**Tokyo Olympics Postponed Until 2021**

**东京奥运会推迟到2021年**

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced a first-of-its-kind postponement of the Summer Olympics.

国际奥委会(IOC)宣布将首次推迟夏季奥运会。

The Tokyo Games are being delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic. The virus has affected daily life around the world, making planning for the sporting event in July nearly impossible.

由于冠状病毒大流行，东京奥运会被推迟。该病毒影响了世界各地人们的日常生活，因此几乎不可能筹划7月的体育赛事。

The IOC released a statement on the Tokyo Games Tuesday. It said they “must be rescheduled to a date beyond 2020. but not later than summer 2021. to safeguard the health of the athletes, everybody involved in the Olympic Games and the international community.”

周二国际奥委会在东京奥运会上发表了一项声明。声明中说，“为了保护运动员以及参加奥运会的每个人和国际社会的健康，他们必须重新安排一个2020年以后但又不迟于2021年夏天的时间。”

Athletes, sports organizations and national Olympic committees had been pressuring the IOC to postpone the games. They noted that the virus had put serious limitations on training and qualifying events, as well as efforts to fight the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

运动员，体育组织和各国奥林匹克委员会一直在就此向国际奥委会施加压力，要求推迟奥运会的举行。他们指出，该病毒严重限制了培训和排位赛，以及与使用“兴奋剂”类药物行为作斗争的努力。

Hayley Wickenheiser of Canada was the first International Olympic Committee member to criticize the IOC for not postponing the games sooner.

加拿大的海莉·维肯海塞尔是第一个就不推迟比赛批评国际奥委会的国际奥委会成员。

After the announcement to postpone the Olympics, she released a statement on Twitter. It read:

在奥委会宣布推迟奥运会之后，她在推特上发表了一份声明。写道：

“To all the athletes: take a breath, regroup, take care of yourself and your families. Your time will come.”

“致所有运动员：屏住呼吸，重整队伍，照顾好自己和家人。属于你的时刻终会到来。”

IOC President Thomas Bach and Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo spoke by telephone Tuesday morning. The two men, top IOC officials and Japan’s organizing committee agreed to the call to delay the 2020 Summer Games.

周二上午国际奥委会主席托马斯·巴赫和日本首相安倍晋三通过电话沟通。国际奥委会和日本组委会的两位最高代表人同意推迟2020年夏季奥运会。

Olympic cancellations

取消奥运会

Other Olympics — 1916. 1940 and 1944 — have been canceled because of war. But none have ever been postponed for any reason. The Tokyo Games would still be called the 2020 Olympics, although they will be held in 2021.

还有几届奥运会——1916年、1940年和1944年的奥运会均因战争而被取消。但是没有任何一次奥运会因任何原因被推迟过。尽管东京奥运会将于2021年举行，但它仍将被称为2020年奥运会。

“The leaders agreed that the Olympic Games in Tokyo could stand as a beacon of hope,” the IOC said in a statement.

国际奥委会在一份声明中表示：“领导人一致认为，东京奥运会可以成为一个希望的灯塔。”

The decision eases some of athletes’ concerns. They no longer have to move forward with training under near-impossible conditions, unsure of when, exactly, they need to be ready — and for what.

该决定减轻了一些运动员的担忧。他们不再需要在几乎不可能的条件下进行训练，不用在为不确定的时间和目标而担忧。

“Thankful to finally have some clarity regarding The Olympic Games. A huge decision but I think the right one for sure,” noted British runner Adam Gemili on Twitter. “Time to regain, look after each other during this difficult period and go again when the time is right!”

“感谢对奥运会终于有了清晰的说明。这是一个重大的决定，同时我认为这绝对也是正确的决定。” 英国短跑运动员亚当·格米利在推特上写道，“是时候重新投入了，在这个困难时期相互照顾然后等时机来临再出发!”

One reason the IOC took longer to make the decision was because it wanted to have a plan of action. Many of the arenas, sports centers, and hotels in and around Tokyo have special use agreements for the games, which were to open on July 24. Remaking those agreements is doable, but will come at a cost. Tokyo has already spent a reported $28 billion to hold the games.

国际奥委会花费较长时间做出该决定，是因为它希望制定一个行动计划。东京及周边地区的许多竞技场，体育馆和酒店都为奥运会定下了特殊使用协议，该协议将于7月24日生效。重新制作这些协议是可行的，但要付出一定的代价。据报道，为举办奥运会东京已经花费了280亿美元。

“A lot can happen in one year, so we have to think about what we have to do,” said Toshiro Muto, head of the Tokyo Games organizing committee. “The decision came upon us all of a sudden.”

东京奥运会组委会负责人武藤敏郎说：“一年内可能发生很多事情，因此我们必须考虑要做些什么。而这个决定突然就甩给了我们。”

But for weeks, it was becoming increasingly clear that starting on July 24 was no longer a choice.

但是数周以来，越来越明显的一点是7月24日开幕已无法实行。

Calls to postpone the Tokyo games

呼吁推迟东京奥运会

Almost every sport around the world has suspended play after health officials declared COVID-19. the disease caused by the coronavirus, a pandemic. Holding Olympic qualifying events over the next month or two became increasingly unreasonable.

