



FIBA GAME OFFICIALS LICENSING 2025-2027

GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL MEMBER FEDERATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

The following guidelines cover the principles and specific criteria of the FIBA Game Officials Licensing for the period 2025-2027.

The procedures of the FIBA Game Officials Licensing are governed according to the FIBA Internal Regulations and the principles approved by the FIBA Technical Commission.

The FIBA Referee Operations' staff at the FIBA Headquarters and the Regional Offices are responsible for the administration of the registration procedures.

The National Member Federations are responsible for selection of their top-performing candidates and submission of the mandatory documentation according to the requirements outlined in these guidelines and the FIBA Internal Regulations.

Whenever there is a discrepancy between this document and the FIBA Internal Regulations, the latter shall prevail.

The specific guidelines regarding the usage of the FIBA Management & Administration Platform (MAP), the FIBA Physical Fitness test and Written Test requirements are covered in separate documents and presentations. The references to these guidelines are included at the end of this document.

REFEREE LICENSE ALLOCATION CRITERIA

2. REFEREE LICENSE ALLOCATION CRITERIA

2.1 LICENSE CATEGORIES

FIBA Referee Licenses are granted by FIBA every two (2) years (2023, 2025 etc.) and, subject to the provisions of the FIBA Internal Regulations are valid for a two (2)-year period ("Licensed Period") starting on 1 September (e.g. 2025) and expiring on 31 August (e.g. 2027).

As per the FIBA Internal Regulations Book 3 Chapter 7, FIBA Referee Licenses are divided into three (3) categories. Black and White Licenses are available to all genders, Green Licenses are only available to females.

Black License: Holders of a Black License are eligible to officiate international games of all senior and junior levels.

Prerequisite - Candidate referees for a Black License must have officiated regularly at the highest level for senior men in a national member federation for at least the preceding two seasons.

Green License: Holders of a Green License are eligible to officiate international games as follows:

- All senior men games at sub-regional level
- All senior women games
- All junior games (men and women)
- All senior and junior games of international preparation/friendly games

Prerequisite - Candidate referees for a Green License must be women and must have officiated regularly at the highest level for senior women in a national member federation for at least the preceding two seasons.

White License: Holders of a White License are entitled to officiate international games as follows:

- All junior level games at regional level
- All senior and junior level games at sub-regional level
- All senior and junior level games of international preparation/ friendly games

Prerequisite - Candidate **female referees** for White License must have officiated regularly at the highest level for senior women in a national member federation for at least the preceding two seasons.

Prerequisite - Candidate **male referees** for White License must have officiated regularly at the highest level for senior men in a national member federation for at least the preceding two seasons.

2.2 CRITERIA FOR REFEREE LICENSE ALLOCATIONS

FIBA allocates each national member federation a limited number of FIBA Referee Licenses (further in the text - Referee License Allocations). The maximum number of FIBA Referee License Allocations per national member federation gives a national member federation a right to apply for the particular designated number of Referee License Allocations. However, in each case FIBA, after the completion of the candidate evaluation process, will decide whether a candidate shall receive a FIBA Referee License and, if so, which category of License.

As defined in the [FIBA Internal Regulations](#), the maximum number of FIBA Referee License Allocations is based primarily, but not solely on the following criteria:

- a.** The position of the national member federation in the FIBA World Ranking. For licensing purposes, FIBA uses a combined FIBA World Ranking. The combined ranking is based on sports results of each national member federation in FIBA competitions for men, women, boys and girls. When opening the GOL2025-2027 registration, FIBA will provide the latest FIBA combined World Ranking to national member federations;
- b.** The category/group of FIBA members to which the national member federation belongs. The List of national member federations per category is based on the status of basketball in a country, the assessment of national member federations and the potential growth. The List is approved by FIBA Central Board;
- c.** The number of nominations of FIBA Referees from said federation in FIBA National Team Competitions during the preceding two years. The nominations in the following competitions are taken into account: the FIBA Men's and Women's Basketball World Cups, the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup Qualifying Tournaments, the FIBA Continental Cups, the FIBA Continental Cups for Women, the Olympic Basketball Tournaments, the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments for Men and Women, the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women, the FIBA U17 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women;
- d.** The demand for international referees in the region and inclusion of National Member Federations;
- e.** The development of new international referees and the promotion of gender equality for FIBA referees.
- f.** The availability of any female referees pursuant to the FIBA Referee Maternity Plan.

2.3 CALCULATION OF REFEREE LICENSE ALLOCATIONS

2.3.1 PRIMARY CRITERIA

The following tables illustrate the Referee License Allocations calculation based on the three primary criteria, namely: the FIBA Combined World Ranking, the List of national federations per category and nominations in the FIBA main competitions.

NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	POSITION IN THE FIBA COMBINED WORLD RANKING
6	from position 1 to 20
4	from position 21 to 40
2	from position 41 to 60
1	from position 61 to 90
None	from position 91 onward

NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	FIBA LIST OF NATIONAL FEDERATIONS PER CATEGORY
3	for national member federations in group A
2	for national member federations in group B
1	for national member federations in group C and D

NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS IN FIBA NATIONAL TEAMS COMPETITIONS
1	Per national member federation represented* in the nominations for the Olympic Basketball Tournaments 2024, the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments for Men and Women 2024, the FIBA Men's Basketball World Cup 2023,
1	Per national member federation represented* in the nominations for the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women 2023,
1	Per national member federation represented* in the nominations for the FIBA U17 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women during 2024

* The following conditions/restrictions apply for the License Allocations per nominations criteria:

- A License Allocation is granted when a nominated referee fully participates in the preparation programme of the respective Competition and successfully passes all the tests related to the preparation for the Competition.
- In case more than one referee from the same national member federation is nominated for the same FIBA National Team Competition it is only counted as 1 License Allocation (e.g. 2 referees from one national member federation in the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup).
- In case the same referee from the same national member federation is nominated for more than one FIBA National Team Competition it is only counted as 1 License Allocation (e.g. 1 referee from one national member federation in the Olympic Qualifying Tournament and the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup).

In addition to the three (3) primary criteria for the Referee License Allocations, the following additional criteria will be used by FIBA for the Licensed Period 2025-27.

2.3.2 DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF FEMALE REFEREES.

This specific License Allocation criteria is applied for **female candidates only**.

NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	PROMOTION OF FEMALE REFEREES
1 (designated female)	Automatically per each eligible national member federation;
1 (designated female)	Per national member federation with FIBA Licensed Female Referees on the FIBA List during preceding two years (2023 & 2024);
1 (designated female)	Per national member federation represented* by a female referee in the nominations for the FIBA Women's Continental Cups 2023

* The following conditions/restrictions apply for the License Allocations per nominations criteria:

- Any License Allocation is granted when a nominated referee fully participates in the preparation programme of the respective Competition and successfully passes all the tests related to the preparation for the Competition.
- In case more than one referee from the same national member federation is nominated for the same FIBA National Team Competition it is only counted as 1 License Allocation.
- In case the same referee from the same national member federation is nominated for more than one FIBA National Team Competition it is only counted as 1 License Allocation.

2.3.3 DEMAND IN THE REGIONS - ADDITIONAL LICENSES

Based on the demands for international referees in the regions and the development of new international referees, FIBA can, in addition to the maximum automatically generated number of Referee License Allocations calculated based on the primary criteria, assign a maximum of three (3) additional Referee License Allocations per national member federation.

These additional Referee License Allocations are not counted as part of the maximum automatically generated number, calculated based on the primary criteria, as per points 2.3.1 and 2.3.2.

NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	ADDITIONAL LICENSE ALLOCATIONS
1 to 3	FIBA has the right to issue up to 3 additional License Allocations* per designated national member federation.

The following conditions are applied for Additional License Allocations:

- A national member federation must submit strong professional arguments and documentation to support a request for Additional License Allocations;
- If a national member federation submits more than one (1) candidate for Additional License Allocations, at least one of the candidates must be thirty (30) years old or younger;
- If a national member federation submits more than one (1) candidate for Additional License Allocations, the priority for the 2nd or 3rd Additional License Allocation is given to a female candidate.

2.3.4 CERTAIN CANDIDATES

As defined in the FIBA Internal Regulations ([Book 3, Art 3-165, e, ii](#)), FIBA may grant a Referee License Allocation to a national member federation for the referee candidate who will have turned fifty (50) years of age before the start of the Licensed Period if he/she cumulatively meets the following conditions:

- holds a Black or Green license;
- held a Black or Green FIBA Referee License for the immediately preceding Licensed Period; and
- has received a performance rating consistently in the top tier according to FIBA's referee performance assessment for Main Official Competitions of FIBA.

The candidates must also meet the other requirements established in the [FIBA Internal Regulations Art 3-165](#).

COMMISSIONER LICENSE ALLOCATION CRITERIA

3. COMMISSIONER LICENSE ALLOCATION CRITERIA

3.1 THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE LICENSING OF FIBA COMMISSIONERS

The content of this chapter, including the article numbering, is an excerpt from the FIBA Internal Regulations, Book 3, Chapter 7. In case of a conflict or discrepancy between the provisions of these guidelines and the FIBA Internal Regulations, the latter shall prevail.

Please note that the calculation of the maximum number of FIBA Commissioner License Allocations (as per the FIBA Internal Regulations, Article 3-221) is based on the maximum automatically generated number of FIBA Referee License Allocations and does not include automatic Female promotional License Allocations, Additional FIBA Referee License Allocations and Certain Candidates.

Art. 221. FIBA Commissioner Licenses are granted by FIBA in odd numbered years and, subject to the provisions of this Chapter, are valid for a two (2)-year period ("Licensed Period") starting on 1 September (e.g. 2023) and expiring on 31 August (e.g. 2025).

Art. 222. The licensing process for granting FIBA Referee Licenses set out in article 3-163 applies *mutatis mutandis* to FIBA Commissioner Licenses.

