



SPORT IN
THE OLYMPIC
PROGRAMME



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 8, 2019
To: ITU National federations
Re: Invitations background

Dear National Federations' Representatives

Generally there is not any set rule to follow during the procedure invitations, those in the hands of the different panels. If there were rules to apply, there would not be any reason to have panels, just to apply the rules, and that's it. However, there are some important aspects that the invitation panels use to follow as principles:

1. Invitations are the appropriate pathway to include athletes who were not in the start list due to extraordinary circumstances.
2. Invitations will be assigned following the principles of sport quality and universality. Therefore the admission of athletes from National Federations (NF), which has not any representative in the start list, is a usual procedure, provided that the panel considers, if the sport quality of the athlete is appropriate for the given event.
3. Increasing the presence if the host NF, if the sport quality of the athletes in the waiting list is appropriate for the given event and also in case the host NF is poorly represented.
4. Invitations are appropriate to include in the start list athletes from NFs with teams entered in the Mixed Relay of the same event and no athletes qualified in one or both genders. Sport quality of the athlete will be also taken in consideration.
5. Invitation panels will take the decisions in good faith and not interfering in the qualification process, specifically in the Olympic and Paralympic qualification process.
6. Invitations panel may decide to return some or all the invitations slots to the wait list roll down if they find there is no reason to allocate all of the invitations
7. Invitations panels are taking decisions based on the memorandum prepared by ITU Sport Department, which includes the rationale received from the NFs.
8. Invitations will be not awarded to athletes which may be qualified for the event through a different pathway such as replacement within the same NF.
9. To exceed the NF quota during the invitation process is a possibility that the invitation panels have, however this possibility will be used under extraordinary circumstances.
10. NFs are entitled to send invitation requests, but the invitation panels have the freedom to invite any athlete, even if the NF have not asked for or if the NF asked for an invitation of a different athlete.
11. Athletes receiving an invitation are expected to compete. If this does not happen, the options to be awarded with further invitations may decrease.
12. NFs will submit the invitation requests in good faith and underlining the extraordinary circumstances affecting the athlete. Requests including rationales such as "the athlete has not enough points to get in the start list" should be avoided.

As a summary, the invitations panels will decide freely and independently, under the umbrella of good faith and fairness.