allocating the free places, the FISA Executive Committee is not restricted to the maximum number of qualified crews foreseen for each event, nor by the source of the unused seats. However, only NOCs whose rowers have competed in a crew at a Qualification Regatta will be eligible to be awarded these free places including the host nation and any Tripartite Commission Invitation applicants;
- In so far as possible, the free women's places should be allocated to women, and the free men's places to men;
- In principle, unused quota places shall be reallocated in accordance with the following priority:
- At the Continental Qualification Regattas, if an NOC which qualified a crew relinquishes a qualification place(s) at the two week deadline following the regatta, the place(s) may be offered to the NOC of the next highest placing boat in the respective event subject to an assessment of the technical level by FISA. If the NOC of this next placing boat does not accept to utilise these places, they will be considered "unused" places;
- At the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta in Lucerne, the Executive Committee may allocate unused quota places after considering the results of the qualifying regattas, the need to increase universality or other similar factors;
- The decisions of the FISA Executive Committee in this regard will be final;
- Any available places arising from the Final Qualification Regatta will be reallocated by the FISA Executive Committee by 3 July 2008.

The FISA Executive Committee is empowered to deal with all unforeseen situations arising in relation to these rules, to fill any omissions and to interpret the rules in case of any disputes.