



Qualifying Point calculation for IBU Junior Cup and IBU Regional Events – 2026/27

Implementation of Qualifying Point calculation for JC/REs:

With the introduction of Qualification Points requirements for participation in the IBU Cup and IBU Junior Cup/JWCH starting from the 2026/27 season, it became necessary to establish a system that enables young and new athletes to earn QPs, making them eligible to compete in the Junior Cup/ JWCH and IBU Cup.

Qualifying point calculation for Junior Cup and Regional Events:

IBU qualifying points are calculated for each competitor's result in Sprint, Individual and Short Individual competitions at IBU Junior Cup, IBU Junior World Championships, applicable Regional Events and **eligible national events**.

Depending on the presence of athletes with results in the QP list, there are 2 different options/calculation models – based either on **Variable Race Penalty** or a **Reference Time**

I. QP calculation based on Variable Race Penalty

QP can be calculated for SPR and IND competitions. Race penalty based on QP of **the three (3) highest ranked athletes** of that competition used as benchmark

IBU Qualifying Points = ((athlete's time/winner's time) - 1) x Race Factor) + Variable Race Penalty

Definitions:

Race Factor: for Sprint and Individual competitions 800

Variable Race Penalty: the sum of the points of the three (3) highest ranked athletes among the athletes **competing in the same distance/format** that are listed in the IBU QP list divided by 3,00

Winner's time: the fastest time across the athletes competing in the same distance/format

Example: JM Sprint competition

JM Sprint competition – QP calculation rank 1

- Rank 1 competition time is **25:41,0**
- The three highest ranked athletes of the IBU QP list have respectively 115,31; 120,90 and 121,67 QP -> The Variable Race Penalty is: (115,31 + 120,90 + 121,67) / 3,0 = **119,29**

➔ Winners QP: ((25:41,0/25:41,0)-1) x 800) + 119,29 = **119,29**

JM Sprint competition – QP calculation rank 10

- Rank 10 competition time **26:21,0**
- Variable Race Penalty = **119,29**

➔ Rank 10 QP: ((26:21,0/25:41,0)-1) x 800) + 119,29 = **140,05**



II. QP calculation based on Reference Time (fallback option)

QP can be calculated for SPR and IND competitions. This is the fallback option in cases where fewer than three (3) athletes participating in a competition are ranked in the current IBU QP points list. In such cases, a reference time will be applied as the benchmark.

Reference times are connected to a fixed reference QP level of **130 QP**

The actual QP are calculated around this baseline, using the same race factor as for other IBU competitions, but the reference points instead of the variable race penalty.

$$\text{IBU Qualifying Points} = ((\text{athlete's time} / \text{winner's time}) - 1) \times \text{Race Factor} + \text{Reference Time}$$

Formats, distances and reference times used as a benchmark:

sex	format	distance	penalty	reference time
M	IND*	15,0 km	45 sec	38:00,0
M	SPR	10,0 km	150 m	26:00,0
W	IND*	12,5 km	45 sec	38:00,0
W	SPR	7,5 km	150 m	23:00,0

* IND: QPs only calculated if Seniors race the same distance as U21 (M = 15,00 km and W = 12,50 km with 45 sec. penalty), with same reference time.

Definitions:

Race Factor: for Sprint and Individual competitions 800

Reference point level: 130

Example: JM Sprint competition

JM Sprint competition – QP calculation rank 1

- Rank 1 competition time is **25:41,0**
 - Reference time is **26:00,0**
 - Fixed Race Penalty: **130**
- ➔ Winners QP: $((25:41,0/26:00,0)-1) \times 800 + 130 = 120,13$

JM Sprint competition – QP calculation rank 10

- Rank 10 competition time **26:21,0**
- Reference time is **26:00,0**
- Fixed Race Penalty: **130**

➔ Rank 10 QP: $((26:21,0/26:00,0)-1) \times 800 + 130 = 140,90$



III. Applicability

This calculation applies to all **Junior Cups**, including the **JWCH**, **eligible Regional Events** and **eligible national events** to the age classes Senior, U21, U19. U17 may be included when competing in a higher age class and in the same format and distance as that age class.

→ **The criteria that need to be fulfilled for a qualification event can be found in the [Regional Event guidelines](#) for the respective season.**

Roller-ski events (summer or winter):

The QP calculation based on **Variable Race Penalty** is also applied to **Roller-ski events** (summer or winter), provided that the criteria according to the **Regional Events guidelines** are fulfilled and the same/identical roller-skis are used for all participants in the same competition.

If the Variable Race Penalty calculation can not be applied (less than three (3) athletes with QP), there will be no calculation of QP in such events.

The calculation model will be implemented wherever applicable for the 2026/27 season if formats/distances are according to IBU ECR.