Art. 223. When opening the licensing process, FIBA shall communicate the maximum number of FIBA Commissioner Licenses per National Member Federation for a Licensed Period, which cannot exceed 50% of the number of FIBA Licenses granted to referees from the same National Member Federation for the same License Period. In case of decimal number, it will be rounded up to the next whole number.

Art. 224. The following conditions shall apply cumulatively to candidatures for FIBA Commissioner:

- a. FIBA may decide not to accept candidatures by National Member Federations that do not organise or endorse in their territory a championship of a sufficiently competitive level;
- b. A National Member Federation cannot submit more candidatures than the maximum number of FIBA Commissioner Licenses allocated to it by FIBA;
- c. Commissioners are not eligible to be candidates for a FIBA Commissioner License if
 - i. they have turned seventy (70) before the Licensed Period starts; or
 - ii. they are first time candidates and
 - they turn thirty-five (35) on or after the day the Licensed Period starts; or
 - they have turned fifty-five (55) before the Licensed Period starts.
- d. Candidate commissioners may not hold the position of president or secretary general of a National Member Federation or be involved directly or indirectly in the process of nominating FIBA Commissioner candidates by a National Member Federation;
- e. Candidate commissioners must pass the official test designed by FIBA consisting of multiple modules and a mandatory training period (the "Official Test"). Only the results of the Official Test and examinations established by FIBA are recognised as part of the FIBA Commissioner licensing process; and

f. National Member Federations shall ensure that all required forms are completed, stamped, signed by their president or secretary general and by the FIBA Referee National Instructor (if any), and sent to FIBA by 15 December. FIBA may introduce an online administration system for the candidatures.

Failure to fulfil any of the above conditions may lead to the rejection of all candidatures by a National Member Federation or of any candidate commissioner, as appropriate.

In the case of dispute between a commissioner and a National Member Federation, FIBA may intervene and take any measures it considers appropriate.

Art. 225. FIBA will decide in its sole discretion whether a candidate shall receive a FIBA Commissioner License for the License Period. When taking its decision, FIBA may consult with the concerned National Member Federation.

Art. 226. FIBA shall communicate its decision to the concerned National Member Federation. FIBA will also issue an invoice to the National Member Federation requesting payment of the license fee for the entire Licensed Period, corresponding to the number of FIBA Commissioner Licenses granted (see article 3-344).

Art. 227. Subject to the provisions of article 3-229, the FIBA Commissioner License expires on the last day of the Licensed Period.

Art. 228. Holding a FIBA Commissioner License does not give rise to a right of the FIBA Commissioner to be nominated in any games. The right of the Regional Office or of FIBA to decide in their sole discretion whether or not to nominate a FIBA Commissioner to games during the Licensed Period is reserved.

Art. 229. Articles 3-174 and 3-175 governing the transfer and removal of FIBA Referee Licenses apply mutatis mutandis to FIBA Commissioner Licenses.

3.2 ADDITIONAL LICENSE ALLOCATIONS FOR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

FIBA may, in addition to the maximum Commissioner License Allocations based on the conditions set out in the FIBA Internal Regulations (Art 3-223), assign an additional Commissioner License Allocation per national member federation.

The priority will be given to female Commissioner Candidates.

This policy is implemented for the Licensed Period 2025-27 and doesn't set a precedent for the future cycles.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

4. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

This section covers the most common questions and answers for the FIBA Game Officials Licensing. The FIBA Game Officials Licensing 2025-2027 is also referred here to as "GOL2025-27".

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. What is the FIBA Game Officials Licensing?	<p>The FIBA Game Officials Licensing, launched in 2017 is designed to promote quality over quantity. The licensing takes place every 2 years. The current licensing system leads national member federations and game officials towards continuous planning and improvement.</p> <p>The GOL2025-27 includes all eligible national member federations.</p>
2. How does the FIBA Game Officials Licensing enhance the development of refereeing?	<p>The national member federations are prompted to be more actively involved in the refereeing development process. They are encouraged to develop and run national Referee development programmes. The programmes are supervised and partly supported by FIBA and/or Regional Offices to follow the set standards. As an example, potential referees could be granted a FIBA White License, which would entitle them to be nominated and gain experience officiating in regional and sub-regional international games. This could eventually result in a FIBA Black or Green License for the next two-year Licensed Period.</p>
3. What is the duration of the Licensed Period?	<p>FIBA Game Officials Licenses for Referees and Commissioners are valid for a two-year period (Licensed Period), starting on 1 September 2025 and expiring on 31 August 2027. (Same for the next period 2027-29, etc.).</p>
4. When does the Game Official's (Referee and Commissioner) License expire?	<p>Subject to the provisions of FIBA Internal Regulations articles 3-171 and 3-227 the Game Official's License expires on the last day of the Licensed Period, that is on 31 August 2027.</p>

5. What do the FIBA Referee License categories Black, Green & White mean?

There are three (3) categories of FIBA Referee Licenses:

- Black License: Holders of a Black License (male and female) are eligible to officiate international games of all senior and junior levels;
- Green License: Holders of a Green License (female referees only) are eligible to officiate international games as follows: all senior men games at sub-regional level, all senior women games, all junior games (men and women), all senior and junior games of international preparation/friendly games;
- White License: Holders of a White License (male and female) are entitled to officiate: all junior level games at regional level; all senior and junior level games at sub-regional level, all senior and junior level games of international preparation/friendly games.

