


**Quantity and quality: Characterising a problem using the example  
after the 2nd FIG Gymnastics World Cup 2024 in Cottbus / GER**

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|  The logo for the 'TURNIER DER MEISTER WORLD CUP COTTBUS' is displayed in blue text. Below the main text is the website address 'WWW.TURNIER-DER-MEISTER.DE'. | <p><b>* Info - :</b><br/>After receiving over 300 entries from 75 countries (!) for the 47th Cottbus World Cup 2024 (200 men from 65 nations; 115 female gymnasts from 52 nations) with one of the last qualification opportunities for the Olympic Games in Paris, this traditional tournament came close to its logistical limits, even though the German organisers passed this logistical challenge with flying colours!</p> |
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\* **When looking at the entry list** at the time of the entry deadline, this mode promised a gigantic effort of **446** men's exercises and **271** women's exercises!?!

According to the number of entries, that would be **717** gymnastic routines to be judged on two qualification days!

A questionable effort, as there are (only) 8 places in the finals on 6 men's and 4 women's apparatus, and - of course - the last Olympic qualifications. Does this justify such gigantism ...?

For example, 86 competitors were planning to compete for these 8 places in the men's floor exercise alone! On pommel horse there were 74 competitors, with a third of the qualifiers (25) only planning to come for this one routine (!)? Especially as at this early stage it is highly dubious to compare and grade the performance in sporting terms: because some are still in the middle of building up, starting from training - but the specialists are still fighting for the last chance to qualify! That's why such dubious "hymns of praise" for the (quantitatively) "biggest World Cup of all time" are absolutely out of the question!?

**This quantitative gigantism** is certainly not conducive to an improved public perception of the sport as a whole, even though numerous top stars are "hiding" among the more than 300 players, because this Cottbus World Cup was indeed also qualitatively strong, even if many of those top stars who are already sure of their "Olympic ticket" for Paris were missing ....!

**By the way:**

\* In the men's competition, only 2 athletes originally wanted to realise a 6-event competition on all six apparatus.

\* In the women's competition, 25 of the 115 starters originally planned a complete four-event competition (- which, however, is again not advertised in the entire FIG World Cup year).

**\*NOTE:**

The actual real number of starters for event qualification in Cottbus was:

- Men: Floor=66; horse=62; rings=44; vault=50; parallel bars=62; high bar=57, - total: 341 routines.

- Women: Vault=34; uneven bars=57; beam=73; floor=56, - total: 220 routines.

\* **The World Gymnastics Federation** would generally be advised to thoroughly rethink its World Cup / World Challenge Cup mode and, in co-operation with the continental federations, to look for a coherent, performance-based, comprehensible qualification mode for World Cups, which also reintegrates the important role of the all-around competition!

It is not necessary to determine a total of 100 World Cup winners in one year alone, as was recently the case with 10 events, because the degree of increasing "arbitrariness" is absolutely counterproductive in terms of the media!!!

**In view of the cost/benefit ratio, an analysis of the O<sub>2</sub> emissions** of the travelling activities of the participants and guests from over 75 nations would certainly be very informative ...!

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