

Destination: Beijing



At this vantage-point, well into the Qualification process for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, it is worth stopping for a moment and assessing what part of the road has already been covered and how long is the leg still lying ahead.

As a result of the 2006 and 2007 World Championships, a part of the Olympic quota has already been allocated. Successful National Federations, or their Olympic Committees, can start booking flight tickets to Beijing and deliberate which athletes' names can be written on the boarding cards.

QUALIFICATION at the 2006 & 2007 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Calculated from the combined results – totals only for the Team Ranking – of the 2006 Santo Domingo and 2007 Chiang-Mai World Championships, the largest part of the qualification quota has already been allocated.

84 places for 17 nations among the women and 120 slots for 27 countries among the men have been decided (204 of the 260). You can access the list of these countries and the quota won on the IWF home page www.iwf.net.

The next steps: the CONTINENTAL QUALIFICATION events

We wish to point out to you that the opportunity to obtain qualification places for the Olympic Games through the Continental Qualification Championships is open to *only* those nations which are *not* included in the above tables, i.e. which could *not* achieve qualification through the 2006 and 2007 World Championships.

Pan-America:	17-22 March 2008	Callao (PER)
Oceania:	26-29 March 2008	Auckland (NZL)
Europe:	11-20 April 2008	Lignano Sabbiadoro (ITA)
Asia:	27 April – 1 May 2008	Kanazawa City (JPN)
Africa:	12-16 May 2008	Strand (RSA)

A roundabout route: INDIVIDUAL QUALIFICATION

The results achieved by athletes will be taken into consideration in the Special Qualification Ranking List for individual qualification at the following events: (Available only for athletes whose country *could not win quota* through WC or Continental qualification!)

IWF World Cup	26 November – 1 December 2007	Apia (SAM)
Olympic Test Event	20-24 January 2008	Beijing (CHN)

The last resort: TRIPARTITE INVITATIONS (Wild Cards)

Failing to obtain an Olympic slot in any of the aforementioned routes may not mean the end of the road for approximately 10 weightlifters (men and women combined). A Tripartite Commission formed by the IOC, the ANOC and the IWF will decide on the allocation of 'invitations' (popular name: Wild Cards), based on the request of the National Olympic Committees, whereas IOC Olympic Scholarship holders enjoy some preference.



The – as yet only virtual – destination of the Weightlifting Family: the stage of the Beihang University Olympic Weightlifting Stadium