



International Federation of
American Football

The World Games 2022



Introduction

1.1 The announcement of the inclusion of Flag Football in The World Games 2022 programme has generated considerable interest in the discipline of Flag Football.

1.2 This document is intended to provide national federations an overview of the Road to Birmingham.

The Journey to The World Games

2.1 The World Games programme will feature 8 female and 8 male national teams.

2.2 These national teams will represent IFAF recognised national federations, with coaching staff and players selected through national federation processes.

2.3 The selection of the national teams to compete in The World Games is scheduled to be achieved through competitive results in the IFAF Flag Football World Championships, with the postponed 2020 edition currently being re-arranged for 2021.

2.4 There will be 7 (seven) available competition berths available for the female competition and 7 (seven) competition berths available for the male competition. The national teams representing the United States and delivered by USA Football have pre-qualified as 2018 reigning World Champions.

2.5 The 7 (seven) berths for male teams and the 7 (seven) berths for female teams will be allocated to the top-ranked nations (excluding the United States) at the conclusion of the IFAF World Championships.

Key Information

3.1 For those nations that qualify by ranking for The World Games an invitation to compete shall be extended. This will be a time-limited invitation and should it be accepted, will result in a contractual obligation to compete.

3.2 If an invitation is not accepted the invitation will be extended to further teams, prioritised on a ranking basis, determined by results in the IFAF World Championships (2021).

3.3 Each competing squad will be allocated a fixed number of roster spots. These cannot be exceeded.

3.3.1 At present there are 12 players allowed.

3.3.2 At present there are 3 team staff allowed, inclusive of coaching staff, team medic or other.

3.4 The minimum age for players and team staff is 18 years at the commencement of The World Games (scheduled for 7 July 2022).

3.5 IFAF Regulations on eligibility will be in force.

3.6 IFAF Flag competition rules and regulations will be in force.



3.7 There will be a cost incurred for competing nations.

3.7.1 For each person on a national team roster there is a fee of \$120 USD per night (paid no later than 31 March 2022).

3.7.2 Each nation is responsible for its own flights to Birmingham.

3.7.3 Each nation must have player insurance.

3.8 Each nation should work on the premise that each attending team will remain in Birmingham for the duration of The World Games – 8 nights.

3.9 As we build to 2022 and seek to enhance our own Championships status there will be an increased focus on on-field presentation and consistency. This will see tighter regulations on uniform compliance and sideline activity.

3.10 There will be further documentation issued in due relating to competition-specific protocols – sponsorships, promotion etc.

Officiating

4.1 IFAF will be seeking to identify 20 (twenty) officials from around the world.

4.2 A minimum of 4 (four) of the officials will be drawn from the United States.

4.3 IFAF is committed to an equal split of officials – 10 (ten) male and 10 (ten) female.

4.4 IFAF is currently working on a formula funding framework for officials which will be published in early 2021.

4.5 A formal process for nominating officials will be established. This will allow competency to be assessed and will require nominations exclusively through national federations.

Pandemic Contingency

5.1 The current coronavirus pandemic has seen the postponement of the 2020 IFAF World Flag Football Championships. Should the 2021 postponed event not take place the following mechanism will be used to select entrants for the 2020 World Games.

5.2 The Top 8 ranked nations from the 2018 IFAF World Flag Football Championships in Panama will be extended an invite. These would be:

Women: United States; Panama; Canada; Mexico; Austria; Brazil; Japan; Denmark

Men: United States; Austria; Denmark; Mexico; Israel; Canada; Panama; Japan

5.3 If a team declines the IFAF Board will determine the next suitable entrant based upon World Rankings and continental activity from 2018 to 2020.

*The above information is provisional and IFAF reserves the right to amend subject to circumstance.