6. What are the principles of the Referee License Allocation?

The Referee License Allocation (the number of License Spots allocated to each national member federation) is based primarily, but not solely on the following criteria:

- the position of the national member federation in the FIBA Combined World Ranking;
- the classification of the national member federation in the FIBA List of national member federations per category;
- the nominations of FIBA Referees for FIBA competitions in the two preceding years (2023 & 2024);
- the presence of FIBA Licensed Female Referees in national member federations the two preceding years (2023 & 2024); and the nominations of FIBA Female Referees for FIBA Women's Continental Cups 2023
- the demand for the international referees in the regions;
- the inclusion of national member federations;
- the certain candidates or types of candidates.
- female referees included in the FIBA Referee Maternity Plan.

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| 7. | What is the FIBA Combined World Ranking? | The combined ranking, used for licensing purposes, is based on sports results of each national member federation in FIBA competitions for men, women, boys and girls. When opening the GOL2025-27 registration, FIBA will provide the latest FIBA Combined World Ranking to national member federations. |
| 8. | What is the FIBA List of National Federations per Category? | The FIBA List of national member federations per category is based on the status of basketball in a given country, the assessment of national member federations and the potential for growth. National member federations are assessed by FIBA experts and the List is then approved by the FIBA Central Board; |
| 9. | Nominations in which FIBA competitions are considered for the Referee License Allocation Criteria for the period 2025-27? | <p>Only the nominations for the following competitions (2023-2024) are considered for the Referee License Allocation Criteria for the period 2025-27:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the FIBA Men's Basketball World Cup 2023; ■ the FIBA Olympic Tournaments for Men and Women 2024 ■ the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments for Men and Women; 2024 ■ the FIBA Women's Continental Cups 2023; ■ the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women 2023; ■ the FIBA U17 Basketball World Cups for Men and Women 2024. |
| 10. | Are License Allocations taken into account if a Referee, nominated for a FIBA competition, does not complete the preparation programme or fails any pre-competition test? | No. A nominated referee must fully participate in the preparation programme of the respective Competition and successfully pass all the tests related to the preparation for the Competition. Only then their nomination is taken into account for the License Allocations for a national member federation. |
| 11. | Who will decide on the number of FIBA License Allocations for each national member federation? | As per the FIBA Internal Regulations, FIBA will decide on the number of FIBA Referee License Allocations for each national member federation. The FIBA Regional Offices, the FIBA Referee Operations and the FIBA Technical Commission are the bodies involved in the evaluation process of candidates for FIBA Licenses. |

<p>12. Is there a minimum number of Referee License Allocations related to any of the three (3) categories: Black, Green or White?</p>	<p>No, there is no specific minimum or maximum number of Referee License Allocations related to license categories.</p> <p>The candidates may be granted any category of License based on their experience, quality of officiating and after passing all the required tests successfully.</p>
<p>13. What is the maximum number of dedicated Female License Allocations per one (1) national member federation?</p>	<p>The maximum number of the dedicated Female License Allocations per one (1) national member federation can be three (3). These Allocations are generated according to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Promotion of female referees - one (1) allocation. This applies to all eligible national member federations. ■ Presence of FIBA Licensed Female Referees in national member federations - one (1) allocation. This applies only to national federations that have currently licensed FIBA female referees; ■ Nominations of FIBA Female Referee(s) from a national federation for FIBA Women's Continental Cups 2023 - one (1) allocation. This applies only to national federations whose female referees have been nominated and have fully participated in the mentioned competitions.
<p>14. Can a national member federation submit a male candidate for a dedicated Female License Allocation?</p>	<p>No. By default, dedicated Female License Allocations are dedicated only for female candidates.</p> <p>If a national federation does not have a female candidate, the Female License Allocation remains unused.</p>
<p>15. Is a dedicated Female License Allocation linked directly to the Green License Category?</p>	<p>No, the dedicated Female License Allocations is not directly linked to the Green License Category.</p> <p>The female candidates may be granted any category of License, provided they meet FIBA requirements and after passing all the required tests successfully.</p>
<p>16. Does the Referee License Allocation guarantee a national member federation a maximum number of Licenses?</p>	<p>The Referee License Allocation does not automatically guarantee a national member federation that a maximum number of Licenses will be granted. The License Allocation gives a national member federation a right to apply for the designated number of License Allocations. However, in each case, after a thorough analysis, FIBA will decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per national member federation.</p>

