



**To:**  
Council members  
Member National Associations

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**Our ref**  
WTE/2020/039

**Date:** 10 March 2020  
**Subject:** Corona COVID-19 outbreak

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Under the authority of Article 10 of the Taekwondo Europe Statutes, I have decided to postpone until further notice all **non-essential** Taekwondo Europe promoted events in the months March, April and May. The decision includes the Open European Para Championships in Porec, the European Club Championships in Porec and the G4 European Championships in Zagreb.

The number of infected persons with the Corona COVID-19 virus rises every day and governments are taking measures to contain the virus. The reason for the postponement of the abovementioned non-essential events is the unpredictable nature of the outbreak of the Corona COVID-19 virus and most importantly the health of our athletes, coaches and participants.

Postponement and cancellation of the Olympic Games is according to the statement of Thomas Bach not considered. Therefore, the European Qualification Tournament (EQT) for the Tokyo Olympics is considered by Taekwondo Europe as an essential event. As the Taekwondo event in Tokyo takes place from 25 – 28 July 2020, Taekwondo Europe sees no other possibility than to proceed with the EQT in Russia as announced last week. Postponement of the event would disadvantage our European athletes disproportionately.

All teams attending the EQT are therefore urgently required to make all necessary preparations to travel to Moscow and to fulfill all requirements as issued by the Russian government. Please be informed that Taekwondo Europe is in close



contact with the Russian government – via the OC and WT – and that we are fully aware of the recent travel restrictions imposed. Nevertheless, all teams are urged take all necessary steps to make sure their respective teams are allowed access to enter the Russian Federation.

For the athletes qualified for the Olympics, the G4 European Championship is of major importance. In this respect I can inform you that Taekwondo Europe and the OC of the G4 European Championships will do their utmost to organize the event before the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games in order to make sure their best seeding position is secured.

With regard to the G1 events in Europe, I would like to point out the following. It is the responsibility and decision of each federation and Organizing Committee whether or not to cancel the G1 event in their country. Taekwondo Europe urges all federation and OCs to bear in mind the health and safety of the participants and follow instructions of the (local) authorities. In all cases, the federations and OCs are requested to inform the participants at their events on the health measures to be taken to prevent infection and further spreading the Corona COVID-19 virus.

Finally, the question of liability for incurred costs of participating teams at postponed events is an issue that has been brought to our attention frequently the past days. First of all, all athletes that have already paid the entry fees will receive vouchers for the amount paid to WTE. These vouchers can be used at all future events of Taekwondo Europe. With regard to claiming incurred travel and accommodation costs, I remind you that in principle, participation at WTE events is at the risk of the participating teams. Taekwondo Europe cannot require OCs to have an insurance to cover expenses of participating teams in case of postponement or cancellation. Organizing events would be an impossibility if this requirement would have been made. No OC can bear that risk. Teams are expected to have their own travel and/or cancellation insurance.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sakis Pragalos', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sakis Pragalos  
*President*