

International Olympic Committee

Background Guide



Moody Middle School

Model United Nations III

Chairs

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Co-Chair

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Hello Delegates!

Welcome to the Moody Middle School MUN III! We are very pleased to be your chairs of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). This is our first time chairing, but knowing all of the hard work and effort everyone has put together to make this be possible, we are positive that each and every one of you will have a blast. We understand that for many of you this may be your first conference, and we'd like to encourage you to participate during committee, so that we can hear each country's viewpoint. It would be highly beneficial for you to have an overview of your country; if it helps, you may bring additional research with you to committee.

Do not worry if you do not understand parliamentary procedures as there will be time before committee to go over them. Just as a reminder: When writing your position paper, you should write it using the views of your country—not your own! Please bring two copies of it to committee; one for yourself and one for us. The paper should be in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, 1 page single spaced for both topics. There are examples of position papers at www.3moodymun.weebly.com. Do not forget to bring a packed lunch, as no food will be provided. On the other hand, PLEASE bring money to support our cause—Kganya's Kause. Their goal is to aid other organizations around the community and it would be highly appreciated if you would be able to donate. You can find more information at www.kganyaskause.org/about-our-organization or the Moody MUN website. If you have any questions whatsoever, please feel free to contact us at moodymun3ioc@gmail.com. We want debate to run smoothly, so do not hesitate to ask! We are looking forward to a successful Model UN and hope to see everyone there!

-Shaila Lothe, Annie Wang, Drew Acquaye

Committee Background Information

Since 1894, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has been the ruling body of the Summer and Winter Olympics. The organization currently consists of 110 members who discuss decisions regarding the Games including the election of host cities and board members, and furthermore the improvements of the Olympic charter (rules and regulations set at the Olympics). Adding members to the IOC requires the committee to vote where each existing member has one vote. The IOC organizes the Olympics and acquires roughly 10% of the total revenue generated by the Games. However, the committee also provides 90% of its income to support the coordination of the event and make it possible. The association strives to promote Olympism, or in other words the balanced combination of the body, will, and mind. It is the IOC's goal to incorporate a life composed not only of sport, but also culture and education.

Topic 1: Host City for 2024

One of the most important responsibilities of the IOC includes determining the host city for the Olympic Games. As of last year, it was determined that Tokyo, Japan was to host the 2020 Summer Olympic Games. In 2017, the IOC will choose a candidate to host the 2024 games. Right now, the objective is to prepare for this decision. After a city applies to be a host and is accepted by the IOC Executive Board, it becomes a candidate city. During the candidature phase, the IOC reviews the Candidature File which contains details involving what the city plans to do if selected. Currently the candidates are Washington D.C., United States; Paris, France; Istanbul, Turkey; and Durban, South Africa.

In order for an Olympics to be successful, the host city must be subject to many requirements. There are several factors that must be considered when choosing where the Olympics will be held. First, the host country must be able to finance the expenses of the Games. For the 2012 Summer Olympics, the bidding fee alone was \$150,000. The United Kingdom ended up spending 8.9 billion pounds (14.8 billion U.S dollars) on the 2012 London Games. For countries with weak infrastructures and economies, these expenses could make hosting the Olympics unreasonable and difficult.

They must prove that they can handle the extreme amount of tourists, journalists, and athletes. With millions of tickets sold, and a huge amount of publicity, it will be necessary for tourists and the media to have adequate accommodations. Countries must build stadiums for events, sufficient hotels, and upgrade transportation. Even though cities with major tourism often have the necessary lodging and transportation, this subject can be further improved within and in other cities as well. Not only does the city need to provide for the tourists, but also for the athletes. It will be necessary to have a sufficient amount of space to construct the Olympic village. Security for the duration of the Games is an issue that will need to be addressed, especially towards the 10,000 athletes who attend the event.

Questions to Consider for those NOT Assigned Host Cities

1. Will financing the Olympics be an obstacle for any of the potential host cities? Why?
2. Which cities have adequate hotels and transportation for spectators and journalists?
3. Will security be a problem in any of the potential host nations?
4. Are there any other factors that could be important when deciding a host city?
5. From your country's perspective, which city is most eligible to host the 2024 Summer Olympic Games? Why?

Questions to Consider for those Assigned Host Cities

1. What key points make your country eligible to host the Olympics?
2. Is your country economically stable to provide for the opening/closing ceremonies, constructions, further accommodations, etc.?
3. Has your country hosted the Games before? What additional infrastructure improvements will need to be made in order for the Olympics to be a success?
4. Are there any past/potential conflicts (economic or political) that may affect your city's ability to host the Olympics?
5. Will there be enough space and money to construct the Olympic Village? Where would it be located?
6. Will security be an issue for your country? If so, what will be done to resolve it?