17. If a national member federation is granted a certain number of License Allocations, will it automatically be granted this number of Licenses and will all of them automatically be Black License (or any other specific category)?
- No. After the thorough analysis of all the data (FIBA Combined World Ranking, the FIBA list of national federations per category, FIBA nominations, a national evaluation ranking, tests and any other complementary information, etc.), FIBA will make a final decision whether a candidate shall receive a FIBA License and, if so, which category of License.
18. If according to the License Allocation Criteria, a national member federation has the right to apply for a maximum of 3 Additional License Allocations, will the national member federation automatically be granted this number of Additional Licenses?
- No. The License Allocation Criteria does not automatically guarantee a national member federation a maximum number of Licenses. The License Number Allocation Criteria gives a national member federation a right to apply for the designated number of License Allocations. However, in each case, after a thorough analysis, FIBA will decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per national member federation.
19. Can a national member federation submit more referee candidates than the number of License Allocations?
- In principle, a national member federation must submit candidates within the allocated number of License Allocations. A national member federation may apply for Additional License Allocations (a maximum of 3). However, the following conditions apply:
- A national member federation must submit strong professional arguments and documentation to support a request for Additional License Allocations.
 - The documentation must include a completed Additional License Request form and other officiating-related details for proposed candidates, such as referee CV, game videos, etc.,
 - If a national member federation submits more than one (1) candidate for Additional License Allocations, at least one of the candidates must be thirty (30) years old or younger;
 - If a national member federation submits more than one (1) candidate for Additional License Allocations, the priority for the 2nd or 3rd Additional License Allocation is given to a female candidate.

20. What is the principle of allocating FIBA Commissioner License Allocations?	As per the FIBA Internal Regulations Art 3-223 , the number of Commissioner Licenses cannot exceed 50% of the number of FIBA Referee License Allocations granted to referees from the same national member federation. When calculating the number of Commissioner License Allocations, the automatic Female License Allocations, additional FIBA Referee License Allocations and Certain Candidates are not taken into account.
21. Can a national member federation apply for Additional Commissioner License Allocations?	For the period 2025-27 national federations may apply for Additional License Allocations for Commissioners. Priority shall be given to female candidates. The request for an Additional Commissioner License Allocation must be based on the strong professional arguments by the requesting national member federation.
22. What is the timeline to apply for Additional License Allocations?	Requests for Additional Referee or Commissioner License Allocation shall be submitted to FIBA between 15 October and 15 November 2024, together with all the mandatory documents.
23. Can a Female Referee be granted a Black License?	Yes. A Black License can be granted to referees of any gender. However, all the requirements set out in this document and the FIBA Internal Regulations must be met, such as having officiated regularly at the highest level of senior men's competition in a national member federation for at least the preceding two (2) seasons.
24. Can a candidate for a FIBA Referee License be 50 years of age, or older, on the starting date of the Licensed Period?	Yes. However, only if the candidate meets the specific requirements set out in the FIBA Internal regulations Art 3-165
25. What is the age limit for first-time candidates for a FIBA Referee License?	First-time candidates for a FIBA Referee License on the starting date of the Licensed Period have to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 25 years of age or older (D.O.B.: 31 August 2000 or earlier) ■ 35 years of age or younger (D.O.B.: 1 September 1990 or later)

26. Is a FIBA Licensed Referee, born on 2 September 1975, eligible for the season 2026-27 starting on 1 September 2026 (second year of the Licensed Period 2025-27)?	Yes. Subject to the provisions of FIBA Internal Regulations articles 3-171 and 3-175 the FIBA Referee License expires on the last day of the Licensed Period.
27. What is the age limit for candidate commissioners?	The candidate commissioners on the starting date of the Licensed Period 2025-27 must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 70 years of age or younger (D.O.B: 1 September 1955 or later) ■ First time candidates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 35 years of age or older (D.O.B.: 31 August 1990 or earlier); ■ 55 years of age or younger (D.O.B.: 1 September 1970 or later)
28. Does a FIBA License guarantee a FIBA Referee and/or Commissioner a certain number of international nominations?	A FIBA License of any category does not guarantee any number (minimum or maximum) of international nominations. FIBA and/or the Regional Office will decide at their sole discretion whether or not to nominate a FIBA Referee or Commissioner to games during the Licensed Period.
29. Can a Female Referee who has been granted a Green License also officiate FIBA Men’s competitions?	Yes. A Green License entitles FIBA Female Referees, in addition to all senior women and all junior levels, to officiate international men’s games at sub-regional level, as well as all senior and junior games of international preparation/ friendly games.
30. If a FIBA Game Official (Referee or Commissioner) retires for personal reasons before the expiration of a 2-year FIBA Licensed Period, does a national member federation automatically become entitled to submit another candidate for a FIBA License?	No. The retirement of the FIBA Game Official does not entitle a national federation to a FIBA License replacement. The next opportunity to apply for FIBA Referee or Commissioner License would be before the next Licensed Period (2027-2029).
31. If FIBA Referee gets injured during a FIBA Licensed Period and cannot perform his/her duties, does a national member federation become entitled to submit another candidate for a FIBA License?	No. A FIBA Referee being injured does not entitle the respective national member federation to a FIBA License replacement. The injured FIBA Referee, once he/she has fully recovered after the injury, retains the FIBA License and becomes eligible again for nominations as per his/her License category.

