



CANCELLATION OF THE 42nd EDITION OF LES 20 KM DE PARIS

Dear loyal friends of Les 20 km de Paris,

For the past 3 months, throughout this world health crisis, you have all have been anxious to know whether Les 20 km de Paris would take place or not.

When the pandemic first started in France, the 20 km de Paris organising committee was unable to communicate due to the complexity of the situation. For more transparency, we decided to wait in order to get a better understanding of the situation. With all the information in hand, we could then make the best decision for our association, our partnerships and our runners.

Our silence did not mean that we have been waiting passively, quite the opposite. Since March we have been following the evolution of the pandemic while working on different possible solutions. Following decisions from our government, and from race organisations we have worked on different scenarios, from a simple cancellation to races limited to 5 000, 10 000, 15 000 or even 20 000 runners.

At the moment, even if there has been an improvement in the sanitary situation, particularly in Europe, there are still too many unknown elements at only 4 months from the event. As a result, we are extremely sad to announce the **Cancellation of the 2020 edition of Les 20 km de Paris.**

The association of Les 20km de Paris is made up of 80% of volunteers, and cannot afford to take the risk of further financial losses added to the cost of the cancellation (approximately 270 000 € to date).

These are the reasons for our decision:

- Difficulties predicting the number of potential registrations. Indeed, many races have been postponed to the Autumn (Paris Marathon and Half Marathon, EcoTrail, ...) and also regular 20 km de Paris runners may be worried about eventual health risks. Moreover, company budgets could well be restricted which could prevent large corporate groups from attending ;
- The sanitary situation in October remains unknown, there could be strict sanitary measures in place. It would be difficult to adapt them to a mass event. Our priority is to ensure the safety of all runners, partners, volunteers and spectators ;
- The authorities and services in charge of delivering all the different authorisations (Paris police headquarters, Paris town hall) cannot make any definite decisions at this time as regards with the report of events such as Roland Garros, Paris Marathon and other non-sporting events in the autumn calendar ;



Finally, the impossibility of obtaining insurance from our insurance company in case of cancellation for pandemic reasons. This was the reason that pushed us to make a definitive decision regarding the cancellation of the race.

As a result, runners that have already registered for the 2020 edition will soon receive a message outlining the refund procedure :

- defer until the next edition which will take place on Sunday 10th October 2021 without any extra charges.
- request a refund of inscription amount minus 4€ for management costs.
- donation of the total amount to the association of Les 20 km de Paris, 50% of which will be donated to the Pasteur Institut.

We would like to thank our private and institutional partners for their support during these hard times: Paris Town Hall, Paris Police Headquarters, Ministry of the Armed Forces, Joma Sport, St-Yorre, Bio c' Bon, the French athletics federation, the Clubs Defense Federation, Unéo, GMF, IGESA, CNMSS, Sports Akileïne, JBL, Renault, CNews, RTL2, Trek TV, Via Grand Paris and Goliath.

Finally, to conclude on a positive note, as the organising committee does not want to leave you without a sporting event in 2020, we have made the decision to launch a virtual 20 km de Paris race. You will be able to take part in this event in your own environment, alone or with friends (while respecting certain rules that will be in place at this time). With help from our partners, we will give you the opportunity to participate in your favourite race in a unique way. No doubt that the medals and t-shirts of the **Virtual 20km de Paris** will become “collector” items!

We thank you for your patience, your trust and your continued support, it gives us the will to continue each year.

Until then, take care of yourselves, respect the prevention recommendations, and continue living your passion for running.

See you very soon for the Virtual 20km de Paris race.

The 20 km de Paris organising committee