

# The heat is on for Tokyo 2020 Olympics

Olympic organizers planning for 90 degree temperatures

By JIM ARMSTRONG  
Associated Press

TOKYO — The head of an IOC inspection team says organizers of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics will explore all options to combat the extreme summer heat that will likely prevail in the Japanese capital during the games.

John Coates was in Tokyo for a two-day inspection of the city's preparations for the games, which are just two years away.

The 2020 Olympics will run from July 24 to Aug. 9 when temperatures in central Tokyo can exceed 35 degrees Celsius (95 F). It's common to see thousands of people rushed to hospitals with heatstroke during those months.

Experts have warned the risk of heatstroke in Tokyo has escalated in recent years, while noting the Olympics are expected to take place in conditions when sports activities should normally be halted.

"We are mindful that we do have to prepare for extreme heat," Coates said at a news conference on Thursday. "You're not the first country to host the games in extreme heat. It's a natural consequence of being in July and August."

Coates said each venue will have to be prepared to combat the heat.

"The effect of this is something that I was addressing when I went out and saw the rowing course," Coates said. "It's

always the case with rowing that, because of winds, you might have a delay during the day and therefore we need to assure there is a large space for the athletes to rest in an air-conditioned area and that will happen."

The Japanese government and the Tokyo metropolitan government are planning to lay pavements that emit less surface heat and plant taller roadside trees.

"The spectators as well as the athletes have to be taken care of," Coates said. "The timing of the marathon and road walks will be as early as possible as they have been in previous games to beat the heat."

Coates visited several venues during this visit and said work is largely on track.

He toured several venues and described them as "very impressive." Among the venues visited were the new National Stadium in central Tokyo, as well as the badminton and equestrian venues.

Coates also visited the Sea Forest facilities, including the rowing and canoe sprint courses, calling progress "very good."

Also on Thursday, organizers decided the torch relay will start in Fukushima, an area hit by the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster.

The route was approved by the organizing committee at a meeting with the central and Tokyo governments on Thursday.

The relay will start on March 26, 2020, in Fukushima and will head southward to Okinawa before making its way north again and arriving in Tokyo on July 10.



AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko  
John Coates, left, chairman of the IOC Coordination Commission for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and Tokyo Olympic organizing committee President Yoshiro Mori, right, attend the IOC and Tokyo 2020 joint press conference Thursday in Tokyo.

# U of Oregon runs through design tweaks for new Hayward Field

By SAUL HUBBARD  
The Register-Guard

EUGENE, Ore. — The University of Oregon has announced changes to the design of the new Hayward Field, as well as a new name for the defining nine-story tower that will overlook the venue.

On the stadium's north side, the concrete bowl for lower-level seats that previously wrapped around the full field will be brought down to ground level. The move eliminates 400 permanent seats, leaving the new capacity at 12,500, but it will replicate some of the open feel of the old stadium that was recently demolished.

The change also means people walking outside will be able to see into the venue. For big events, temporary seating will be installed in the open section, expanding the stadium's capacity to 30,000, as required for the 2021 World Track & Field Championships.

Meanwhile, the large tower overlooking the field will be relocated to the east-side stands. It will now be called the Oregon

Tower because sons of legendary track coach Bill Bowerman — critics of the stadium design — objected to it being named after him.

Construction of the privately funded stadium is being led by Nike co-founder Phil Knight. As a result, university officials didn't have input on the latest round of design changes, said Tobin Klinger, a university spokesman.

"We work with the team that's leading the development," Klinger said. "They've made changes that I would describe as shifting elements around, not significant changes."

In addition to enhancing the stadium's openness, the moves will help "manage costs and increase functionality," Klinger said.

In other design tweaks, a water feature along the stadium's north side has been eliminated and a new Hayward Field museum will now be located under the east side of the venue.

Construction of the new Hayward Field is expected to be finished in 2020.



AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth  
Serena Williams of the United States returns the ball to Germany's Julia Goerges during their women's singles semifinals match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on Thursday in London.

# Serena Williams nears 8th Wimbledon title, 24th slam

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
Associated Press

LONDON — Yes, this will be Serena Williams' 10th Wimbledon final. Yes, it's her 30th title match at any major. And, well, sure, she's widely regarded as not just the best of her era, but any era.

Let others shrug at this latest accomplishment, as if all it signified were merely another chance at another in a long line of trophies. Williams is not shy about saying she, for one, is impressed by this. Rightly so. For it was only about 10 months ago she was having a baby and then dealing with a serious health scare that followed.

Even after all of that, even after more than a year away from the game, even in only the fourth tournament of her comeback, Williams showed she's still capable of dominance. Especially at the All England Club, where a relatively routine 6-2, 6-4 victory over 13th-seeded Julia Goerges of Germany on Thursday put Williams one win away from an eighth championship.

She's also closing in on her 24th Grand Slam title, which would equal Margaret Court's all-time record.

"A lot of people were saying, 'Oh, she should be in the final,'" the 36-year-old Williams said. "For me it's such a pleasure and a joy because, you know, less than a year ago, I was going through so much stuff."