32. If FIBA Referee gets pregnant and goes on the maternity leave during a FIBA Licensed Period, does a national member federation become entitled to submit another candidate for a FIBA License?
- No. A FIBA Referee being pregnant does not entitle the respective national member federation to a FIBA License replacement. The FIBA Referee, once she has given birth and has returned from the maternity leave, retains the FIBA License and becomes eligible again for nominations for the remaining period 2025-27 as per her License category.
33. If a national Referee or an existing FIBA Referee gets injured, ill or pregnant before or during the testing period, once the candidate application period is opened, can he/she still be included in the national member federation's candidates list and issued the FIBA License at a later date, provided all the requirements are met?
- Yes. If a national Referee or an existing FIBA Referee gets injured, ill or pregnant and cannot complete the FIBA physical and/or other tests during the candidate submission period, they can be included in the national member federation's candidates list, provided the respective national member federation submits the arguments and the evidence requested by FIBA. Once the candidate has recovered after the injury, illness or after giving birth he/she has to successfully complete all the required FIBA tests and submit the mandatory forms in order to be issued a FIBA License.
34. Can a national member federation replace a candidate during the GOL2025-27 registration?
- A national member federation can replace a candidate during the first phase of GOL2025-27 registration, from 15 October to 15 December 2024. After 15 December 2024, after verification of the submitted documents by the FIBA Referee Operations, eligible candidates shall proceed with the FIBA Physical Fitness Test and online Written Test. During this phase onwards, no replacement of the candidates is allowed (except for the exceptional circumstances).
35. Do national member federations have to provide national Referee evaluation rankings?
- Yes. It is strongly recommended for national member federations to submit their recommended evaluation rankings of their referee candidates. As defined in the FIBA Internal Regulations, a national member federation shall prioritize nationally and internationally top-ranked and top-performing referees. When submitting such rankings, it is recommended that a national member federation provides explanations (principles, criteria, formulas, etc.) as to how national rankings are being calculated.

<p>36. Can a candidate referee and/or commissioner hold the position of a president or secretary general in a national member federation or be involved in the process of nominating FIBA candidate referees & commissioners by a national member federation?</p>	<p>No. As per the FIBA Internal Regulations, candidate referees and commissioners may not hold the position of president or secretary general of a national member federation nor be involved directly or indirectly in the process of nominating FIBA candidate referees/commissioners by a national member federation.</p>
<p>37. How the GOL2025-27 procedure will be organized?</p>	<p>The GOL2025-27 procedure shall be organized in 3 phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During the registration phase, between 15 October and 15 December 2024, national federations will select their best qualified game officials and will submit their candidatures in the FIBA MAP, as well as all the mandatory information to FIBA; 2. During the testing phase, between 1 January – 15 March 2025, qualified candidates shall complete the mandatory tests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Referees - Physical Fitness Test and Written Test ▪ Commissioners – specific Written Test; 3. During the final processing phase, between 1 April to 31 May 2025, FIBA will complete the analysis of all the information and the test results. By 15 June, 2025 FIBA will announce the Licensed List for the period 2025-2027.
<p>38. When does the referees' physical fitness test have to be conducted?</p>	<p>The dedicated period for the referees' physical fitness test will be between 1 to 31 January 2025 inclusive. Only eligible candidates who have successfully passed the registration phase (October-December 2024) shall run the physical fitness test for the GOL2025-27.</p> <p>The physical test form must be signed by the FIBA Referee National Instructor, if any, or test supervisor; FIBA will provide national member federations with a Physical Fitness Test Manual and Video Guidelines.</p>

39. What are the requirements for the referees' physical fitness test?

To successfully pass the FIBA basic physical fitness test candidates for a FIBA Referee License must complete:

- 86 laps (all male candidates);
- 86 laps (female candidates whom a national member federation considers to be candidates for Black License category);
- 66 laps (female candidates, whom a national member federation considers to be candidates for License categories Green or White);

For more details, please refer to the GOL2025-27 Physical Fitness Test Manual.

40. What is the FIBA written test for Referees?

The FIBA Written Test for Referees must be completed online.

The test for referees will comprise of 3 modules:

Module 1 - What is FIBA/Organization and Mission

Module 2 - Officiating Mechanics and Techniques/IOT & 3PO (basic)

Module 3 – Basketball Rules

The dedicated period for the online Written Test will be between 15 January to 15 March 2025 inclusive.

- Training period: 15 Jan – 28 Feb 2025
- Testing period: 1 – 15 March 2025

Part of the training content will be available in 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. However, the actual online training and test will be in English only.

More specific guidelines covering the online Written Test will be provided to candidates directly.

