

Updated on 12 January 2017

## AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round Draw Mechanism

### A. ENTRIES

The following twenty-four (24) Member Associations of the Asian Football Confederation will participate in the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round.

#### A1. TEAMS FROM PRELIMINARY ROUND 2 (14 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS)

The following fourteen (14) teams have qualified for the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round as a result of Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2:

No.	Team	Remark	
1	DPR Korea	Bottom 2 <sup>nd</sup> placed teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2	
2	Jordan		
3	Oman		
4	Lebanon		
5-11	Palestine	3 <sup>rd</sup> placed teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2 *	
	Kyrgyzstan		
	Hong Kong		
	Turkmenistan		
	Singapore		
	Vietnam		
12-14	Myanmar	Best 4 <sup>th</sup> placed teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2 **	
	13		Bahrain
	14		Afghanistan

\* *Kuwait, one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2, was suspended by FIFA on 16 October 2015 and since the suspension is not lifted by 11 January 2017 as per decision of AFC Competitions Committee, they are not eligible to participate in the Competition.*

\*\* *Guam, one of the best 4<sup>th</sup> placed teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 2 eligible to participate in the AFC Asian Cup 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round, has withdrawn from the Competition.*

**A2. WINNERS OF AFC ASIAN CUP UAE 2019™ QUALIFIERS PLAY-OFF I  
(5 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS)**

The following five (5) Member Associations have qualified for AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round as a result of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off I (listed in alphabetical order below):

1	Cambodia	Winners of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off I
2	India	
3	Malaysia	
4	Tajikistan	
5	Yemen	

**A3. WINNERS OF AFC ASIAN CUP UAE 2019™ QUALIFIERS PLAY-OFF II  
(3 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS)**

The following three (3) Member Associations have qualified for AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round as a result of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II (listed in alphabetical order below):

1	Bhutan	Winners of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II
2	Chinese Taipei	
3	Maldives	

**A4. BEST RANKED TEAMS OF AFC SOLIDARITY CUP MALAYSIA 2016  
(2 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS)**

*According to the Decision by AFC Competitions Committee dated 20 December 2016 to maintain 24 teams in the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round, the best ranked teams based on the final ranking of AFC Solidarity Cup Malaysia 2016 will also participate in the Competition to replace unavailable Participating Member Associations (PMAs):*

1	Nepal	Winner of AFC Solidarity Cup Malaysia 2016	Replacement of Guam
2	Macau	Runner-up of AFC Solidarity Cup Malaysia 2016	Replacement of Kuwait

## B. COMPETITION FORMAT

Round	Number of Teams	Format	Qualifiers	Match Day
AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round	24 teams as listed in <u>Point A</u> above	H & A Group (6 groups of 4 teams)	Winner and runner-up of each group qualify directly to AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™	28 March 2017 13 June 2017 5 September 2017 10 October 2017 14 November 2017 27 March 2018

## C. SEEDING FOR THE DRAW

### Principle

1. According to the decision by AFC Competitions Committee, seeding for the Draw shall be based on the latest FIFA rankings available at the time of the draw.
2. Therefore, FIFA ranking to be released on 12 January 2017 shall be applied.

### Seeding for AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round

No.	Team	No.	Team
1	Jordan	13	Maldives
2	Oman	14	Lebanon
3	Philippines	15	Yemen
4	Bahrain	16	Afghanistan
5	Kyrgyzstan	17	Chinese Taipei
6	DPR Korea	18	Myanmar
7	India	19	Malaysia
8	Palestine	20	Singapore
9	Tajikistan	21	Cambodia
10	Vietnam	22	Nepal
11	Hong Kong	23	Bhutan
12	Turkmenistan	24	Macau

#### D. GROUPINGS AND MODE OF COMPETITION

- Twenty-four (24) teams will be drawn into six (6) groups of four (4) teams each to play home-and-away in round-robin format:

