

IHF – Handball

Men and Women

EVENTS (2)	Men (1) 12-team tournament	Women (1) 12-team tournament
ATHLETE QUOTA	Men	180 (12 teams x 15 players)
	Women	180 (12 teams x 15 players)
	TOTAL	360

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM PRINCIPLES – MEN AND WOMEN

Event	Qualification	Total
2007 World Championships	The Men's and Women's World Champions 2007 are qualified	Men: 1 team Women: 1 team
Continental Qualifications	1 men's team and 1 women's team qualify from each of the 4 continental federations: - Africa - Asia - Europe - Pan-America	Men: 4 teams Women: 4 teams
IHF Qualifying	The remaining 6 (men) and 6 (women) teams qualify through IHF Qualifying Events	Men: 6 teams Women: 6 teams
Host nation	The host nation automatically qualifies 1 men's team and 1 women's team	Men: 1 team Women: 1 team
Total	Men Women	12 teams 12 teams

International Handball Federation (IHF)

EVENTS

12-team tournament for men

12-team tournament for women

ATHLETE / NOC QUOTA

Athlete quota: 180 men (12 teams of 15 players each)
180 women (12 teams of 15 players each)
Total of 360 athletes

Maximum per NOC: 1 men's team of 15 players and 1 women's team of 15 players

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Olympic handball tournament for men and women (12 teams)

a) **2007 World Championships** (1 place)

The World Champion will qualify. If the host nation CHN is World Champion, the second-ranked team at the World Championship concerned qualifies

b) **Host nation** (1 place)

The host nation of the Olympic Games shall be automatically qualified

c) **Continental Qualifications** (4 places)

One team shall be qualified from each of the four continental federations (on the occasion of the Continental Championship concerned):

- Africa
- Asia
- Europe
- Pan-America

In the event that the 2007 World Champion (or the host nation) also wins the Continental Championship, the second-ranked team of the continental championship concerned will qualify.

The events to be staged at continental qualification events are noted under the qualifying timeline.

d) **IHF Qualifying Tournaments** (6 places)

The remaining six (6) teams are established as follows:

Three (3) tournaments (for men and women each) with four (4) teams participating in each (=12 teams). Participants:

- Six (6) teams ranked 2nd to 7th at the 2007 World Championship (excluding those teams already qualified through continental qualification or as host nation)
- The highest ranked team from each continental qualification event (excluding those teams already qualified)
 - 1 x Africa
 - 1 x Asia
 - 1 x Europe
 - 1 x Pan-America
- 1 x*
- 1 x* #

* These two places are allocated to the two best ranked continents at the 2007 World Championship.

If Oceania is ranked between places 8-12 at the 2007 World Championship, it will be allocated this second place otherwise 'owned' by the continent which ranked second at the 2007 World Championship.

The first- and second-ranked teams from each of these three tournaments will qualify for the Olympic Games.

System

	Tournament I	Tournament II	Tournament III
Teams ranked at the World Championship 2007	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Teams ranked at the World Championship 2007	7 th	6 th	5 th
	Europe	Africa	Asia
	Pan-America	(...)*	(...)* #

*These two places are allocated to the two best ranked continents at the 2007 World Championship.

#If Oceania is ranked between places 8-12 at the 2007 World Championship, it will be allocated this second place otherwise 'owned' by the continent which ranked second at the 2007 World Championship.

QUALIFICATION TIMELINE**World Championships**

19 January – 4 February 2007

Men's World Championship, (GER)

2 - 16 December 2007

Women's World Championship, (FRA)

Continental Qualifying**Europe**

17 - 27 January 2008

Men's European Championship, (NOR)

7 – 17 December 2006

Women's European Championship, (SWE)

Asia

By end of Jan 2008

Men's Olympic qualifying event, *site to be confirmed*

By end of 2007

Women's Olympic qualifying event, *site to be confirmed***Africa**

By end of Jan 2008

Men's and Women's Africa Nations Cup for Seniors, *site to be confirmed***Pan-America**

14 - 29 July 2007

Men's and Women's Pan-American Games, (BRA)

IHF Qualifying

By end of May 2008

IHF Men's Qualifying Round

By end of March 2008

IHF Women's Qualifying Round

1 June 2008

Date by which qualification events must be completed and qualification places confirmed to the NOCs

TBC

Date by which NOCs must confirm the use of their places

23 July 2008

Deadline for Beijing 2008 Organising Committee to receive entry forms submitted by NOCs

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA POSITIONS

If any NOC does not select a qualified team, the qualification place will be reallocated to the next ranked team from the event at which the respective place was gained.