



FootGolf Qualification System

World Cup 2026

Acapulco, México

May 27 - June 7

Introduction:

The FootGolf World Cup 2026 Qualification System has been meticulously crafted to ensure global representation, foster competitiveness and motivate active participation in the sport. Designed with a balance of fairness and growth in mind, this system offers structured pathways for teams and individual players across all categories—Men, Women, Senior, and Senior Plus.

Developed through a collaborative and rigorous process, the qualification system was initially outlined by the FIFG World Cup Committee, further refined with valuable input from the FIFG Competition Committee, and finally revised and approved by the FIFG Board. This comprehensive review ensures that the system is robust, equitable, and aligned with the FIFG's long-term strategic vision.

Key objectives include aligning qualification opportunities with current participation levels, rewarding merit-based achievements and encouraging national FootGolf associations to expand their licensed player base. This approach not only enhances inclusivity but also supports the FIFG's mission for the global growth of FootGolf.

With over 750 players anticipated to compete, this qualification system ensures proportional representation across regions whilst promoting excellence through performance-based entry. The combination of guaranteed spots, rankings, and incentivized licensing strengthens engagement at both national and international levels, setting the stage for a thrilling and competitive FootGolf World Cup in 2026.

Confirmed by the FIFG Board, 20.1.2025

FIFG World Cup Committee
FIFG Competitions committee
FIFG Board

Last update: Feb. 2, 2026 (Team Competition Format)



Objective

The proposed qualification system for the 2026 FootGolf World Cup ensures fair and proportional representation across all regions while promoting competitiveness and incentivizing player engagement through structured pathways.

Key Features of the Qualification System

1. Team Qualification

- The qualification spots for Men's, Senior, and Women's categories have been distributed across the five global regions, ensuring representation aligned with participation levels.
- The allocation reflects current levels of participation and competitiveness, balancing global representation with merit-based entry.

2. Individual Qualification

- Base Player Allocation: Each country is guaranteed a minimum number of players in the World Cup:
 - Men: 1 player
 - Men Senior: 1 player
 - Women: 1 player
- World Tour License Percentage (75%):
 - A significant portion of spots are allocated based on the percentage of licensed players within each country. This incentivizes countries to increase their licensed player base, fostering growth at the national level. (To prevent manipulation, it is necessary to have played at least one FIFG tournament).
- Top 100 World Ranking Percentage (25%):
 - Additional spots are determined by the proportion of players from each country ranked in the top 100 of the World Rankings. This motivates players to participate in international tournaments and perform at the highest level.
- ***Players participating in World Cup qualifications in their country must have a World Tour License.***

Last update: Feb. 2, 2026 (Team Competition Format)



3. World and Regional Rankings

- World Ranking: Allocates spots to the top-performing players globally, ensuring competitive balance.
- Regional Ranking: Ensures regional representation by awarding spots to the top players from each region.

4. Senior Plus and Women Senior Categories

- Senior Plus players (52 spots) will qualify through World Rankings (2023 & 2024), regional allocations of 2025, and by WT Licenses of 2024.
- Women Senior players will qualify through the Women's Absolute Category rankings, streamlining qualification.

5. Rounding Rule for Percentages

- To simplify the allocation process, fractional spot calculations will be rounded to the nearest whole number, maintaining clarity and fairness.

Eligibility of Players Transitioning to Senior Category in 2026 (Individual Competition)

- Players who earn qualification in the Men's category through the 2025 FIFG rankings, but who will move into the Senior category in 2026, are required to compete in the Men's category.
- If a player qualifies via a national qualification process, the decision regarding the appropriate category (Men or Senior) is at the discretion of the member country. However, please note that the total number of allocated spots per country is fixed—no additional places will be granted for players transitioning between categories.

Implementation and Motivation

- This system emphasizes growth through active engagement in licensing, participation in the World Tour and regional tournaments.
- It balances guaranteed representation (base spots) with merit-based qualifications (rankings and licensing percentages).
- By linking qualification to licensed player numbers and rankings, the system creates a direct incentive for member countries to increase participation and competitiveness.

Justification for Board Approval

1. **Equity and Representation:**
 - The system ensures all regions are represented proportionally to their participation levels, fostering inclusivity and fairness.
2. **Growth-Oriented:**



- Linking qualification spots to licensed players and rankings directly motivates countries and players to expand participation and improve performance.
- 3. Transparency:
 - The rules are clear, measurable, and align with the FIFG's long-term objectives for global growth and competitive excellence.
- 4. Scalability:
 - This framework can adapt to future changes in participation levels and competitive dynamics, ensuring sustainability.

