

OLYMPIC GAMES / PARALYMPIC GAMES

Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games Report

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I. Introduction

1. Postponement of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

In March 2020, Tokyo2020 and the IOC announced the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Games to 2021 replicating the equivalent dates from 23 July to 8 August 2021 for the Olympic Games, and for the Paralympic Games from 24 August until 5 September 2021.

The decision was taken in full consultation with all International Federations and in light of the current global pandemic was the only decision possible with the athletes' health and well-being across both Games, not just for equestrian sport, being the top priority.

The multiple factors due to the Covid-19 situation and the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Games has of course lead to complex revisions of sport event calendars, intermediate resolutions by the FEI Board to ensure and help athletes and horses to optimise their performance in the challenging climate expected in Tokyo and the possibility to obtain the necessary eligibility results taking health protocols and every evolving situation of the pandemic into consideration.

IOC/Tokyo2020 – Task Forces

The IOC, Tokyo2020, Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and the Government of Japan have been working relentlessly through different taskforces to address this complex situation including developing COVID-19 countermeasure to allow for a safe environment for Athletes, Officials, stakeholders and all involved to allow the Olympic and Paralympic Games to go ahead.

The World Health Organisation (WHO), as well as the highest level of medical, technology and governmental experts are involved in the development of protocols involving testing technologies and quarantine restrictions, to address the effect of the worldwide pandemic on the Games.

The FEI as IF have been involved throughout the different steps to validate the decisions relating to our sport in regard to the re-planning of the Games.

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Tokyo2020 anticipate publishing an interim summary on Covid-19 countermeasures by the end of 2020.

The countermeasures will then be further developed and refined, including being applied by competition management within each venue, with the aim of finalising plans by May 2021.

Cost and complexity review by Tokyo 2020 and IOC with IFs

In addition to the Covid 19 countermeasures, the IOC together with Tokyo 2020 initiated a review with the aim of simplification and optimisation of the organisation in order to counterbalance the financial impact of the postponement of the Games. Again the FEI as an IF is engaged in this process.

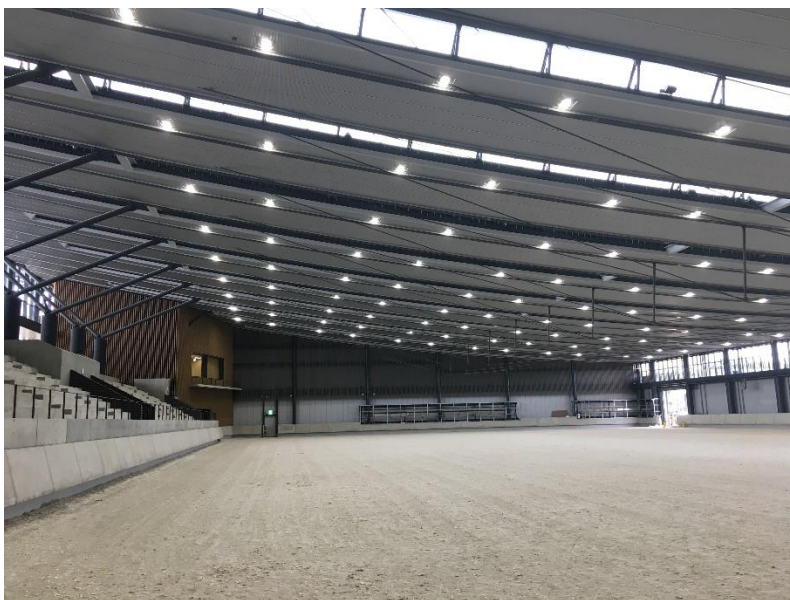
The size of Athlete, Technical Officials and IF support staff delegations are not subject to this review as it involves more the overall services (transport, catering, ceremonies etc) which should not have an impact of the field of play and sports operations relating to Athlete preparation or performance.

II. Venue progress

1. Equestrian Park (Bajikoen)

By the time of postponement the primary venue for Equestrian sport was 95% complete and almost ready to host the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian competitions. The final warm-up arena was due for completion in June. This was subsequently postponed until spring 2021 as this is a temporary/non-legacy facility. Many of the temporary structures are already installed and will remain in place until the Games next year.





