

# Europe ITF Taekwon-Do Federation

2, Alexandra Gate,  
Ffordd Pengam  
Cardiff  
CF24 2SA,  
Wales



E-mail: [itfwales@aol.com](mailto:itfwales@aol.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

Dear Grand Masters, Masters and NGB Presidents,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and spirits.

It is with much regret that I have to inform you that the EITF has today made the decision to cancel this year's European Championships in Prague, Czech Republic.

Health and safety is still the biggest concern and the main reason for the cancellation of the Championships. The risk of the COVID-19 virus being spread amongst athletes would be very high throughout the event.

At the moment, there are no options for health insurance against COVID-19. This would leave participants exposed to potentially high costs for medical treatment if they fall fowl of this virus.

Many European countries, especially non-members of the Schengen area, have no or very limited possibilities of travelling to the Czech Republic, and any remaining transport options will be expensive. Those participants that could potentially attend could also have to face an obligatory 14 days quarantine after their arrival back home.

After the feedback from all countries, it has been analysed that only 1/3 of participants would have been able to attend this year's tournament. This does not comply with principles of a Fair Play Championship.

The Czech organising Committee now has the unenviable task of trying to get back refunds on the money deposited for hotels, catering and venue hire. They will do their utmost to return the deposits from NGBs, please be patient as they need to recoup their losses and it may take some time.

If any NGB can afford to help them by perhaps claiming back only 80% of what they paid in, that would be a great help, and an honorable gesture. I will also be speaking to the EITF board to try and arrange some financial help for the Czech organizing committee. It is a very sad situation which fortunately none of us have had to experience.

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The EITF will look into organising an online 2020 European Championships in the near future.

I look forward to seeing you all in Greece at the 2021 European Championships.

Kind regards to you all, yours in Taekwon-Do

Grand Master Michael E Prewett

Europe ITF Taekwon-Do Federation President  
International Taekwon-Do Federation Executive Board Member  
Chairman EITF Umpire Committee  
Deputy Chairman ITF Umpire Committee