



# BADMINTON EUROPE

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## **Olympic 2012 programmes from Badminton Europe**

In 2009, Badminton Europe has revamped its Olympic programme. The objective is to help top singles talents to achieve their goal of qualifying for the London 2012 Olympic Games. *To make the participation criteria obvious and transparent they have now been sharpened.*

The objective is to create more sparring opportunities for European players and to assist them in competing in tournaments.

Badminton Europe started the SOTX Team Europe 2012 programme in 2006. However, the programme has been restructured to form two training groups of different levels. One group will focus on performance at the Olympics and a second group will aim for qualification.

Here are the objectives of the two programmes -

### **Olympic Team 2012**

The goal is to create a training environment for Europe's top singles talents who will be competing at the London 2012 Olympic Games. Players invited to this group will normally be placed in the *top 80 of the BWF World Ranking* and be the national number one singles player in their country. The objective is to improve the performance of Europe's talents competing at the next Olympic Games.

Team leader and current players can be found here:

<http://development.badmintoneurope.com/page.aspx?id=13905>

### **SOTX Team Europe 2012**

This is for singles players not fulfilling the criteria for the performance group. These European players will normally be placed in the *top 200 of the BWF World Ranking* and show potential to be the national number one singles player in their country by 2012. The objective is to increase the number of European countries qualifying for the next Olympic Games.

Team leader and current players can be found here:

<http://development.badmintoneurope.com/page.aspx?id=13906>

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## Criteria for players to be part of the Olympic 2012 programmes:

The conditions for the two different teams are in the detailed descriptions of each of the Olympic 2012 programmes.

These outlines clarify the conditions:

Players who improve so that they fulfil the conditions, of one of the Badminton Europe Olympic 2012 programmes, for two consecutive months will be **promoted** to participate in the respective team.

Players who are in one of the Badminton Europe Olympic 2012 programmes but decrease their BWF World Ranking and no longer fulfil the criteria of the respective team for four consecutive months, will be **withdrawn** of this programme.

This means in detail:

- If a player on the 'Olympic Team 2012' moves below 80 in the world ranking for four consecutive months, the player will be moved to the 'SOTX Team Europe 2012' programme.
- If a player on the 'SOTX Team Europe 2012' moves above 80 in the world ranking for two consecutive months, the player will be moved to the 'Olympic Team 2012' programme.
- If a player on the 'SOTX Team Europe 2012' moves below 200 in the world ranking for four consecutive months, the player will no longer be part of the 'SOTX Team Europe 2012'.
- New player that move above 200 in the world ranking for two consecutive months and additionally fulfil all criteria of the 'SOTX Team Europe 2012' programme will be invited to join the programme.

*As measurement-tool the BWF World Ranking of the first week of each month is relevant. The final adjustments for an upcoming camp will be made on the first week of the month at least 8 weeks before the camp is hold.*

Full tournament plans have been created for both groups through until 2012.

These consist of yearly three camps alongside European tournaments and one camp in Asia. The Asian camp will be a collaboration camp optional for all participants of the Badminton Europe Olympic programmes. Players that do not participated annually in at least two of the three European camps can be **withdrawn** from the programme.

Additional players will be invited as sparring to train with the two groups for specific camps. Those players do not have to fulfil all criteria of the regarding programme as long as they add sparring-value to the team. This could also be promising young players that profit of the sparring opportunities and the competing in tournaments.

Please visit the Badminton Europe Development Website for more information.

Kind regards,

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