



by mail only

Lausanne, 2nd July 2025

Dear Presidents, dear Secretaries General,

We are writing to you today to provide you with important information regarding the upcoming Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG), where Skateboarding, specifically the Street discipline, will make its debut. This is a monumental opportunity for our young athletes to compete on the global stage, and World Skate is committed to ensuring that our Member Federations are fully prepared to facilitate their participation.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has initiated the intention of participation process for the Youth Olympic Games. It is crucial to understand that participation will **not** occur through a traditional qualification process. Instead, quotas will be allocated and further down the process based on a set of principles and eligibility criteria established by the IOC and communicated to the National Olympic Committees (NOCs).

Your NOC now can submit an “Intention of Participation File” to the IOC. This file, which is an Excel document (Version 2.0, dated 2025-06-16), serves to request allocation of quotas in the specific events to send athletes to the YOG, including the number of proposed candidates. This document outlines the specific eligibility criteria for each sport, including Skateboarding.

Crucial Update on Eligibility Criteria for Skateboarding (Street Discipline):

Following constructive dialogue with the IOC, we are pleased to confirm a vital amendment regarding the age requirements for Skateboarding. While the general maximum age for YOG participants remains 17 years old at the time of the Games (up to and including the Closing Ceremony on 13 November 2026), the IOC has now accepted World Skate’s request for a revision on the minimum age for Skateboarding.

The updated criterion, which World Skate successfully requested, allows athletes born on or before 31 December 2014 to be eligible to compete in the YOG. (This is a significant amendment from the previous requirement of 31 December 2011, ensuring broader eligibility for young athletes.) This amended criterion will soon be officially confirmed by the IOC to the NOCs through a dedicated communication. It is imperative that your National Federation and your NOC consider this detail when identifying and proposing athletes for participation.

Furthermore, to be eligible for participation in the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, all athletes must be affiliated with a World Skate-recognized National Federation. Additionally, they must appear in the World Skateboarding Ranking for the Street discipline prior to the Sport Entries Deadline and be among the top-ranked national Skateboarding athletes in the World Skateboarding Ranking.

Call to Action for National Federations:

While the formal submission of the “Intention of Participation File” to the IOC is the responsibility of each country’s NOC, World Skate urges our member National Federations to proactively engage with their respective NOCs. We strongly encourage you to:

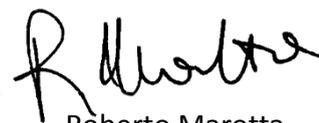
1. **Identify Candidate Athletes:** Proactively identify young skateboarding talent who meet the revised eligibility criteria.
2. **Reach Out to Your NOC:** Immediately contact your National Olympic Committee to express your National Federation’s strong interest in participating in the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games.
3. **Provide Athlete Information:** Bring forward your candidate athletes, providing your NOC with the necessary information to complete the “Intention of Participation File”.
4. **Stimulate Action:** Work collaboratively with your NOC to ensure they are aware of the process, the importance of Skateboarding’s inclusion, and the urgent deadline.

The deadline for your NOC to submit the completed and signed "Intention of Participation File" to the IOC is 31 July 2025.

This is a unique opportunity for the growth and visibility of Skateboarding on the Olympic stage, and while the quota allocation is not guaranteed, your proactive involvement is paramount to the success of the event and our athletes.

You can read more about the YOG participation principle downloading the relevant files available of World Skate website [at this address](#).

Thank you for your immediate attention to this critical matter.



Roberto Marotta
Secretary General