Conclusion

The 2026 FootGolf World Cup Qualification System provides a robust, fair, and growth-oriented pathway for teams and individuals. It promotes global representation while incentivizing engagement and performance. We recommend that the FIFG Board approve the system for publication and immediate communication to member countries, enabling early preparations and alignment with the FIFG's strategic objectives.

FootGolf World Cup 2026

Team & Individual Qualification

Qualification Distribution Overview

The qualification spots for the 2026 FootGolf World Cup have been allocated across the Men's, Senior, and Women's categories based on proportional distribution. This system ensures fair representation across five regions, reflecting the competitive landscape and participation levels of each area.

Team Competition Eligibility (Category Rules)

- Players from **Senior** or **Senior Plus** categories **may play on the Men's team**, but:
 - They must be **pre-listed before the event**.
 - A player **cannot compete in both Men and Senior teams**.

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Men's Qualification - 24 spots:

- **Region 1 (North America):** 2 qualifiers
 - Mexico qualified (host country)
- **Region 2 (South America):** 3 qualifiers
- **Region 3 (Europe):** 14 qualifiers
- **Region 4 (Asia):** 3 qualifiers
- **Region 5 (Africa):** 1 qualifier

Senior Qualification (24 spots):

- **Region 1 (North America):** 2 qualifiers
 - Mexico qualified (host country)
- **Region 2 (South America):** 3 qualifiers
- **Region 3 (Europe):** 14 qualifiers
- **Region 4 (Asia):** 3 qualifiers
- **Region 5 (Africa):** 1 qualifier

Women's Qualification (16 spots):

- **Region 1 (North America):** 1 qualifier
 - Mexico qualified (host country)
- **Region 2 (South America):** 2 qualifiers
- **Region 3 (Europe):** 9 qualifiers
- **Region 4 (Asia):** 2 qualifiers
- **Region 5 (Africa):** 1 qualifier

Total Teams and Players:

Team Composition:

Every country needs to present at least all starters at the beginning of the team World Cup.

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- **Men's Teams:** 24 teams (22 players per team: 11 starters, 11 substitutes)
 - 3 Individual, 3 Foursome, 1 Fourball
- **Senior Teams:** 24 teams (12 players per team: 6 starters, 6 substitutes)
 - 2 Individual, 2 Foursome
- **Women's Teams:** 16 teams (8 players per team: 4 starters, 4 substitutes)
 - 2 Individual, 1 Foursome

Replacement Method for Team Spots if a Qualified Country Withdraws

If a country that has already secured a place in the Team Competition decides not to attend the World Cup, the vacated spot will be reassigned following the procedure below:

1. **Identify the country with the highest number of World Tour Licenses of the vacated category*** that is *not* already qualified for the Team Competition.
2. **Determine the region of that country.**
The additional team spot is awarded to that region, not directly to the country.
3. **Regional Allocation:**
Once the region receives the additional team spot, the FIFG will assign it to the **next country in that region that did not qualify** through its official regional qualification system.

*by licence numbers on the 1.12.2025

Conclusion:

This qualification distribution and team structure ensure that the FootGolf World Cup will have global representation while maintaining competitive fairness. The total of 752 players across all categories will create an exciting and dynamic tournament, with balanced participation from all regions.



INDIVIDUAL WORLD CUP 2026

QUALIFICATION PROCESS PROPOSAL

736 Players – 4 Courses

Amount of players per category by % of License. For Women apply a minimum of 120 players.

- Men 384
- Women 120
- Seniors 180
- Senior Plus 52

See simulation:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HrrfYgFPjNKfhrjJTaDwSmpjk5VkEQIj/edit?gid=1722161836#gid=1722161836>

HOW TO QUALIFY?

1. Base player for Countries:

- a. Each country will take a base of players to represent their nation.
 - i. Men: 1 Player
 - ii. Men Senior: 1 Player
 - iii. Senior Plus: 0
 - iv. Women: 1 Player

2. World Tour License - Percentage *

75% of the spots remaining after applying base spots and qualified players through World and Regional Rankings, will be awarded by percentage of Licensed players until Oct 1, 2025. This will motivate Member Countries and players to increase the amount of licenses to get more spots. (To prevent manipulation, it is necessary to have played at least one FIFG tournament).

**Spots are for Men, Men Senior and Women*

3. Top 100 Ranking Percentage*

25% of spots remaining will come from a percentage of the total number of players from a country in Top 100 of the World Rankings until Nov. 24, 2025. For example: if Norway has 5 players in the top 100, they will be given 5% of spots. Each World Ranking per category will be considered for the calculation. This will motivate players to play the World Tour to get spots for their country.

