

Course of Decisions on the Tokyo Marathon 2021 Postponement

- In October of last year, observing the national and global situation with COVID-19, vaccination, and the Abbott World Marathon Majors event calendar, we have made the decision to postpone the Tokyo Marathon 2021 from March to October 2021, roughly to half a year later.
- Collectively, the Foundation established the COVID-19 Countermeasure Committee and the COVID-19 Investigative Committee (comprising infectious disease experts and medical team), to discuss all possible countermeasures to deliver a safe and secure event.
- As it can be viewed on our official website, different countermeasures and plans were prepared. PCR testing not only for the runners but also for volunteers and staff, monitoring individual condition before and after the event utilizing a health-management app, creating an environment to maintain physical distance, and many more that we could possibly think of that are relevant against COVID-19.
- Also, we have established and executed a long-term planning schedule, which allowed us to make decisions ahead of time to minimize possible stress and impact on the runners and all personnel. We had meetings, 7 months prior to the event (before announcing event details) and 4 months prior to the event (before receiving event fees), to make a go/no-go decision of the event by assessing the situation at the time.
- However since July, outbreak continues to rise due to Delta variant, and medical services are under increasing pressure. Though it's just a month away from the event, the disease continues to spread, and the state of emergency for Tokyo has been extended to September 30.
- Even if the state of emergency has been lifted, it is difficult to determine whether we can deliver a safe and secure event with the current circumstance of the health services. Travel and many more restrictions are expected to continue. With careful consideration on how the event will affect the community, we have come to the difficult decision to postpone the Tokyo Marathon 2021 scheduled for October 17, 2021.
- On the other hand, vaccination rate continues to rise, and the government has announced that by end of the year, they plan to ease restrictions by utilizing vaccination passport. It is also very positive that large-scale events are gradually opening in the USA and Europe, giving us a hopeful impression.
- With all things considered, and furthermore, not to waste the tremendous effort of our runners who trained in the time of COVID-19, and the hard work of all personnel involved in the event, we have decided to postpone the Tokyo Marathon 2021 to March 6 (Sun) of the next year.

○ Also with this decision, the Tokyo Marathon 2022 expected on March 6, 2022 (Sun) will not take place.

○ For all runners who have an entry to the Tokyo Marathon 2022, we will send you a further details and available options.

○ We truly hope that this pandemic will end soon, and we will continue to dedicate our utmost effort until “The Day We Unite”. Words cannot express our appreciation for the continuous support we receive from our runners, partners, and all relevant parties involved in the event, and we thank you for your understanding during this difficult time.