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Dear Friends,

I wish to refer to my earlier letter indicating that we had submitted an official application to the Organising Committee for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games for consideration as an additional sport as part of those Games.

Very unfortunately and sadly, we have now been informed that our application has failed to make the short list of those sports which will receive further consideration.

I am certain that you will share the disappointment of the Executive at this news. We were not listed among the favourites to receive a vote of approval at this stage but we were living in hope that the selection committee would recognise the values and indeed virtues which tug of war possesses.

I must point out that although we have failed on this occasion it does not mean that the door has been closed against us indefinitely. There will be other opportunities and I can assure you that we will not give up the fight to regain what many of us regard as our rightful position on the Olympic programme. This is not the right moment for a detailed post mortem but we will obviously need to consider what measures need to be taken to improve our future prospects. Even a short reflection would indicate that there are probably several reasons which restrict our progress and unfortunately not all of them are easily overcome.

I must take this opportunity to thank my Executive colleagues for their input to our application and also to Masaji Takahashi of the Japan Federation, whose support was so important.

Yours in Sport,

**Cathal Mc Keever.
President of TWIF.**