After hitting five aces with a serve that reached 119 mph, delivering 16 winners to only seven unforced errors, and covering the court so well with speed and effort, Williams will face another German, 11th-seeded Angelique Kerber, on Saturday.

"Whatever happens, honestly," Williams said, "it's an incredible effort from me."

The left-handed Kerber, a former No. 1 and two-time major champion, beat 12th-seeded Jelena Ostapenko 6-3, 6-3 earlier Thursday.

"Seeing her back, it's great," said Kerber, who has lost six of eight previous matches against Williams. "I know that she is always pushing you to the limits."

Kerber let 2017 French Open champion Ostapenko determine the outcome of nearly every point. By the end, Ostapenko had far more winners, 30-10, and far more unforced errors, 36-7.

Williams vs. Kerber will be a rematch of the 2016 final. Williams won that for a second consecutive Wimbledon title, then sat out the grass-court tournament last year while pregnant, part of a 16-month gap between majors.

After giving birth to daughter Olympia last September, Williams was treated for blood clots.

"I lost count after, like, four surgeries," said Williams, who has been wearing compression leggings this

fortnight as a precaution.

Her first Grand Slam tournament back was the French Open, where she won three matches before withdrawing last month because of an injured chest muscle.

All of the time away pushed someone who's spent more than 300 weeks ranked No. 1 down the rankings — she began Wimbledon at 181st, but was seeded 25th on account of her past success — and no one could quite be sure how the American would fare over these two weeks.

Not even Williams knew. "This is not inevitable for me. I had a really tough delivery ... and almost didn't make it, to be honest," Williams said. "I remember I couldn't even walk to my mail box, so it's definitely not 'normal' for me to be in a Wimbledon final."

The victory over Goerges extended Williams' winning streak at Wimbledon to 20 matches, dating to the start of the 2015 edition. She's also won her past 15 Grand Slam matches since the start of the 2017 Australian Open, which she won while pregnant.

That title pushed her past Steffi Graf's record of 22 majors in the half-century professional era; Court won some of her Slams during the amateur era.

Williams' match against Goerges was even until 2-all, 30-all. Until then, Goerges, the first seeded player Williams faced these

two weeks, showed she was capable of trading power from the baseline and big serves with Williams.

There were moments when watching Goerges made it easy to wonder how it could be possible she never had been past a major's fourth round until now. Or, more to the point on this afternoon, how such a stingy serve and groundstrokes didn't help her avoid first-round exits each of the past five years at Wimbledon.

But she couldn't keep up with Williams, who grabbed 18 of 22 points and five consecutive games to close the first set and begin the next.

"She brings her 'A game' in a lot of important moments," Goerges said. "We saw that she improved every single match she's playing here."

There was one brief blip to come: Williams got broken for the only time while serving for the match at 5-3. Immediately, though, she broke back at love to end it, placing her left fist on her chest when Goerges' last shot landed long.

Later, Williams was asked whether this has been her most trying comeback in a career that's had its share, including an earlier bout with blood clots in her lungs.

"I don't know if it's been the toughest, because I have Olympia. For me, I only see joy out of it," Williams said with a smile. "In a way, it's by far the toughest, but in a way it's by far the best."

## SCOREBOARD

### Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	66	29	.695	—
New York	61	31	.663	3½
Tampa Bay	48	45	.516	17
Toronto	42	50	.457	22½
Baltimore	26	68	.277	39½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	50	42	.543	—
Minnesota	42	49	.462	7½
Detroit	40	55	.421	11½
Chicago	31	61	.337	19
Kansas City	26	66	.283	24
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	62	34	.646	—
Seattle	58	36	.617	3
Oakland	53	41	.564	8
Los Angeles	48	46	.511	13
Texas	40	54	.428	21

Thursday's Games				
Oakland 6, Houston 4				
Philadelphia 5, Baltimore 4				
Boston 6, Toronto 4				
N.Y. Yankees 7, Cleveland 4				
Minnesota 5, Tampa Bay 1				
L.A. Angels 11, Seattle 2				
Friday's Games				
Texas (Harnels 4-8) at Baltimore (Cobb 2-11), 4:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (German 2-4) at Cleveland (Bieber 4-1), 4:10 p.m.				
Toronto (Borucki 0-1) at Boston (Porello 11-3), 4:10 p.m.				
Detroit (Fiers 6-5) at Houston (Keuchel 6-8), 5:10 p.m.				
Kansas City (Keller 2-3) at Chicago White Sox (Shields 3-10), 5:10 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Eovaldi 3-3) at Minnesota (Odrizzi 4-6), 5:10 p.m.				
Seattle (TBD) at Colorado (Senzatela 3-2), 5:40 p.m.				
L.A. Angels (Pena 1-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 4-2), 7:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Jackson 1-0) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 2-3), 7:15 p.m.				