卫生部门宣布冠状病毒引起的疾病新冠肺炎大流行后，全世界几乎所有运动赛事都暂停了比赛。在接下来的一两个月里举行奥运会预选赛变得越来越不合理。

At first, Olympic committees in Canada and Australia were saying they either would not, or could not, send a team to Tokyo in July. World Athletics and the three biggest Olympic sports in the United States — swimming, track and gymnastics — were calling for a postponement.

起初，加拿大和澳大利亚的奥林匹克委员会说他们要么不愿意，要么做不到在7月份派遣一支运动队前往东京。世界田径运动和美国三大奥林匹克运动——游泳，田径和体操队都要求推迟比赛。

As recently as Sunday, the IOC was saying it would take up to four weeks to reach a decision. Four weeks ended up being two days.

就在最近的周日，国际奥委会曾表示最多可能需要四个星期才能做出决定。四个星期最终变成了两天。

The decision came only a few hours after local organizers said the Olympic torch relay would start as planned on Thursday. The event was expected to start in the northeastern Japanese prefecture of Fukushima, but with no torch, no torch carriers and no members of public.

这项决定是在当地主办单位表示奥运火炬传递将按计划于周四开始的几个小时后作出的。预计该活动将在日本东北部福岛县开始，但当地没有火炬，没有火炬手，也没有公众参与。

Those plans also changed.

这些计划也发生了改变。

The Olympic flame will continue burning and be kept in Fukushima. Like everything else in the Olympic world, its next move will be decided at a later date.

奥林匹克圣火将继续燃烧并被保存在福岛。像奥林匹克界的其他一切一样，下一步行动将于之后决定。

I’m Mario Ritter, Jr.

小马里奥·里特报道。

**Tokyo Olympics Postponed Until 2021**

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced a first-of-its-kind postponement of the Summer Olympics.

The Tokyo Games are being delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic. The virus has affected daily life around the world, making planning for the sporting event in July nearly impossible.

The IOC released a statement on the Tokyo Games Tuesday. It said they “must be rescheduled to a date beyond 2020. but not later than summer 2021. to safeguard the health of the athletes, everybody involved in the Olympic Games and the international community.”

Athletes, sports organizations and national Olympic committees had been pressuring the IOC to postpone the games. They noted that the virus had put serious limitations on training and qualifying events, as well as efforts to fight the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Hayley Wickenheiser of Canada was the first International Olympic Committee member to criticize the IOC for not postponing the games sooner.

After the announcement to postpone the Olympics, she released a statement on Twitter. It read:

“To all the athletes: take a breath, regroup, take care of yourself and your families. Your time will come.”

IOC President Thomas Bach and Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo spoke by telephone Tuesday morning. The two men, top IOC officials and Japan’s organizing committee agreed to the call to delay the 2020 Summer Games.

Olympic cancellations

Other Olympics — 1916. 1940 and 1944 — have been canceled because of war. But none have ever been postponed for any reason. The Tokyo Games would still be called the 2020 Olympics, although they will be held in 2021.

“The leaders agreed that the Olympic Games in Tokyo could stand as a beacon of hope,” the IOC said in a statement.

The decision eases some of athletes’ concerns. They no longer have to move forward with training under near-impossible conditions, unsure of when, exactly, they need to be ready — and for what.

“Thankful to finally have some clarity regarding The Olympic Games. A huge decision but I think the right one for sure,” noted British runner Adam Gemili on Twitter. “Time to regain, look after each other during this difficult period and go again when the time is right!”

One reason the IOC took longer to make the decision was because it wanted to have a plan of action. Many of the arenas, sports centers, and hotels in and around Tokyo have special use agreements for the games, which were to open on July 24. Remaking those agreements is doable, but will come at a cost. Tokyo has already spent a reported $28 billion to hold the games.

“A lot can happen in one year, so we have to think about what we have to do,” said Toshiro Muto, head of the Tokyo Games organizing committee. “The decision came upon us all of a sudden.”

But for weeks, it was becoming increasingly clear that starting on July 24 was no longer a choice.

Calls to postpone the Tokyo games

Almost every sport around the world has suspended play after health officials declared COVID-19. the disease caused by the coronavirus, a pandemic. Holding Olympic qualifying events over the next month or two became increasingly unreasonable.

At first, Olympic committees in Canada and Australia were saying they either would not, or could not, send a team to Tokyo in July. World Athletics and the three biggest Olympic sports in the United States — swimming, track and gymnastics — were calling for a postponement.

As recently as Sunday, the IOC was saying it would take up to four weeks to reach a decision. Four weeks ended up being two days.

The decision came only a few hours after local organizers said the Olympic torch relay would start as planned on Thursday. The event was expected to start in the northeastern Japanese prefecture of Fukushima, but with no torch, no torch carriers and no members of public.

Those plans also changed.

The Olympic flame will continue burning and be kept in Fukushima. Like everything else in the Olympic world, its next move will be decided at a later date.

I’m Mario Ritter, Jr.