



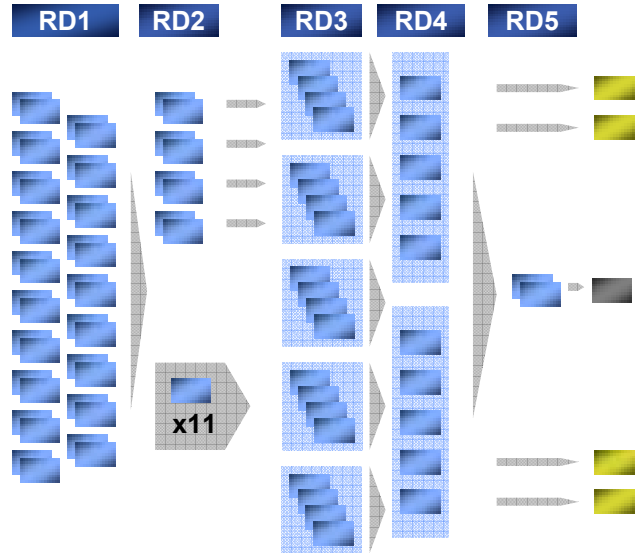
PRELIMINARY COMPETITION ASIA



BASIC CONDITIONS

Member Associations (MAs):	46
Participating Member Associations (PMAs):	43
Qualification Slots:	4.5*

*Playoff with Oceania



PARTICIPATING MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

The 43 Participating Member Associations are seeded based on the results from the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™ and earlier qualifying rounds. The seeding is as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Australia | 16. Qatar | 31. Malaysia |
| 2. Korea Republic | 17. Syria | 32. Chinese Taipei |
| 3. Saudi Arabia | 18. Palestine | 33. Bangladesh |
| 4. Japan | 19. Thailand | 34. Macau |
| 5. IR. Iran | 20. Turkmenistan | 35. Pakistan |
| 6. Bahrain | 21. Tajikistan | 36. Afghanistan |
| 7. Uzbekistan | 22. Indonesia | 37. Mongolia |
| 8. Kuwait | 23. Hong Kong | 38. Guam |
| 9. DPR Korea | 24. Yemen | 39. Nepal |
| 10. China | 25. Vietnam | 40. Cambodia |
| 11. Jordan | 26. Kyrgyzstan | 41. Bhutan |
| 12. Iraq | 27. Maldives | 42. Myanmar |
| 13. Lebanon | 28. India | 43. Timor Leste |
| 14. Oman | 29. Singapore | |
| 15. UAE | 30. Sri Lanka | |

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

ROUND ONE

- The PMAs seeded 1 – 5 receive byes to Round Three.
- The remaining 38 PMAs will contest Round One.
- The teams will be paired into 19 home-and-away series.
- The 11 highest-ranked Round One winners earn byes to Round Three.
- The 8 lowest-ranked Round One winners advance to Round Two.



ROUND TWO

- The 8 lowest-ranked Round One winners will contest Round Two.
- The teams will be paired into 4 home-and-away series.
- The Round Two winners advance to Round Three.

ROUND THREE

- The 11 top-ranked Round One winners (via byes) and the 4 Round Two winners will join the 5 remaining, top-ranked PMAs in Round Three.
- The round consists of 5 round-robin, home-and-away groups of 4 teams.
- All group winners and runners-up advance to Round Four.

ROUND FOUR

- The 5 Round Three group winners and the 5 Round Three group runners-up will contest Round Four.
- The round consists of 2 round-robin, home-and-away groups of 5 teams.
- The 3rd placed teams from each group advance to Round Five.

🌐 The 2 Round Four group winners and the 2 group runners-up qualify for the FIFA World Cup™.

ROUND FIVE

- The 3rd placed teams from the two Round Four groups will contest Round Five.
- The teams will play one home-and-away play-off series.

🌐 The Round Five winner advances to the inter-confederation playoff with the top team from Oceania.

FIXTURE AND DRAW INFORMATION: 2007

ROUND ONE

Round One pairings were determined by draw on 6 August 2007:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Pakistan vs. Iraq | 8. Vietnam vs. UAE | 15. Oman vs. Nepal |
| 2. Uzbekistan vs. Chinese Taipei | 9. Bahrain vs. Malaysia | 16. Palestine vs. Singapore |
| 3. Thailand vs. Macau | 10. Timor Leste vs. Hong Kong | 17. Lebanon vs. India |
| 4. Sri Lanka vs. Qatar | 11. Syria vs. Afghanistan | 18. Cambodia vs. Turkmenistan |
| 5. China vs. Myanmar | 12. Yemen vs. Maldives | 19. Guam* vs. Indonesia |
| 6. Bhutan vs. Kuwait | 13. Bangladesh vs. Tajikistan | |
| 7. Kyrgyzstan vs. Jordan | 14. Mongolia vs. DPR Korea | |

**Guam has withdrawn from the competition. Consequently, Indonesia receives a bye.*

ROUND TWO

- The 19 Round One winners will be ranked 1 to 19 for Round Two based on the overall seeding (above).
- The 11 highest-ranked winners, to be seeded 1 to 11, earn byes.
- The 8 lowest-ranked winners, to be seeded 12 to 19, contest Round Two. Their pairings were determined by draw as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Seed 17 vs. Seed 14 | 3. Seed 19 vs. Seed 15 |
| 2. Seed 16 vs. Seed 12 | 4. Seed 18 vs. Seed 13 |