Preliminary Research Links

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/24659385/2024-summer-olympic-games-in-dc>

http://www.gamesbids.com/eng/olympic_bids/future_bids_2016/1216136844.html

<http://www.iol.co.za/sport/more-sport/sa-to-bid-for-2024-olympics-mbalula-1.1645332#.U0aqiZPFWS0>

<http://www.istanbulairportshuttletransfers.com/istanbul-2024/>

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/athens_games/backyard.htm

Topic 2: Sports Additions for 2024

Every two years, the IOC decides whether to change what sports are played at the Olympics. The Summer Olympics currently includes twenty-eight sports ranging from archery to synchronized swimming. In 2013, wrestling was dropped from the 2020 Summer Olympics, only to be added back several months later. In order to add sports to the Olympics, the ruling body of the sport must convince the IOC why the sport is eligible to be an addition to the Games. The IOC then debates the potential viewership, players, and cost of adding it. Afterwards, the committee goes through voting procedures on whether the sport will be added.

There has always been an ongoing dispute concerning what to modify within the sports world. Major sports, such as baseball, squash, and lacrosse, are still not part of the Olympic program. Supporters of these potential additions advocate for these sports, but they must be approved by the IOC. Countries that play non-Olympic sports support these additions, but in order to add a sport, a sport but be removed.

The removal of a sport is highly dependent upon the popularity and viewership. Sports with a large amount of viewers are less likely to be removed from the Olympics. Summer Olympic sports are classified into categories based on several factors including popularity, ticket sales, television views, and press coverage. In Category A with the most popularity are athletics, aquatics, and gymnastics. On the other hand, in the last category or Category E, are modern pentathlon, golf, and rugby. Golf and rugby were no longer Olympic sports since 2004 and 1924 respectively. However, both are returning in the Rio 2016 Olympics. Sports that are considered at-risk of being removed and will be discussed in committee are pentathlon, taekwondo, and badminton. Potential additions that will be debated are baseball, squash, and lacrosse.

Questions to Consider

1. Which of the potential addition sports are played in your country?
2. Which of the at-risk sports are played in your country?
3. What sports should be removed? Which sports should not? Why?
4. What sports should be added to the Summer Olympics? Why?

Preliminary Research Links

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/olympics/news/wakeboarding-squash-and-wushu-its-the-weird-and-wonderful-battle-for-a-place-at-the-2020-olympics-8635279.html>

<http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2012/08/the-summer-olympic-sports-of-the-future/260982/>

Candidate Cities

Washington D.C., U.S.A	The U.S.A most recently hosted the Summer Games in Atlanta, Georgia in 1996 although it has hosted the Winter Games at Salt Lake City, Utah in 2002. The city has more than 100,000 hotel rooms and the most sporting infrastructures within a 40 mile radius out of all of the cities in the United States. The main train station, the Union Station, provides for 70,000 people a day.
Paris, France	If Paris were to host the 2024 Summer Olympics, it would mark the 100 th Anniversary since the city has last held the Games. The city contains a 220 km long metro system that serves more than 9 million passengers daily. Paris has a temperate climate of 15-25°C during the summer (59-77°F). Over 44 million tourists visit Paris each year, and the city contains 1,795 hotels.
Istanbul, Turkey	Although Istanbul has previously placed five bids, it has not yet hosted the Olympics. Recently, it was named the European Capital of Sports for 2012. Outside of the Games, Turkey has successfully hosted a considerable amount of sporting events including the 2010 FIBA World Championship (international basketball tournament), 2012 FINA World Championships, and the 2012 IAAF World Indoor Championships.
Durban, South Africa	Durban hosted the 2010 FIFA World Cup and was prepared to make a bid for the 2020 Olympics until they withdrew it. The city is also planning on bidding for the 2022 Commonwealth Games. If Durban were to host the 2024 Summer Olympics, it would become the first to do so in Africa. The city is known for having the busiest port and being the third wealthiest city in South Africa. Its subtropical climate with temperatures ranging from 16.5-25°C (62-77°F) and beaches draws in tourists from around the world.

Delegations

United States	The United States of America is a federal republic located in North America. The capital is Washington, D.C. and the population is 314 million. The United States has hosted the Olympics eight times and won over 2400 medals at the Summer Olympics.
France	The French Republic, commonly known as France, is a sovereign republic located in Western Europe. It is a member of the European Union. The capital is Paris and the national language is French. France has hosted 5 Olympic Games and popular sports included football, judo, tennis, and basketball.