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	52	40	.565	—
Atlanta	51	40	.560	½
Washington	47	46	.505	5½
Miami	39	56	.411	14½
New York	37	54	.407	14½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	55	39	.585	—
Chicago	52	38	.578	1
St. Louis	47	44	.516	6½
Pittsburgh	44	49	.473	10½
Cincinnati	41	52	.441	13½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	51	42	.548	—
Arizona	51	43	.543	½

Colorado	48	45	.516	3
San Francisco	49	46	.516	3
San Diego	40	56	.417	12

Thursday's Games				
Colorado 5, Arizona 1				
Philadelphia 5, Baltimore 4				
Pittsburgh 6, Milwaukee 3				
Washington 5, N.Y. Mets 4				
L.A. Dodgers 3, San Diego 2				
Friday's Games				
Milwaukee (Guerra 6-5) at Pittsburgh (Kingham 3-4), 4:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Arrieta 6-6) at Miami (Chen 2-6), 4:10 p.m.				
Washington (Roark 3-11) at N.Y. Mets (Syndergaard 4-1), 4:10 p.m.				
Arizona (Godley 10-6) at Atlanta (Sanchez 4-2), 4:35 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Harvey 4-5) at St. Louis (Martinez 6-4), 5:15 p.m.				
Seattle (TBD) at Colorado (Senzatela 3-2), 5:40 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Chatwood 3-5) at San Diego (Richard 7-8), 7:10 p.m.				
L.A. Angels (Pena 1-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 4-2), 7:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Jackson 1-0) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 2-3), 7:15 p.m.				

NORTHWEST LEAGUE				
North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Vancouver (Blue Jays)	14	13	.518	—
Everett (Mariners)	13	14	.481	1
Tri-City (Padres)	13	14	.481	1
Spokane (Rangers)	9	18	.333	5
South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Hillsboro (D-Backs)	19	8	.704	—
Boise (Rockies)	15	12	.556	4
Salem-Keizer (Giants)	15	12	.556	4
Eugene (Cubs)	10	17	.370	9

Thursday's Games				
Vancouver 7, Boise 1				
Eugene 9, Spokane 4, 11 innings				
Salem-Keizer 3, Everett 1				
Hillsboro 9, Tri-City 5				
Friday's Games				
Vancouver at Boise, 6:15 p.m.				
Eugene at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.				
Salem-Keizer at Everett, 7:05 p.m.				
Tri-City at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m.				

### Soccer

FIFA WORLD CUP	
FINALS	
Sunday, July 15	
At Moscow	
France vs. Croatia, 11 a.m. (TV: FOX/Telemundo)	
MLS	
Thursday-Friday's Games	
No games scheduled.	
Saturday's Games	
Columbus at New York City FC, 7 p.m.	
Sporting Kansas City at New York, 7 p.m.	
LA Galaxy at New England, 7:30 p.m.	

San Jose at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.	
Chicago at FC Dallas, 8 p.m.	
Real Salt Lake at Minnesota United, 8 p.m.	
Toronto FC at Orlando City, 8 p.m.	
Vancouver at D.C. United, 8 p.m.	
Houston at Colorado, 9 p.m.	
Sunday's Games	
Seattle at Atlanta United FC, 2 p.m.	
Portland at Los Angeles FC, 6 p.m.	

### Tennis

WIMBLEDON	
Women's Singles Semifinal	
Angelique Kerber (11), Germany, def. Jelena Ostapenko (12), Latvia, 6-3, 6-3.	
Serena Williams (25), United States, def. Julia Goerges (13), Germany, 6-2, 6-4.	

### Basketball

WNBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	12	8	.600	—
Atlanta	10	9	.526	1½
Connecticut	10	10	.500	2
Chicago	7	13	.350	5
New York	6	14	.300	6
Indiana	2	18	.100	10
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	15	6	.714	—
Phoenix	14	7	.667	1
Dallas	12	8	.600	2½
Los Angeles	13	9	.591	2½
Minnesota	12	8	.600	2½
Las Vegas	9	12	.429	6

Thursday's Games				
Dallas 92, Los Angeles 77				
Friday's Games				
Phoenix at Connecticut, 7 p.m.				
Chicago at Washington, 7 p.m.				
Indiana at Atlanta, 7 p.m.				
Las Vegas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Dallas at Seattle, 9 p.m.				

### Cycling

TOUR DE FRANCE	
Thursday	
At Mur de Bretagne, France	
SIXTH STAGE	
A 112.5-mile ride in Brittany from Brest to Mur de Bretagne, with four categorized climbs: a Category 4 and three Category 3s, including one at the finish	
1. Dan Martin, Ireland, UAE Team Emirates, 4:13:43.	
2. Pierre Latour, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 01.	
3. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 03.	
4. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Quick-Step Floors, same time.	
5. Rafal Majka, Poland, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.	
6. Adam Yates, Britain, Mitchelton-Scott, same time.	

PGA TOUR	
JOHN DEERE CLASSIC	
Thursday	
At TPC Deere Run	
Silvis, Ill.	
Purse: \$5.8 million	
Yardage: 7,268; Par: 71 (35-36)	
First Round Leaderboard	
Steve Wheatcroft	33-29—62
Michael Kim	33-30—63
Johnson Wagner	32-32—6