



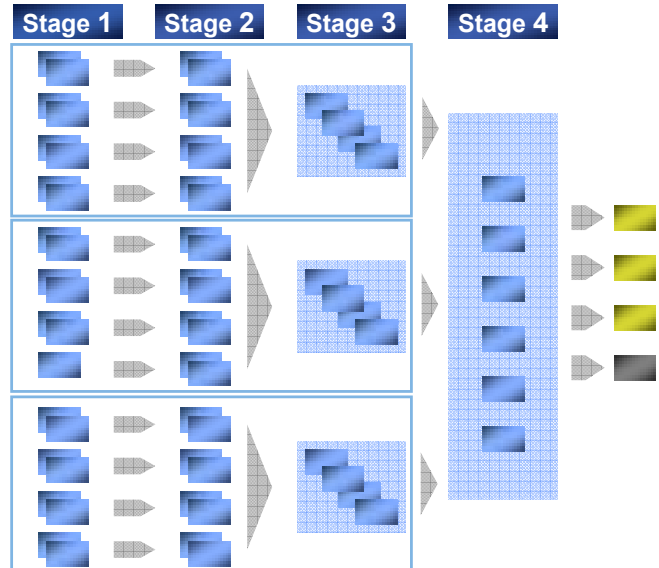
PRELIMINARY DRAW INFORMATION NORTH, CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN



BASIC CONDITIONS

Member Associations (MAs):	35
Participating Member Associations (PMAs):	35
Qualification Slots:	3.5*

*Playoff with South America



PARTICIPATING MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

The 35 Participating Member Associations are seeded based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of May 2007. The seeding is as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mexico | 13. St. Vincent and the Grenadines | 25. Turks and Caicos Islands |
| 2. USA | 14. Barbados | 26. Netherlands Antilles |
| 3. Costa Rica | 15. Suriname | 27. British Virgin Islands |
| 4. Honduras | 16. Bermuda | 28. Dominica |
| 5. Panama | 17. Antigua and Barbuda | 29. Cayman Islands |
| 6. Trinidad and Tobago | 18. St. Kitts and Nevis | 30. Puerto Rico |
| 7. Jamaica | 19. Dominican Republic | 31. Anguilla |
| 8. Cuba | 20. El Salvador | 32. Belize |
| 9. Haiti | 21. Bahamas | 33. US Virgin Islands |
| 10. Guatemala | 22. Nicaragua | 34. Montserrat |
| 11. Canada | 23. Grenada | 35. Aruba |
| 12. Guyana | 24. St. Lucia | |

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

STAGE ONE THROUGH STAGE THREE

- Stage One through Stage Three function based on a three group structure that spans all three stages.
- Each of the three groups is comprised of 4 sub-groups each.

STAGE ONE

- The 23 PMAs ranked 13 to 35 constitute the 23 Stage One teams.
- The stage consists of 12 sub-groups played as 11 home-and-away series and one bye, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- The winners and St. Vincent and the Grenadines advance to Stage Two and meet the highest ranked teams in their respective groups.



STAGE TWO

- The 11 Stage One series winners and St. Vincent and the Grenadines will then play the remaining teams in their respective sub-groups in Stage Two.
- The 24 teams will be paired into 12 home-and-away series.
- The winners advance to Stage Three.

STAGE THREE

- The 12 sub-group winners from Stages One and Two will then contest Stage Three.
- Teams will be grouped into 3 round-robin, home-and-away groups of 4 teams.
- The group winners and runners-up advance to Stage Four.

STAGE FOUR

- The three Stage Three group winners and 3 Stage Three group runners-up will contest Stage Four.
- The six teams will form 1 round-robin, home-and-away group.

🏆 **The top 3 teams qualify for the FIFA World Cup™.**

🏆 **The 4th placed team enters a home-and-away playoff with the 5th placed South American team.**

PRELIMINARY DRAW

STAGE TO BE DRAWN

- Stages One, Two and Three will be drawn at the Preliminary Draw in Durban, South Africa.

DRAW FORMAT

- For Stages One, Two and Three, the 35 teams are divided into 6 pots based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of May 2007 with the strongest teams in Pot A, the next strongest teams in Pot B and so on though to Pot F.
 - Pots A and B have 3 teams each
 - Pot C has 6 teams
 - Pot D has 1 team
 - Pots E and F have 11 teams each
 - Special Pot W will contain 11 “winner” balls for the Stage Two draw
- Stage One: Teams from Pots E and F will be drawn into 11 home-and-away series.
- Stage Two: The 11 Stage One winners (Pot W) and the team from Pot D will be drawn against teams from Pots A, B, and C into 12 home-and-away series.
- Stage Three: The three Stage Three groups are automatically determined by the winners of the 12 sub-groups.