**Spots are for Men, Men Senior and Women*



Furthermore, this may allow us to give few direct qualification spots in the World Ranking and at the same time motivate players to participate in international tournaments.

4. World and Regional Ranking spots

- a. World Ranking (until Nov. 24)
- b. Regional Ranking (until Nov. 24)

	MEN	SENIOR	SENIOR PLUS	WOMEN*
Base Spots	1	1	0	1
World Ranking	Top 5	Top 5	0	Top 3
Regional Ranking	Top 3	Top 3	Top 3	Top 3
World Tour Licence %	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Top 100 Percentage	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

**Clarification: Women Senior will be able to qualify through the Women Category. 2025 World and Regional Rankings will have Women Absolute Category.*

Drop Down: If a player qualified in 2023-2024 through World Ranking, gets a spot in 2025 FIFG rankings, the next player in that ranking will qualify. If the same player qualified through WR and his regional ranking the next player of that regional ranking qualifies.

Senior Plus World Cup Spots

52 spots:

- 2023 & 2024 World Ranking - 4 spots
- 2024 WT License spots per Country - 36 spots (chart below)
- 2025 - Top 3 of Regional Rankings - 12 spots

Drop Down: If a player qualified in 2023-2024 through World Ranking, gets a spot in their regional ranking 2025, the next player in that ranking will qualify.

COUNTRY	LICENSES	WC SPOTS	COUNTRY	LICENSES	WC SPOTS
ITALY	37	5	GERMANY	5	1
ARGENTINA	24	3	NORWAY	5	1
BRAZIL	21	3	SLOVENIA	5	1
FRANCE	20	3	JAPAN	4	1

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PORUGAL	18	2	AUSTRALIA	3	0
UNITED STATES	17	2	CZECH REP.	3	0
SLOVAKIA	16	2	LUXEMBOURG	3	0
ENGLAND	13	2	RUSSIA	3	0
HOLLAND	13	2	SWEDEN	3	0
SPAIN	11	2	URUGUAY	3	0
HUNGARY	9	1	CANADA	2	0
CHINA	7	1	CHILE	2	0
TÜRKİYE	7	1	IRELAND	1	0
MEXICO	6	1	WALES	1	0
SCOTLAND	6	1			
SWITZERLAND	6	1	TOTAL	274	36

If the results of a percentage give a fraction of a number we need to round up or down to a whole number.

Example: If spots for World Tour License gives 2.3 spots, it would be 2 spots, if result is 2.7 it is 3 spots.

2023 & 2024 World Ranking Spots:

According to the 2023 & 2024 Guidelines, these are the spots that were announced:

	2023	2024
Men	3	3
Men Senior	3	3
Senior Plus	3	3
Women	3	3

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2023/2024: Only players that finished within the top 3 are eligible for qualification. The Spots awarded will not drop down outside these positions.

2023 World Cup Champions

The Orlando 2023 WC Champions are qualified to the 2026 World Cup to defend their title.

All players that are qualified to the World Cup, even through FIFG World or Regional rankings, need to fulfill their member country's World Cup requirements.

Players that can play in a different category in WC than their World Tour choice, are those transitioning from men to senior or senior to senior plus in 2025/2026.

Reassignment of Unused Spots

In addition to the standard qualification spots, the following situations may create additional available spots for the World Cup:

- Spots allocated to New Member Countries that are not used
- FIFG Ranking spots that are not used
- Superstar spots that are not used
- Spots that any Member Country voluntarily resigns

All unused spots will be reassigned by World Tour Licenses, by category (Men, Senior, Women, or Senior Plus)*.

Reassignment Procedure

1. The unused spot will be assigned to the country with the highest number of World Tour Licenses in that specific category.
2. If that country cannot or chooses not to use the spot, the offer will move to the next country in descending order of World Tour Licenses for that category.
3. This process continues until the spot is reassigned.

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Team Competition Format, Playoffs, Rankings, and Tiebreaker Criteria

Team Country Competitions (Men's – Senior – Women's)

This document defines the official competition format, including the group phase structure, playoff format, overall ranking methodology, and tiebreaker criteria for all Team Country Competitions at the FIFG World Cup 2026.

All procedures are designed to ensure sporting fairness, clarity, and transparency, in full accordance with FIFG Competition Regulations and World Cup standards.

1. Group Phase – Match Schedule Format

For all Team Country Competitions (Men's, Senior, and Women's), the group phase will be played using a standardized round-robin format, where each team plays every other team in its group once.

