

**FIFA<sup>®</sup>**

**FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021™**

**Draw procedures**



# FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021™ draw procedures

## PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Twenty-three teams (12 from Asia and 11 from Africa) will participate in the qualification and final competitions in accordance with their positions in the latest FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking before the draw:

- The 14 lowest-ranked teams will participate in seven qualifying, single-leg matches and the seven winning teams will proceed to the final competition.
- The nine highest-ranked teams, including host country Qatar, will join the seven winners from the qualifying stage to compete in the final tournament.

## COMPETITION FORMAT:

### Qualification competition

The qualification competition will be contested by the lowest-ranked 14 teams divided into seven single-leg matches. The seven winners of these matches will qualify for the final competition.

### Final competition

The final competition will consist of a group stage and a knockout stage. The group stage will be contested by 16 teams divided into four groups of four teams in a round-robin format. The four winners and four runners-up of each group will proceed to the knockout stage: quarter-finals, semi-finals, play-off for third place and final.

## FORMAT:

### Qualification competition

The 14 teams in the qualification competition will be paired based on their most recent FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking, as follows:

Qualification match 1: 10<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 23<sup>rd</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 2: 11<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 22<sup>nd</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 3: 12<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 21<sup>st</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 4: 13<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 20<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 5: 14<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 19<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 6: 15<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 18<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team

Qualification match 7: 16<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team v 17<sup>th</sup> highest ranked team

## POT ALLOCATION:

### Final competition

For the group stage of the final competition, 16 participating teams will be allocated to four pots based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking released prior to the draw, as follows: the three top-ranked teams and hosts Qatar will be allocated to Pot 1, the next four teams to Pot 2, and so on.

The teams joining from the qualification competition will be allocated the seven lowest-ranked positions, whereby the teams that won qualification matches 1, 2 and 3 will occupy positions 2, 3 and 4 in Pot 3 and the four remaining qualification winners will be placed in pot 4 successively. Once the teams have been confirmed, the respective placeholders will be replaced by the team names in accordance with the results of the draw.

POT 1	POT 2	POT 3	POT 4
1. Qatar 2. Tunisia 3. Algeria 4. Morocco	1. Egypt 2. Saudi Arabia 3. Iraq 4. UAE	1. Syria 2. Qualifier 1 3. Qualifier 2 4. Qualifier 3	1. Qualifier 4 2. Qualifier 5 3. Qualifier 6 4. Qualifier 7

## QUALIFICATION MATCHES:

The teams competing in the qualifying matches have been determined according to the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking released on 7 April 2021 as follows:

Qualification match 1	OMAN	v.	SOMALIA
Qualification match 2	LEBANON	v.	DJIBOUTI
Qualification match 3	JORDAN	v.	SOUTH SUDAN
Qualification match 4	BAHRAIN	v.	KUWAIT
Qualification match 5	MAURITANIA	v.	YEMEN
Qualification match 6	PALESTINE	v.	COMOROS
Qualification match 7	LIBYA	v.	SUDAN

Draw constraints: none

## DRAW PROCEDURE:

### Final competition

The draw will start with Pot 1 and end with Pot 4. Teams drawn from each pot will be allocated to groups sequentially from A to D, thus the first team drawn will be placed in Group A, the next team drawn in Group B, then C and D.

Teams drawn from Pot 1 will also be placed in the respective group in position 1, teams drawn from Pot 2 in position 2, and so on.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1.	1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.	4.

**Draw constraint:**

Qatar, as the host country, will be preassigned group position A<sub>1</sub> and Algeria, as reigning champions of the Africa Cup of Nations, will be preassigned group position D<sub>1</sub>. Both teams will be allocated a different colour to the other colours of the draw balls.