

2014 New Winter Olympic Nations

DOMINICA (DMA)

Olympic History: Dominica formed a National Olympic Committee in 1987, which was recognized by the IOC in 1993. Dominica has competed at the 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012 Olympic Games. Dominica has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Dominica has qualified a male and female cross-country skier for 2014 – Gary di Silvestri, who is actually a USA national with dual citizenship, and his wife, Angelica Morrone di Silvestri.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Dominica is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

MALTA (MLT)

Olympic History: Malta first competed at the Olympics in 1928, the same year in which they formed a National Olympic Committee, although the IOC did not recognize it until 1936. They participated rather sporadically through 1972, competing again in 1936, 1948, 1960, 1968, and 1972, but has competed at the Olympic Games continuously since 1980.

Malta has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Malta has qualified a female alpine skier for 2014 – Elise Pellegrin.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Malta is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

PARAGUAY (PAR)

Olympic History: Paraguay has competed at the Olympic Games of 1968-1976, and 1984-2012. Their best Olympic performance came in 2004 when their football team won the silver medal. Paraguay formed its National Olympic Committee in 1970 and it was recognized by the IOC in the same year..

Paraguay has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Paraguay has qualified a female freestyle skier for 2014 – Julia Marino, who will compete in slopestyle and is a medal contender. She is an American national (USA) but was born in Paraguay.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Paraguay is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

TIMOR-LESTE (TLS)

Olympic History: Timor-Leste (East Timor) was formerly a part of Indonesia, but on 20 May 2002 became the first new sovereign country of the 21st century. At Sydney in 2000, the IOC allowed athletes from Timor-Leste to compete under the designation of Independent Olympic Athletes (IOA). Four athletes represented Timor-Leste – three men (one each in track & field athletics, boxing, and weightlifting) and one woman (in track & field athletics). Timor-Leste was recognized by the IOC at the 117th Session in Prague on 3 July 2003. In 2004, Timor-Leste officially competed at the Olympic Games for the first time, represented by one man and one woman in track & field athletics, and has also competed at the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games.

Timor-Leste has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Timor-Leste has qualified a male alpine skier for 2014 – Yohan Goutt Gonçaves.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Timor-Leste is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

TOGO (TOG)

Olympic History: Togo formed its National Olympic Committee in 1963, which was recognized by the IOC in 1965. Togo has competed at nine Olympic Games – those of 1972, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012.

Togo has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Togo has qualified a male cross-country skier, Viossi-Akpedhe “JayJay” Madja, and a female Alpine skier, Alessia Afi Dipol, for 2014.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Togo is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

International Olympic Committee Members

Anani Matthia (1983-2007)

TONGA (TGA)

Olympic History: The Tonga National Olympic Committee was formed in 1963 but not recognized by the IOC until 1984. Tonga first competed at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and has competed at all Olympic Games since.

Tonga has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Tonga has qualified a male luger for 2014 – Bruno Banani (né Fuahea Semi).

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Tonga is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Luge.

ZIMBABWE (ZIM)

Olympic History: As Rhodesia, Zimbabwe competed at three Olympic Games – those of 1928, 1960, and 1964. Because of its political situation, Rhodesia could not compete at the 1968 Olympics, as Rhodesian passports were not recognized by Mexico. At its 71st Session in 1971, the IOC ruled that Rhodesian athletes could compete, but only using British uniforms, the Union Jack as the flag, and with the British anthem. But shortly before the 1972 Munich Olympics, the African nations threatened a mass boycott if Rhodesia was allowed to compete. Two days before the Opening Ceremony, the IOC voted (36-31 with three abstentions) to withdraw the invitation to Rhodesia for the 1972 Olympic Games. In 1975, the IOC sent a three-member contingent to visit Rhodesia and inspect the sporting facilities and federations. The report was not favorable and the IOC voted to expel the Rhodesian Olympic Committee by a 41-26 vote. After the nation changed its government and constitution, it was re-admitted to the IOC in 1980, under the name Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe competed for the first time under their new name at Moscow in 1980 and the highlight of their appearance was the gold medal performance of their women's hockey (field) team. Zimbabwe has since competed at all Olympic Games.

Zimbabwe has never competed at the Olympic Winter Games. However, Zimbabwe has qualified a male alpine skier for 2014 – Luke Henri Steyn.

Affiliation with International Federations: As of November 2013, Zimbabwe is a member of the following Winter Sport International Federation: Skiing.

International Olympic Committee Members

Tommy Sithole (1996-2003)
Kirsty Coventry (Athlete) (2012-date)