<p>41. What is the FIBA written test for Commissioners?</p>	<p>The FIBA Written Test for Commissioners must be completed online.</p> <p>The test for commissioners will comprise of 4 modules:</p> <p>Module 1 - What is FIBA/Organization and Mission</p> <p>Module 2 – Table Official/Roles, Duties & Rules</p> <p>Module 3 – Basketball Rules</p> <p>Module 4 – Event Operations</p> <p>The dedicated period for the online Written Test will be between 15 January to 15 March 2025 inclusive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Training period: 15 Jan – 28 Feb 2025 ■ Testing period: 1 – 15 March 2025 <p>Part of the training content will be available in 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. However, the actual online training and test will be in English only.</p> <p>More specific guidelines covering the online Written Test will be provided to candidates directly.</p>
<p>42. What is the FIBA Entry Form?</p>	<p>The FIBA Entry Form is the form that has to be signed by each candidate for a FIBA Referee License. By undersigning this form, the candidates declare their availability for FIBA game nominations and compliance with FIBA Internal Regulations.</p>
<p>43. How should national member federations submit their referee and commissioner candidatures and other documents to FIBA?</p>	<p>National member federations will have to submit their candidates and all the required documents online via the FIBA Management & Administration Platform (MAP). Please refer to the MAP registration guidelines for the details and other technical information that will guide users through the candidate submission procedure.</p>
<p>44. What is the medical examination?</p>	<p>The medical examination is a medical certificate, signed by a certified doctor, which confirms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ that the candidate referee does not present any apparent medical illness that could prevent him/her from refereeing a basketball game; ■ the physical examination of the candidate referee, including a thorough cardio-vascular medical history and ECG does not present any sign of a pathology; ■ that the candidate referee has no medical contraindication to undergoing an intensive physical fitness test, including the FIBA Physical Fitness test for Referees.

45. What will be the notification procedure for approved or rejected candidates?

The final list of approved and rejected candidates will be announced to each national member federation by FIBA Referee Operations after the completion of the GOL2025-27 registration and testing, that is on or before 15 June 2025.

The failure of a candidate or candidates, due to unfulfilled conditions, can occur at any stage of the registration procedure, namely:

- during the submission of required documents;
- during the Physical Fitness Test;
- during the online Written Test;
- during final data verification.

EXAMPLES

5. EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate how the licensing criteria are applied and what combinations of License Allocations and License categories are possible. Nevertheless, many more combinations are possible and in each case, FIBA will decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per respective national member federation.

EXAMPLE 1

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	4 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 21 – 40
FIBA List NF per category	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification B
Nomination in FIBA competitions	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidate only	None
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Additional License Allocation	2 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees in the FIBA training programme.
Total Allocations		11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8 Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White ▪ 1 Allocation Female promotion / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White; ▪ 2 additional Allocations / primarily for White category 		

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for the maximum number of FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, FIBA, upon examination of all the data of the national candidates list, has the right to decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per respective national member federation. In this example the maximum number of Black, Green or White Licenses FIBA may grant is 9, plus 2 additional Licenses primarily for White category, for a total of 11.

EXAMPLE 2

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	4 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 21 – 40
FIBA List NF per category	3 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification A
Nomination in FIBA competitions	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Nomination in FIBA continental women’s cups	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Female referee nominated in 2023 .
Female referees in the FIBA list.	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Female referees present in the national federation in 2023-2025 .
Additional License Allocation	0 Allocation	Number of National Teams participating in FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		11

- 8 Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White
- 3 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for the maximum number of FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, FIBA, upon examination of all the data of the national candidates list, has the right to decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per respective national member federation. In this example the maximum number of Licenses is 11 and FIBA may grant Licenses of any category based on the candidates’ qualification.

EXAMPLE 3

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 41 – 60
FIBA List NF per category	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification B
Nomination in FIBA competitions	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidate only	No female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Female referees in the FIBA list	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Female referees present in the national federation in 2023-2025
Additional License Allocations	0 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 6 License Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White ▪ 2 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White 		

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for the maximum number of FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, FIBA, upon examination of all the data of the national candidates list, has the right to decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per respective national member federation. In this example FIBA may grant 8 Licenses optionally Black, Green or White or any combination of these.

EXAMPLE 4

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	6 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 1 – 20
FIBA List NF per category	3 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification A
Nomination in FIBA competitions	3 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Male referees nominated
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidate only	No female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Female referees in the FIBA list	0 Allocations / female candidate only	No female referees in the FIBA list in 2023-2025 .
Additional License Allocations	0 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		10

- 12 Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White
- 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for the maximum 13 FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, the national federation decides to submit only 10 candidates. FIBA, upon examination of all the data of the national candidates list, has the right to decide on the final number and categories of Licenses per respective national member federation. In this example FIBA may grant 10 Licenses optionally Black, Green or White, based on the candidates' qualification.

EXAMPLE 5

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	0 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 91-215
FIBA List NF per category	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Classification C
Nomination in FIBA competitions	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Additional License Allocation	2 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in the FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		5

- 2 Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White;
- 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White;
- 2 Additional License Allocations / primarily for White category

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for the maximum 3 FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. In this example FIBA may grant 2 Licenses optionally Black, Green or White and 1 Black, Green or White License for the female candidate. In addition, FIBA may decide to grant 2 additional Licenses primarily for White category, for a total of 5.