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FEI Footing Advisor Oliver Hoberg visited the venue in March together with Prof Lars Roepstorff and the footing contractor DeGrondslag. Testing was conducted to determine the optimum footing preparation and maintenance strategy for the Games. Improvement of the gallop footing remains under consideration.

The venue will host a series of national jumping and dressage competitions during November and December hosted jointly by the Japan Equestrian Federation and venue owners Japan Racing Association. This will enable further testing of the venue and associated operations.

2. Sea Forest Cross Country

The Eventing cross country venue at Sea Forest Park was similarly nearing readiness for the Olympic Games when postponement was announced. The obstacles have since been put into storage and will be re-positioned in spring 2021. Most temporary structures are already in place including stabling. Footing maintenance continued for the remainder of the 2020 growing season. Various outstanding matters remain under consideration

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including preparation of spectator areas and construction of an extension to the warm-up area.

III. Timetable of Equestrian competitions

1. Olympic Games

The competition program has not changed with the exception of the start dates being brought forward one day for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (link [here](#)).

Olympic competition schedule effective for the Olympic Games Tokyo2020 23 July - 8 August 2021

Day	Date	Competition	Time
0	23 July Fri	Opening Ceremony	
		<i>Dressage - 1st Horse Inspection</i>	09:30 - 11:30
1	24 July Sat	Dressage – Grand Prix; 1st Team & Individual Qualifier (30 participants)	17:00 - 22:15
2	25 July Sun	Dressage – Grand Prix; 1st Team & Individual Qualifier (30 participants)	17:00 - 22:15
3	26 July Mon	Rest day	
4	27 July Tue	Dressage – Grand Prix Special; Team Final (24 participants)	17:00 - 22:15
5	28 July Wed	<i>Dressage – 2nd Horse Inspection</i>	10:30 – 11:00
		Dressage – Grand Prix Freestyle; Individual Final (18 participants)	17:30-21:00
6	29 July Thu	<i>Eventing - 1st Horse Inspection</i>	09:30 - 11:30
7	30 July Fri	Eventing – Dressage; Team & Individual (44 participants)	8:30– 11:00 17:30 – 20:10
		Eventing – Dressage; Team & Individual (21 participants)	8:30 – 11:00
8	31 July Sat	<i>Jumping – 1st Horse Inspection</i>	17:00-19:30
		Eventing – Cross Country, Team & Individual (65 participants)	07:45 – 11:10
9	1 Aug Sun	<i>Jumping – Horse Re-Inspection</i>	17:00
		<i>Jumping – Training session</i>	19:00 – 22:00
		<i>Eventing - 2nd Horse Inspection</i>	09:30 – 11:00
10	2 Aug Mon	Eventing – Jumping, Team Final & Individual qualifier	17:00 - 19:35
		Eventing – Jumping, Individual Final (25 Participants)	20:45 – 21:45
11	3 Aug Tue	Jumping - Individual Qualifier (75 participants)	19:00 – 22:45
12	4 Aug Wed	Jumping – Individual Final (30 participants)	19:00 – 21:15
13	5 Aug Thu	<i>Jumping – 2nd Horse Inspection</i>	17:00 – 19:00
14	6 Aug Fri	<i>Jumping – Horse Re-Inspection</i>	09:30
		Jumping – Team Qualifier (60 participants)	19:00 – 22:05
15	7 Aug Sat	Jumping – Team Final (30 participants)	19:00 – 21:05

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16	8 Aug Sun	Closing Ceremony
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2. Paralympic Games

As for the Olympic Games, the schedule for the Paralympic Games was brought forward by one day, published [here](#).

