

Qualification criteria for

IBSA Showdown World Championships 2025
Date: 2nd to 8th June 2025

Venue: Hotel Hermitage, Silvi Marina (Italy)

LOC: FISPIC

## Key objective

Every IBSA Showdown World Championship should be regarded as the highest-quality event, not only in terms of tournament organization but also for the attendance of the best athletes in the world. At the same time, in preparation for future applications to be a Paralympic sport, it should also provide opportunities for emerging countries to foster the growth of this sport.

Qualification criteria for the WC are strongly recommended by the IPC. Therefore, the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee has proposed the following slot allocations for the WC 2025 in Italy:

## Automatic Qualification:

The Top 25 men and women in the IBSA Showdown World Ranking as of 31st December 2024 are automatically qualified to participate in the WC.

Note: These athletes must confirm their participation by 31st January 2025 to the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee on behalf of their respective IBSA member federations via the following email: ibsashowdownchair@gmail.com.

In cases where athletes from the Top 25 drop out or do not confirm by 31st January 2025, free slots will be offered to athletes ranked in subsequent positions, starting from 26th place. Athletes on the waiting list must confirm their participation by 15th February 2025 at the latest.

## Next Qualification Slots by Country:

Countries like Poland, with the most athletes in the Top 25 men’s and women’s rankings, can use a wild card to nominate up to two additional athletes, regardless of gender.

Italy, as the host country of the WC, can use a wild card to nominate up to two additional athletes, regardless of gender.

All countries with 3 to 5 athletes in the Top 25 men’s and women’s rankings combined can use a wild card to fill their squad with up to six athletes representing their country, regardless of gender.

#### Example:

Finland has three men and one woman in the Top 25 World Ranking as of 31st December 2024 with automatic participation in the WC. Finland can add up to two more athletes, regardless of gender.

Countries with 1 to 2 athletes in the Top 25 men’s and women’s rankings combined can use a wild card to fill their squad with up to five athletes representing their country, regardless of gender.

#### Example:

Slovenia has one man and one woman in the Top 25 World Ranking as of 31st December 2024 with automatic participation in the WC. Slovenia can add up to three more athletes, regardless of gender.

The best non-European country, such as South Korea, has been automatically given slots for the top three men and top three women in the World Ranking as of 31st December 2024. They can also use a wild card to nominate up to two additional athletes, regardless of gender.

Countries that do not have athletes in the Top 25 men’s and women’s World Ranking as of 31st December 2024 can nominate up to four athletes, regardless of gender, to set up a team competition lineup. If national championships were held in 2024, the winners will receive automatic participation in the WC 2025.

### Important Note:

Wild cards allocated by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee are not mandatory. Each country can choose whether to use them. However, unused wild cards will not be reallocated to other countries.

# Team Competition Rules:

Each country can set up only one team consisting of a maximum of six athletes, regardless of gender. Countries with more than six athletes participating in the individual competition cannot change their squad list during the competition. All squad lists must be announced prior to the team competition kick-off.

# IBSA Classification:

All athletes must have an official IBSA classification based on ISAS database documents. Athletes requiring a classification review in 2025 or those who are entirely new and referred from emerging countries must upload all necessary information (e.g., a medical diagnosis form not older than one year, an eligibility form, and a passport photo) no later than 17th April 2025.

# New IBSA Capitation Fee Policy:

Upon approval by the IBSA Executive Board, effective 1st January 2025, participating countries must pay 100 EUR per athlete and 50 EUR per team staff member. As part of the new Sports Committee policy, 50% of capitation fees for non-Paralympic sports will be allocated to the Showdown Partnership and Development Programme, managed by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee. The budget will be issued transparently. Countries or groups of countries in joint partnerships can submit project applications at any time. These applications will be reviewed in regular online meetings held by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee. The IBSA Showdown budget will be granted after the first IBSA-sanctioned event, scheduled for July 2025.

# Terms and Conditions of High-Quality Event Management:

## Key Objective:

The IBSA Showdown Sports Committee will appoint a small working group to collaborate closely with the LOC appointed by IBSA member FISPIC (Italian Federation for Blind Sports) to ensure a high-quality event.

### The IBSA Showdown Working Group will consist of:

* The IBSA Showdown Chairman, who will oversee the proper execution of all processes by the LOC and serve as the Technical Event Delegate at WC 2025.
* The Chief Referee, chosen by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee for this event.
* The Playing System and Results Manager, appointed by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee.

### The LOC must provide:

* A fluent English-speaking Event Manager available for day-to-day communications and arrangements before, during, and after the IBSA Showdown World Championships.

### Important Note:

This bilateral cooperation agreement will be implemented for every IBSA-sanctioned event, effective 1st January 2025.

Approved by the IBSA Showdown Sports Committee

Last updated on 12th January 2025