



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

FACTSHEET

THE PROGRAMME OF THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2017

According to the Olympic Charter, “*the programme of the Olympic Games (hereinafter also referred to as ‘the programme’) is the programme of all competitions of the Olympic Games established for each edition of the Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)*” and “*Only those sports which are practised on snow or ice are considered as winter sports*” and may therefore be included in the programme of the Olympic Winter Games.

The Olympic sports are those governed by International Federations (IFs) recognised by the IOC. Only sports that adopt and implement the World Anti-Doping Code can be included or remain in the programme.

Today, the Olympic programme is reviewed after each edition of the Games. This is the task of the Olympic Programme Commission, which is made up of IOC members and representatives of the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), IFs, athletes and other experts. It studies the programme of sports, disciplines and events at the Olympic Games. The Commission then makes its recommendations to the IOC Executive Board (EB) and reports to the IOC Session.

The procedure for the definition of the Olympic programme has evolved since the implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020, the strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement.

THE PROGRAMME OF THE WINTER GAMES IN PYEONGCHANG IN 2018

The 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang will be comprised of 102 events in seven sports. In PyeongChang in 2018, six new events are included on the Olympic programme (see table A) and two events have been removed. The new events are:

- Curling Mixed Doubles (mixed gender)
- Speed Skating Mass Start (men and women)
- Snowboard Big Air (men and women)
- Alpine Nations Team Event (mixed gender)

On June 08, 2015, the IOC Executive Board reviewed the report from the Olympic Programme Commission and finalized the event programme and athlete quotas for the XXIII Olympic Winter Games, PyeongChang 2018.

These considerations were made within the context of Olympic Agenda 2020, including the framework of approximately 2,900 athletes and 100 events for the Olympic Winter Games, a focus on continued innovation of the programme and increasing gender equality. It should also be noted that the submissions were received prior to the finalisation of Olympic Agenda 2020, and therefore should be considered as a transition towards its full implementation for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

The IOC Executive Board had previously voted in 2011 to also include the alpine nations team event (one mixed event with the existing athlete quota) in the programme of the 2018 Games.

Beyond the requests received from the IFs the IOC Executive Board also decided to remove Snowboard Parallel Slalom (2 events, men and women) in agreement with the International Ski Federation (FIS).

More information on the historical evolution of the programme can be located in table B.

OLYMPIC PROGRAMME COMMISSION

The Olympic Programme Commission has the responsibility of analysing the programme of sports for both the Games of the Olympiad and Olympic Winter Games, and forming recommendations for consideration by the IOC Executive Board.



Olympic Agenda 2020 noted that “*the Olympic programme is the fundamental core of the Olympic Games as decisions regarding the programme have an impact on virtually all other areas of the Olympic Games and Olympic Movement.*”

The responsibilities of the Olympic Programme Commission are to:

- Develop a programme that maximises the popularity of the Olympic Games while containing costs and complexity;
- Ensure the Olympic programme remains relevant to young people by promoting innovation and adapting to modern taste and new trends, while respecting the history and tradition of the sports;
- Thoroughly evaluate the sports and events in close cooperation with the respective International Federations;
- Respect the frameworks and principles outlined in Olympic Agenda 2020 Recommendations 9, 10 and 11.

OLYMPIC PROGRAMME PROCESS

There are three steps to the finalisation of the programme for an Olympic Games or Olympic Winter Games. These steps are detailed below.

1. Sports programme

Seven years before the Games, the IOC Executive Board submits a proposal of the final sports to the IOC Session for a vote before the host city of that Games is elected ([Olympic Charter](#), Bye-law to Rule 45, section 1.1)

2. NEW since December 2014 – Host City / OCOG proposal

This step is an optional proposal which is made by the Host City to the IOC. Currently it occurs sometime between the confirmation of the sports programme and the finalisation of the event programme.

This is considered outside the quota of 2,900 athletes and 100 events for the Olympic Winter Games, upon agreement with the Organising Committee of the Games (OCOG). The process is loosely defined as follows:

- The OCOG proposal on new sports is submitted to the IOC for review analysis and if necessary, observation;
- The Olympic Programme Commission works to review the proposal;
- The IOC Executive Board reviews and makes a proposal to the IOC Session on events and athlete quotas in the OCOG proposal on new sports;
- The IOC Session votes on the OCOG proposal on new sports (Olympic Charter Rule 45 and its Bye-law).