EXAMPLE 6

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	0 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 91-215
FIBA List NF per category	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Classification D
Nomination in FIBA competitions	0 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidates only	No female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidates only	Automatically for each national member federation
Total Allocations		2

- 1 License Allocation / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White;
- 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White

EXPLANATION: According to the principles of the GOL 2025-2027, a national member federation in category D is granted 1 License Allocation. Plus, as any other eligible national member federation it is also granted 1 automatic License Allocation for a female candidate. Therefore, in this example FIBA may grant 2 Licenses optionally Black, Green or White to a national member federation if the proposed candidates meet the requirements and pass all the relevant tests.

EXAMPLE 7

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Places 61-90
FIBA List NF per category	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification B
Nomination in FIBA competitions	0 Allocations / for any gender candidates*	Male/female referee nominated (does not fulfil the preparation programme)
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidates only	No female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidates only	Automatically for each national member federation
Additional License Allocations	0 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in the FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 3 License Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White;▪ 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White		

EXPLANATION: Prior to the FIBA competition (year 2023) a nominated Referee does not participate fully in the Pre-Competition Programme. As a result, his/her nomination does not generate the License Allocation for the new Licensed Period 2025-2027. Therefore, in this example, FIBA grants a respective national member federation 3 License Allocations for any gender candidates and 1 Allocation specifically for a female candidate for a total of 4.

EXAMPLE 8

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	2 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 41-60
FIBA List NF per category	3 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Classification A
Nomination in FIBA competitions	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Male/female referee nominated
Certain candidates / 50+	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates*	Male/female referee
Nomination in FIBA continental women's cups	0 Allocations / female candidates only	No female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocations / female candidates only	Automatically for each national member federation
Additional License Allocations	0 Allocations	Number of National Teams participating in the FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 6 License Allocations / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White; ▪ 1 License Allocation for a certain candidate / Black or Green License can be granted; ▪ 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White 		

EXPLANATION*: A national member federation has the right to apply for a maximum of 7 FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, FIBA, upon examination of all the data and the performance assessments in the main FIBA competitions, may grant 1 License Allocation to a certain candidate who already holds Black or Green License. As a result, FIBA may grant 8 Licenses optionally Black, Green or White or any combination of these.

EXAMPLE 9

CRITERIA	NUMBER OF ALLOCATIONS	CONDITIONS
FIBA Combined World Ranking	0 Allocations / for any gender candidates	Places 91-215
FIBA List NF per category	1 Allocation / for any gender candidates	Classification C
Nomination in FIBA competitions	0 Allocation / for any gender candidates	No male/female referee nominated
Promotion of female referees	1 Allocation / female candidate only	Automatically for each national member federation
Additional License Allocation	1 Allocation	Number of National Teams participating in the FIBA competitions and/or potential national referees.
Total Allocations		3

- 1 License Allocation / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White;
- 1 License Allocations for Females / any category of License can be granted: Black, Green, White
- 1 Additional License Allocation / primarily for White category

EXPLANATION: A national member federation has the right to apply for a maximum of 2 FIBA Licenses as per the License Allocation Criteria. However, one of their female referee candidates is expecting a baby and cannot fulfil the fitness test requirements during the dedicated period. FIBA, upon reception of all required information, advise the national member federation to include the candidate who is on maternity leave in the list of GOL2025-27 candidates; and the national member federation may also request an additional allocation spot for another eligible candidate. As a result, FIBA may grant 3 Licenses, optionally Black, Green or White or any combination of these.

**SUMMARY OF
PROCEDURES & TIMELINE
/ CONTACT DETAILS**

6. SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES & TIMELINE / CONTACT DETAILS

PROCEDURES & TIMELINE

Period/Deadline	Procedure	Responsible Body
By 15 October 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of documents and guidelines ▪ Opening of registration period 	FIBA
15 October to 15 December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selection of candidates ▪ Preparation of the candidate lists; ▪ Collection of personal data of candidates; ▪ Request for additional allocations ▪ Submission/upload of candidate lists and supporting documents in the FIBA MAP online platform 	National member federations (assisted and consulted by FIBA)
15 November 2024	Deadline to request Additional License Allocations	National member federations
15 December 2024	Deadline to submit candidate lists and supporting documents	National member federations
1 to 31 January 2025	Physical Fitness Test period for eligible Referee candidates	National member federations
15 January to 15 March 2025	Online Written Test period (training & test) for eligible Referee and Commissioner candidates	FIBA
31 March 2025	Closing of the registration	FIBA
1 April to 31 May 2025	Final analysis of the data and supporting material	FIBA Referee Operations Regional Offices FIBA Technical Commission
On or before 15 June 2025	Approval and publication of a new FIBA Game Officials List 2025-2027	FIBA
1 September 2025	New Licensed Period starts. The FIBA Game Officials are eligible for the Licensed Period 2025-2027.	FIBA Referee Operations Regional Offices National member federations

Please visit the following two sources for more information and the specific guidelines related to the GOL2025-2027.

SOURCE	LINK
FIBA Internal Regulations, Book 3	https://www.fiba.basketball/en/Module/85132837-66aa-4ff3-a063-8cdf44ea14d/b7bf4da0-8a9b-4a1d-906d-82040443b26a
Become a Game Official	fiba.basketball/official/become-an-official

CONTACTS

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