



CIRCULAR No. 02/2026

I. Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 - Athletics - Participation System

The Area Associations NACAC and Atletismo Sudamericano hereby inform their Member Federations of the following:

Within the structure of World Athletics, the Americas are organized into two Area Associations. However, within the framework of the Olympic Movement, the continent is considered as a single unit. In this context, for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee allocated a total of **83 quota places to the American continent (43 men and 40 women)**, to be shared between the two Areas.

For this edition, the IOC established a model based on the principles of participation and universality, rather than a traditional qualification system based on sporting merit. The technical proposal submitted by World Athletics, which contemplated the use of the U18 World Ranking and regional competitions, was not adopted. Consequently, the approved system is based on continental quota allocation and invitations.

During the initial consultation phase, the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) of the Americas expressed interest in entering a total of **394 athletes**, as detailed below:

Initial Expression of Interest – NOCs of the Americas

| NOC | Men | Women | Total |
|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| ANT | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| ARG | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| BAH | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| BAR | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| BER | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| BIZ | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| BOL | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| BRA | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| CAY | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| CHI | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| COL | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| CRC | 1 | 1 | 2 |



**ATLETISMO
SUDAMERICANO**

NOC Men Women Total

| | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|
| CUB | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| DMA | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| DOM | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| ECU | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| ESA | 18 | 18 | 36 |
| GRN | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| GUA | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| GUY | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| HAI | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| HON | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| ISV | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| IVB | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| JAM | 18 | 18 | 36 |
| LCA | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| MEX | 17 | 13 | 30 |
| NCA | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| PAN | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| PAR | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| PER | 7 | 9 | 16 |
| PUR | 18 | 18 | 36 |
| SKN | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| SUR | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| TTO | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| URU | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| VEN | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| VIN | 2 | 2 | 4 |

Total: 394 athletes

The final allocation of 83 places represents an incredibly significant reduction compared to the demand originally expressed by our region.

Furthermore, within the total continental quota allocated, certain places were pre-defined by event and by NOC, in accordance with the official communication sent by the IOC to World Athletics.



ATLETISMO SUDAMERICANO

Pre-assigned Quotas - Americas

According to the official information received, the following places were predefined by event and by NOC, forming part of the total continental allocation:

Men

- 100m – PAN
- 200m – IVB
- 400m – LCA
- 800m – BAR
- 1500m – ARU
- 110m Hurdles – HON
- 400m Hurdles – URU
- 5000m Race Walk – BOL, GUA
- Long Jump – SUR
- Discus Throw – CHI

Women

- 100m – NCA
- 200m – CAY, CRC
- 400m – ANT
- High Jump – ECU

Accordingly, the respective Federations are requested to formally confirm the use of the pre-assigned quota places, in coordination with their respective NOCs, and to update and confirm the estimated number of athletes they intend to enter, adjusting their projections to the quota places effectively allocated to the Americas, considering the substantial reduction in available places. **This information must be submitted, without exception, no later than Monday, 23 February.**

The Area Associations reiterate their commitment to maintaining transparent communication and coordinated work for the benefit of the entire region.

Manaus, 19 February 2026

Helio Marinho Gesta de Melo
President