3. Event programme – three years out from the Games

This is considered within the quota of 2,900 athletes and 100 events.

- The Olympic Programme Commission reviews all proposed changes to the programme in consultation with the IFs concerned and makes a recommendation to the IOC Executive Board;
- The IOC Executive Board votes to accept, reject or request further review.

KEY DATES FOR THE WINTER GAMES PROGRAMME

1908: Figure Skating is on the programme of the Summer Games in London.

1920: Figure Skating and Ice Hockey are on the programme of the Summer Games in Antwerp.

1924: first Olympic Winter Games in Chamonix.

1936: introduction of Alpine Skiing at the Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

1952: first women's Cross-Country Skiing event in Oslo.

1960: Speed Skating increases from 4 to 8 events when it is opened to women. Biathlon is



included in the Games, while Bobsleigh is excluded from the programme due to insufficient entries.

1964: Luge is introduced at the Games in Innsbruck.

1988: Alpine Skiing increases from 6 to 10 events with the addition of the Super Giant Slalom and the reintroduction of Alpine Combined. Team sports are introduced in Nordic Combined and Ski Jumping.

1992: Short Track Speed Skating and Freestyle Skiing are added to the Olympic programme, while Biathlon is opened to women.

1998: Snowboarding is included, while the Curling event is reintroduced 74 years after its first official appearance at the Chamonix Games.

2002: Skeleton returns permanently to the programme, having been included in the Saint Moritz editions of 1928 and 1948, when there was a specific track for this discipline.

2006: Four new events are included in the Turin Games for both men and women in Snowboarding (Snowboard Cross), Biathlon (Mass Start), Speed Skating (Team Pursuit) and Cross-country (Team Sprint).

2010: For the Games in Vancouver, two new events are included in Freestyle Skiing: Ski Cross for men and women.

2014: Twelve new events are included in Ski Jumping Freestyle Skiing, Snowboarding, Biathlon, Luge and Figure Skating; this is the biggest increase of the history of the Winter Games.

2018: Six new medal events for Curling Mixed Doubles, Speed Skating Mass Start for women and men, Alpine Skiing Nations Team event and Snowboard Big Air for women and men were all added to the 2018 Games, reflecting the continued evolution of the Winter Olympic programme and building on the success of recent editions of the Games.

Table A: The programme of the XXIII Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang in 2018

Sports	Disciplines	Number of men's events	Number of women's events	Number of mixed events
Biathlon	Biathlon	5	5	1
Bobsleigh	Bobsleigh	2	1	-
	Skeleton	1	1	-
Curling	Curling	1	1	1
Ice Hockey	Ice hockey	1	1	-
Luge	Luge	1	1	2 ^[1]
Skating	Speed skating	7	7	-
	Short-track speed skating	4	4	-
	Figure skating	1	1	3
Skiing	Cross-country skiing	6	6	-
	Ski jumping	3	1	-
	Nordic combined	3	-	-
	Alpine skiing	5	5	1
	Snowboarding	5	5	-
	Freestyle skiing	5	5	-
7 sports	15 disciplines	50	44	8

^[1] In the doubles event, please note that it is not necessary one man and one woman per sled



Table B: Evolution of the programme of the Olympic Winter Games

	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1994	1998	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	
Alpine skiing	-	-	-	2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11
Biathlon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	6	6	6	8	10	10	10	11	11
Bobsleigh	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Cross-country skiing	2	2	2	3	3	4	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	10	10	10	12	12	12	12	12	12
Curling	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Figure skating	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
Freestyle skiing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	4	4	4	6	10	10
Ice hockey	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Luge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4
Nordic combined	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Short-track speed skating	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	6	8	8	8	8	8	8
Skeleton	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ski jumping	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4
Snowboarding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	6	6	6	10	10
Speed skating	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	12	12	14
Total	16*	14	14	17	22	22	24	27	34	35	35	37	38	39	46	57	61	68	78	84	86	98	102	

* The event of the Military Patrol was on the programme of the first Games in 1924. Discipline with women's events are in blue

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