Each group consists of four (4) teams, and matches will be played as follows:

Match 1

- Team 1 vs Team 4
- Team 2 vs Team 3

Match 2

- Team 1 vs Team 3
- Team 2 vs Team 4

Match 3

- Team 1 vs Team 2
- Team 3 vs Team 4

This format guarantees equal competition conditions within each group.

2. Men's and Senior Team Competitions

2.1 Playoffs Format

The playoff stage consists of a Round of 16, Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Final.

2.2 Qualification to Playoffs (Round of 16)

- The top two (2) teams from each group qualify
- The four (4) best third-placed teams also qualify

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A total of sixteen (16) teams advance to the Round of 16.

2.3 Overall Ranking for Playoffs (Positions 1–16)

- Positions 1–6: First-placed teams from each group
- Positions 7–12: Second-placed teams from each group
- Positions 13–16: The four best third-placed teams

2.4 Ranking Methodology (Points-Based Ordering)

Rankings within each category are determined primarily by total points obtained during the group stage. If teams are tied on points, tiebreaker criteria apply.

2.5 Round of 16 Matchups

- 1st vs 16th
- 2nd vs 15th
- 3rd vs 14th
- 4th vs 13th
- 5th vs 12th
- 6th vs 11th
- 7th vs 10th
- 8th vs 9th

3. Women's Team Competition

3.1 Playoffs Format

The playoffs begin directly at the Quarterfinal stage.

3.2 Qualification to Playoffs (Quarterfinals)

The top two (2) teams from each group qualify, for a total of eight (8) teams.

3.3 Quarterfinal Matchups

- 1st Group A vs 2nd Group B
- 1st Group B vs 2nd Group A
- 1st Group C vs 2nd Group D
- 1st Group D vs 2nd Group C

4. Tiebreaker Criteria

4.1 Ties Within the Same Group

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Used to determine group positions (1st–4th):

1. Match Difference
2. Matches Won
3. Head-to-Head Result
4. Hole Difference
5. Holes Won

4.2 Ties Between Teams from Different Groups

Used to determine overall playoff rankings:

1. Matches Won
2. Match Difference
3. Hole Difference
4. Holes Won

If teams remain tied, the final ranking will be decided by a coin toss.

5. Final Clarification

Points are always the primary ranking criterion. Group tiebreakers determine positions within each group, while overall ranking tiebreakers determine playoff seeding and matchups. All procedures are applied in accordance with FIFG Competition Regulations.

Anti-Corruption and Integrity Clause for Team and Individual Qualification Spots

Principle of Fair Competition

Participation in the World Cup Qualification process, for both team and individual spots, is governed by the core values of integrity, fairness, and merit-based selection. All qualification spots must be allocated exclusively on the basis of athletic performance, skills, and contributions, ensuring equal opportunities for all participants and Member Countries.

Prohibition on Financial Transactions for Qualification Spots

The sale, auction, or any form of financial or material exchange for team or individual qualification spots is strictly prohibited. No individual, organization, or entity may profit from or influence the allocation of spots through monetary or other material means.

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Zero-Tolerance Policy and Consequences

Any Member Country, team, or individual found engaging in, or facilitating, the sale or exchange of qualification spots in violation of this clause will face immediate sanctions, including:

- Disqualification from the current World Cup Qualification process or the competition itself.
- Bans from participation in subsequent World Cups or qualification cycles.
- Temporary or permanent bans for individuals involved, including players, team officials, or representatives, from all FIFG-sanctioned events.

All cases will be reviewed by the FIFG Integrity Committee, with decisions communicated promptly and transparently.

Reporting and Whistleblower Protection

FIFG encourages the reporting of any suspected breaches of this clause.

Whistleblowers are protected under the FIFG's Confidentiality and Non-Retaliation Policy (TBA), ensuring their safety and anonymity throughout the investigation process.

Monitoring and Compliance

FIFG will actively monitor compliance through random audits, investigative mechanisms, and reporting channels. These measures ensure the highest standards of fairness and integrity are upheld for both team and individual qualification spots, safeguarding the legitimacy of the World Cup Qualification process.

Adjustments for the World Cup Qualification System

The FIFG reserves the right to modify any aspects of the World Cup Qualification System or introduce new provisions if adjustments are deemed necessary. This includes circumstances such as changes in infrastructure setup, capacity limitations, unforeseen fluctuations in licensed player numbers, or evolving demands related to AIMS onboarding or compliance.

Any proposed adjustments will first undergo evaluation and agreement by the FIFG World Cup Committee and the FIFG Competition Committee, followed by final approval from the FIFG Board. Once approved, all changes will be promptly communicated to Member Countries and implemented in alignment with the revised guidelines.