

Communication No. 2573

Speed Skating Qualifying Competitions, Qualifying Times & Racing Rules

2024 WINTER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES (WYOG) GANGWON/KOR – JANUARY 19 - FEBRUARY 1, 2024

With reference to the Qualification System for the 4th Winter Youth Olympic Games (hereafter called YOG) for Speed Skating, approved by the IOC Executive Board and posted on the ISU website:

<https://isu.org/docman-documents-links-2/2024-yog-gangwon/qualification-system/17990-speed-skating/file>

and ISU Communication No. 2545 announcing pre-allocated YOG quota places based on results from the ISU World Junior Championships 2023, the following additional information is now provided:

1. Qualifying Competitions for remaining YOG quota places

- ISU Junior World Cup Competition in Baselga di Piné (ITA) November 25-26, 2023
- ISU Junior World Cup Competition in Collalbo (ITA) December 2-3, 2023

2. Qualifying Times for participation in YOG

To be entered for the YOG an athlete must have achieved the applicable qualifying time standards. Qualifying times must have been achieved during the period between July 1, 2022, and December 8, 2023. The qualifying times for YOG 2024 are the following:

Women: 500m 45,00 or 1500m 2.20,00
Men: 500m 41,00 or 1500m 2.07,00

If an athlete has achieved at least one of the above qualifying times, the athlete may compete in any of the events at the YOG 2024.

In the exceptional case that an NOC has been allotted one (1) quota place (for Women or for Men), but has no available athlete in the YOG age category who has achieved the above qualifying time requirements, the NOC may keep the quota place by entering one athlete who has achieved the following qualifying time standards:

Women: 500m 46,50 or 1500m 2.25,00
Men: 500m 42,50 or 1500m 2.12,00

The ISU Members / NOCs are reminded of the different age limits for YOG and the ISU Junior World Cup, which serves as the qualifying competitions for earning YOG quota places:

- YOG is open only for Skaters born between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2008
- ISU Junior World Cup is open for Skaters born between July 1, 2004, and June 30, 2008

3. Racing Rules

The competitions are held in accordance with the 2022 ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules for Speed Skating, with the following specifications:

- a) The *Mass Start event* will use the same competition format as the Mass Start event at the ISU World Junior Championships, i.e. over a distance of 10 laps with two intermediate sprints.
- b) The *Mixed Gender Relay event* will use the same competition format as at ISU Junior World Cup Competitions, based on ISU Rule 256, paragraph 3.4 (Competition format C):
 - Each team consist of two (2) Skaters, one woman and one man, representing the same NOC and selected by the NOC concerned among their Skaters entered for individual events.
 - Only one Team can be entered per NOC, and a total of 12 teams will be admitted based on the criteria given in section D.3.2. of the IOC approved Qualification System. Teams will qualify according to a ranking of the total time for their best ranked Skater in the 500m for Women and the 500m for Men.
 - Each heat (race) includes four (4) Teams.
 - Start of the race: At the 500m starting line
 - Finish of the race: At the 500m finishing line
 - Racing sequence:
 - 1st leg: 1 lap by woman skater
 - 2nd leg: 2 laps by man skater
 - 3rd leg: 2 laps by woman skater
 - 4th leg: 1 lap by man skater
 - Exchange zone: Beginning at the 500m start line; relay must be completed before the 1000m finishing line. Skaters can enter the ice at the apex/middle of the curve before the exchange zone to gain speed for the exchange.
 - The event is concluded by two rounds of races. The 4 (four) fastest teams from the first round of races (heats) will qualify for the Final to compete for the medals.
 - The composition of the heats for the first round will be based on the ranking list determining the qualification for the event, as per section D.3.2. in the Qualification Systems, as follows:
 - Heat # 1: Teams ranked 1, 6, 7 and 12;
 - Heat # 2: Teams ranked 2, 5, 8 and 11;
 - Heat # 3: Teams ranked 3, 4, 9 and 10.
 - The result of the event is determined as follows:
 - The 4 teams qualifying for the Final will be ranked ahead of all other participating teams. This will apply also in the case that a team will not get a valid race result in the Final.
 - A tie in the Final will be resolved by considering the times achieved in the first round.
 - The further ranking will be determined by the times achieved in the first round.

4. Safety measures

The safety measures (i.e. Skaters' equipment) at YOG shall be in accordance with the 2022 ISU Regulations and other relevant documents issued by the ISU, in particular ISU Communication No. 2477 or any further updates of this Communication.

5. YOG Competition schedule

The Speed Skating events will be held at the Gangneung Olympic Oval during the period January 22–26, 2024.

Seoul,
July 1, 2023
Lausanne,

Jae Youl Kim, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General