



INTERNATIONAL NETBALL FEDERATION

INF Position Statement Regarding Netball and the Olympic Games

The INF is often asked whether netball is in the Olympic Games. The paper sets out the current status.

The Olympic Games

The IOC (International Olympic Committee) 'owns' the Olympic Games. The honour and responsibility of hosting the Olympic Games are entrusted by the IOC to a city, which is elected as the host city of the Olympic Games. The Games of the Olympiad (4 year period) are celebrated during the first year of an Olympiad, and the Olympic Winter Games during its third year.

The Olympic Charter sets forth and recalls the Fundamental Principles and essential values of Olympism and is an excellent guide to how the Olympic movement works.

It defines the three main constituents of the Olympic Movement, namely the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees, as well as the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games, all of which are required to comply with the Olympic Charter.

IOC Recognition

In order to develop and promote the Olympic Movement, the IOC may recognise as 'International Federations' (IF's) international non-governmental organisations administering one or several sports at world level and encompassing organisations administering such sports at national level.

The statutes, practice and activities of the IFs within the Olympic Movement must be in conformity with the Olympic Charter, including the adoption and implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code.

The International Netball Federation is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). This status was earned because of netball's global popularity, our strong and effective governance structures and our compliance with the Olympic Charter.

However, IOC recognition does not mean automatic inclusion in the Olympic Games.

The Programme of the Olympic Games

As you can imagine there are many sports that wish to be involved in the Olympics. There were 26 sports for London 2012 and there will be 28 sports in Rio 2016.

The criteria for inclusion in the Games were reviewed recently by the IOC as part of the IOC Agenda 2020 programme of reforms.

The Agenda 2020 recommendation 10 is as follows:

Move from a sport-based, to an event-based programme:

1. Regular reviews of the programme to be based on events rather than sports, with the involvement of the International Federations, and with the following restrictions to be respected:



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- For the Games of the Olympiad: approximately 10,500 athletes, 5,000 accredited coaches and athletes' support personnel, and 310 events,
- For the Winter Games, approximately 2,900 athletes, 2,000 accredited coaches and athletes' support personnel, and 100 events.

2. The IOC Session to decide on the inclusion of any sport (IF) in the programme.

3. The IOC to allow the OCOGs to make a proposal for the inclusion of one or more additional events on the Olympic programme for that edition of the Olympic Games.

Bidding to be part of the Olympic Games requires considerable financial investment by a sport and many hours lobbying IOC Members and OCOGS.

INF's purpose

The INF's Articles of Association state clearly the fundamental purposes of the company. One of these purposes is stated as:

- to maintain Netball on the Commonwealth Games programme and to strive for the addition of Netball to the Olympic programme;

In accordance with this INF applied to the OCOG for netball to be a part of the OG Tokyo 2020 but was unsuccessful.

Netball is a compulsory sport in the Commonwealth Games, reflecting the strong heritage of netball in Commonwealth countries.

The INF will continue to apply resources towards the goal of inclusion in the Olympic Games.

INF meets regularly with representatives from the IOC.

INF continues to work to increase the awareness of the sport worldwide e.g. Increasing Membership, working to gain involvement in more multi-sport events such as the South East Asia Games, the FISU Universiade, The World Games etc

Websites worth looking at for further information include:

<http://www.olympic.org/en/>

<http://netball.org>