Group A	Group B	Group C
A1	B1	C1
A2	B2	C2
A3	B3	C3
A4	B4	C4

Group D	Group E	Group F
D1	E1	F1
D2	E2	F2
D3	E3	F3
D4	E4	F4

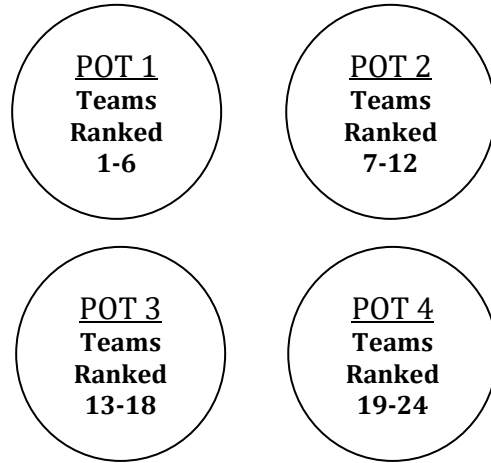
- According to the decision by AFC Competitions Committee, the following match sequence will be applied:

Match Day	Date	Match Sequence
Match Day 1	28 March 2017	1 vs 4, 3 vs 2
Match Day 2	13 June 2017	4 vs 3, 2 vs 1
Match Day 3	5 September 2017	4 vs 2, 1 vs 3
Match Day 4	10 October 2017	2 vs 4, 3 vs 1
Match Day 5	14 November 2017	4 vs 1, 2 vs 3
Match Day 6	27 March 2018	1 vs 2, 3 vs 4

- The winner and runner-up of each group (12 teams in total) qualify to the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Finals.

## F. DRAW PRINCIPLES

- 4 X Country Pots (Pot1, Pot 2, Pot 3 and Pot 4)



1. Teams will be divided into 4 pots according to the rankings. Rankings will be based on FIFA / Coca-Cola World Ranking as of 12 January 2017.
2. If two or more teams have equal ranking in the same position which does not allow the Country pots to be arranged as above, additional “Ranking Pot” will be arranged to draw equal ranked teams into different pots respectively. In this case, the draw will start with “Ranking Pot” before all teams are separated into 4 pots with six teams in each pot.
3. POT number represents the position the team shall be placed in the group (teams from POT 4, POT 3, POT 2 & POT 1 shall be placed in position 4, 3, 2 & 1 respectively in each group)
4. The first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth ball drawn from each POT shall be placed in Groups A, B, C, D, E and F respectively.

## G. DRAW MECHANICS

1. The draw will take place in the following sequence:

POT 4 → POT 3 → POT 2 → POT 1

2. **POT 4:** The first ball drawn from Pot 4 will be placed into Position A4. The second ball drawn shall be placed in Position B4. The third ball drawn shall be placed in Position C4. The fourth ball drawn shall be placed in Position D4. Subsequently, the next ball drawn shall be placed in Position E4. The last ball drawn will be placed in Position F4.

3. **POT 3:** The first ball drawn from Pot 3 will be placed into Position A3. The second ball drawn shall be placed in Position B3. The third ball drawn shall be placed in Position C3. The fourth ball drawn shall be placed in Position D3. Subsequently, the next ball drawn shall be placed in Position E3. The last ball drawn will be placed in Position F3.
4. **POT 2:** The first ball drawn from Pot 2 will be placed into Position A2. The second ball drawn shall be placed in Position B2. The third ball drawn shall be placed in Position C2. The fourth ball drawn shall be placed in Position D2. Subsequently, the next ball drawn shall be placed in Position E2. The last ball drawn will be placed in Position F2.
5. **POT 1:** The first ball drawn from Pot 1 will be placed into Position A1. The second ball drawn shall be placed in Position B1. The third ball drawn shall be placed in Position C1. The fourth ball drawn shall be placed in Position D1. Subsequently, the next ball drawn shall be placed in Position E1. The last ball drawn will be placed in Position F1.

This will conclude the Draw for AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Final Round.

[END]