South Africa	The Republic of South Africa is a country located in Southern Africa. The capital is Cape Town, but the Olympic bid is for Durban. The main sports in South Africa are soccer, rugby, and cricket. South Africa has never hosted the Olympic Games.
Turkey	The Republic of Turkey is a predominantly Islamic country located in the Middle East. The capital is Ankara, but Istanbul has bid for the Olympics numerous times. Some popular sports include football (soccer), basketball, and volleyball.
Canada	Canada is a country located in North America. The capital of Canada is Ottawa, and the most populous city is Toronto. Popular Canadian sports include ice hockey, curling, football, and lacrosse. Three Olympic Games have been hosted in Canada.
Japan	The State of Japan is a country located in Eastern Asia. The capital is Tokyo and the national language is Japanese. Popular Japanese sports are sumo, martial arts, judo, karate, and kendo. Japan has hosted three Olympic Games, and will be the host of the 2020 Summer Olympics.
China	The People's Republic of China is a sovereign state in Eastern Asia. The capital is Beijing, which hosted the 2008 Summer Olympics. Popular sports are martial arts, basketball, football, table tennis, badminton, swimming, and snooker. China won more Olympic medals than any other nation in the 2008 Summer Olympics.
Germany	The Federal Republic of Germany is a country located in central Europe. The capital is Berlin and the national language is German. The most popular sport is football (soccer), and sports such as ice hockey, boxing, and tennis are also popular. Germany has hosted the Olympics three times.
Australia	The Commonwealth of Australia is a country located on the Australia continent. The capital is Canberra and the most populous city is Sydney. In 2000, Sydney hosted the Summer Olympic Games. Popular spectator sports include cricket, field hockey, netball, and rugby.
Mexico	The United Mexican States, commonly known as Mexico, is a country in North America. The capital is Mexico city and the main language is Spanish. Mexico hosted the Olympics in 1968. The most popular sports are football (soccer), baseball, bullfighting, and boxing.
Brazil	The Federative Republic of Brazil is a country in South America. The capital is Brasilia and the national language is Portuguese. Rio de Janeiro is hosting the 2016 Summer Olympics. The most popular sport is football (soccer) and volleyball, basketball, and martial arts are also popular.
Spain	The Kingdom of Spain is a country in Southern Europe. The capital is Madrid, and the main language is Spanish. Popular sports include football (soccer), basketball, tennis, cycling, handball, futsal, and motorcycling. Barcelona hosted the 1992 Summer Olympics.
India	The Republic of India is a country in Southern Asia. It is the second most populated country, and the capital is New Delhi. The national language is Hindi, but other regional languages are also common. Common sports include tennis, chess, boxing, shooting, wrestling, cricket, boxing, and badminton.

Sample Position Paper

Remember, this is just a sample. Feel free to include other information that you think could be important for your delegation. Please do not copy this paper word-for-word, as this is plagiarism.

Committee: International Olympic Committee

Country: Saudi Arabia

Delegate Name: John Doe

School: Moody Middle School

Country Introduction:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a country located in the Middle East bordering the Persian Gulf. The main religion is Islam and Arabic is the most used language. Almost 30 million people live in Saudi Arabia, with the capital and most populous city being Riyadh. The national sport is football (soccer), but scuba diving, windsurfing, sailing, camel racing, and basketball are all popular.

Topic I: Host City for 2024 Olympics

Saudi Arabia believes Istanbul, Turkey would be the best place to host the 2024 Olympics. Not only would it bring revenue towards Turkey, it would increase tourism in a lot of Muslim countries, including Saudi Arabia. Turkey and Saudi Arabia have good political relations as well.

Istanbul is an Islamic city, just like Saudi Arabia. Also, Istanbul is financially stable with over 14 million people. Tourism is a major industry in Istanbul, so they have enough hotels and transportation for the Olympic tourists. Istanbul is very diverse, so all tourists will feel included. In the opinion of Saudi Arabia, Istanbul is the most eligible to host the 2024 Summer Olympics.

Topic II: Sports Additions for 2024 Olympics

Baseball, squash and lacrosse are not very popular in Saudi Arabia. Some major league baseball players were born in Saudi Arabia, but these players are barred from playing in the Olympics. Squash is somewhat widely played in Saudi Arabia, but not enough to support the addition of it. Lacrosse is not popular in Saudi Arabia.

However, Saudi Arabia is a member of the World Taekwondo Federation and is not in favor of removing it from the Olympics. Pentathlon is also played in Saudi Arabia. Badminton is also a major sport in Saudi Arabia. Overall, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia proposes not changing the sports of the Olympics. No sports should be added or removed.

Sources:

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<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey-saudi-arabia-relations.en.mfa>

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