Paralympic competition schedule effective for the Paralympic Games Tokyo2020 24 August - 3 September 2021

Day	Date	Competition	Time
0	24 Aug Tue	<i>Opening Ceremony</i>	
1	25 Aug Wed	<i>1st Horse Inspection (78)</i>	9:00-11:00
2	26 Aug Thu	Individual: Grade II, IV, V Medal Ceremony (Grade II, IV, V)	15:00-21:50 22:00-22:30
3	27 Aug Fri	Individual: Grade I, III Medal Ceremony (Grade I, III)	15:00-21:50 22:00-22:20
4	28 Aug Sat	Team: Grade III, II, I	17:00-22:10
5	29 Aug Sun	Team: Grade IV, V Medal Ceremony (Grade IV, V)	18:00-20:20 20:30-20:45
6	30 Aug Mon	<i>2nd Horse Inspection (48)</i> Freestyle: Grade IV, Medal Ceremony (Grade IV, V)	9:00-10:00 15:00-17:20 17:30-17:50
		Freestyle: Grade III, II, I Medal Ceremony (Grade III, II, I)	18:00-21:35 21:45-22:15
10	3 Sept Fri	<i>Closing Ceremony</i>	

IV. Officials appointed for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

The appointment of Officials for Equestrian for the Olympic Games were renewed for 2021, (link [here](#)) with the exception of the President of the Jumping Ground Jury Jon Doney GBR who sadly passed away in April this year.

The list of Officials for the Paralympic Games remains as it was proposed prior to the postponement (link [here](#)).

V. Weather status/Monitoring

Following analysis of historical weather data for Tokyo and studies conducted during the Equestrian test event in August 2019, measures have been agreed and will be implemented to protect the welfare of Athletes and Horses. This will include on-venue weather monitoring and reporting, heat-stress early warning systems, competition session times

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avoiding middle of the day when conditions are likely to be most challenging, and multiple cooling facilities/stations. Furthermore the FEI is preparing a series of educational videos that will be launched and promoted on the run up to the Games to inform and advise National Federations and Athletes in their preparation for and during the Games.

To guide decision making and communication processes during the Games protocols are being drafted to cover the monitoring of Horses during training and competition warm-up and the management of competition (e.g. postponement) in the event of more challenging conditions being forecast and/or occurring during sessions.

VI. Olympic and Paralympic Regulations/ Qualification procedure updates

1. Olympic Games

As per the Board decision, reviewed and approved by the IOC and published after the meeting in April 2020, the Tokyo 2020 qualification systems for the three disciplines was updated to include the new dates for the Games.

The modifications in the reviewed qualifications include the changes proposed for holding the Olympic Games in 2021 as follows:

- Date for Nominated entries set for 21 June 2021.
- Athlete/ horse combination confirmation result proposed for the different situations (full, partial and still to be obtained).
- Confirmation result details for the three disciplines (only 1 result to be achieved, not a full MER)
- Procedure for the publication of selected events for obtaining results

In addition, the Horse Ownership/Nationality dates were reviewed with the deadline for Horses to be registered with the FEI as property of owners of the same nationality of 15 January 2021. This is the same principle as for 2020.

Further to the IOC approval the Olympic Regulations were updated to include all date changes (link [here](#)).

2. Paralympic Games

As per the FEI Board approval in June 2020, the Tokyo 2020 Qualification system for the Paralympic Games was amended to take into account the postponement of the Games. The main modification to the Qualification system was to change the dates of the period of time that Athletes were able to gain the Minimum Eligibility Score from 1 January 2018 – 19 June 2020 to 1 January 2019 – 5 July 2021.

VII. Horse Logistics

In July official shipping agent Peden Bloodstock circulated a memo to all National Federations updating them on matters relating to horse transport and associated logistics in light of the Games' postponement. Although the final format health certificate has not yet been issued by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the memo outlined anticipated health requirements as well as arrangements for pre-export quarantine, an updated flight schedule and other information relating to feed and bedding, shipment of veterinary medicines and stabling. The full memo can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

VIII. Paralympic specifics

Classification

The qualification criteria for Athletes had some issues with Athletes Classification due to the postponement of the Games. The Para Equestrian Technical Committee and Classification Working Group have worked on solutions, which would be presented to the FEI Board and IPC by the end of 2020.