

## WATER POLO 4x4

### EVENTS (2)

| Men's Event (1)    | Women's Event (1)  |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 12-team tournament | 12-team tournament |

### ATHLETES

#### 1. Number of Players for Water Polo 4x4:

|              | Qualification Places  | Host Country Places | Total                 |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Men          | 88 (11 teams)         | 8 (1 team)          | 96 (12 teams)         |
| Women        | 88 (11 teams)         | 8 (1 team)          | 96 (12 teams)         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>176 (22 teams)</b> | <b>16 (2 teams)</b> | <b>192 (24 teams)</b> |

#### 2. Maximum Number of players per National Federation (NF):

|              | Quota per NF                              |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Men          | 8 athletes (1 team)                       |
| Women        | 8 athletes (1 team)                       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>16 athletes (if there are 2 teams)</b> |

#### 3. Type of Allocation of Quota Places:

The quota place is allocated to the NF.

### ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the World Aquatics Constitution and Competition Regulations currently in force, including but not limited to, Nationality and World Anti-Doping Code and to the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions. Only those athletes who comply with all Regulations may participate in the World Aquatics Championships Budapest 2027.

**Additional Eligibility Criteria:**

Only the athletes who are eligible to participate at the official World Aquatics Competitions, in accordance with the World Aquatics Constitution and World Aquatics Competition Regulations are entitled to participate in the World Aquatics Championships.

**QUALIFICATION PATHWAY**
**QUALIFICATION PLACES**

The qualification events are listed in chronological order of qualification. The Continental Qualification Pathway and events are up to each Continental Association.

**WOMEN and MEN:** (each gender has an equal number of teams, and the same qualification pathway applies)

| Number of Teams | Qualification Events (per gender)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>3 places</b> | <b>World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Championships – Dubrovnik 2026</b><br>The three (3) highest placed National Federations from the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships – Dubrovnik 2026 will obtain a quota place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>1 place</b>  | <b>Host Country</b><br>The Host Country NF of the World Aquatics Championships – Budapest 2027 will automatically obtain a quota place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>3 places</b> | <b>World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027</b><br>The three (3) highest placed National Federations in the final results from the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027 shall each be allocated one (1) quota place. Should any of these NFs have already obtained a quota from the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships - Dubrovnik 2026, or is the Host Country, the next highest placed NF(s) from the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027 will obtain a quota place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>5 places</b> | <b>Continental Quota</b><br>One (1) additional quota place shall be allocated to the highest-placed eligible team from each of the five (5) continents represented at the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships - Dubrovnik 2026, as follows:<br>Europe, Asia, Americas, Africa, Oceania – 1 place each.<br>Should any of these NFs have already obtained a quota place at the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships – Dubrovnik 2026, or as the Host Country, the next highest placed NF(s) from the respective continent at the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships – Dubrovnik 2026 will obtain a quota place.<br>Any continental quota place that cannot be allocated through this process shall be transferred to the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027 qualification process.<br>Should any of the continents have no representative at the Qualification Events, the quota place will go to the next highest placed team at the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027 not yet qualified in Dubrovnik or in Soma Bay or as the Host Country. |

If no eligible team from the relevant continent is available, the quota place shall be allocated to the next highest-ranked eligible team overall of the final ranking at the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027.

Should a continent have the same NF representative participate in Dubrovnik and/or Soma Bay, and it is the only NF from the continent to participate at either competition, this NF will obtain that continent's quota place.

## HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The Host Country is guaranteed one (1) team quota place per gender.

## CONFIRMATION OF HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The Host Country NF must confirm in writing its use of the allocated quota places to World Aquatics on or before 1 February 2027.

## CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

## CONFIRMATION OF QUALIFICATION PLACES

Following each qualification event, World Aquatics will inform the respective NFs of their allocated quota places based on the results on its website (<http://www.worldaquatics.com/>). The NFs will then have 14 days to confirm if they wish to use these quota places.

## REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

## REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

Any unused quota place(s) shall be reallocated to the highest-ranked NF(s) not yet qualified through the preceding steps of the qualification pathway, based on the final classification of the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027.

If a quota place still remains unallocated, the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships - Dubrovnik 2026 final results shall be used to reallocate the remaining quota place(s).

## REALLOCATION OF UNUSED HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Any unused Host Country quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked NF not yet qualified, according to the final results of the World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup – Soma Bay 2027.

**QUALIFICATION TIMELINE**

| Date                                | Milestone                                                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>31 August – 6 September 2026</b> | World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open Championships – Dubrovnik 2026      |
| <b>24-28 March 2027</b>             | World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 World Cup 2027, Soma Bay                 |
| <b>Until 1 April 2027</b>           | Qualified Teams to inform World Aquatics about the Continental places. |
| <b>15 April 2027</b>                | NFs to confirm use of allocated quota places to World Aquatics         |
| <b>19 April 2027</b>                | Draw for the women and men's tournaments (date to be confirmed)        |
| <b>17 June 2027</b>                 | Budapest 2027 Sport Entries deadline / Water Polo                      |
| <b>11-16 July 2027</b>              | <b>World Aquatics Championships - Budapest 2027</b>                    |