



**PGA RESUMES.** Sungjae Im of South Korea lines up his putt on the 15th green during the first round of the RBC Heritage golf tournament on June 18, 2020 in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. (AP Photo/Gerry Broome)

## Morikawa leads Asian golfers in PGA restart

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respectively. However, Sungjae Im's season has been strong enough so far that he sits in third place in the FedEx Cup rankings despite the weak finish.

Tied with Sung was another South Korean golfer, Byeong Hun An, in his sixth year on the PGA Tour. And sitting right outside the top ten were South Korea's Seung-Yul Noh and Si Woo Kim, who both shot thirteen strokes under par to tie for 11th, their best finishes this season.

But the best performance from a golfer with Asian roots came from Kevin Na, the outstanding Korean-American golfer whose name has graced this column before. Na already notched his fourth career PGA victory this season way back in October, his third straight year with a Tour win.

At the Travelers Championship, Na displayed excellent consistency, shooting a 66 on each of the first two days, to sit five shots off the pace.

He shot a 65 on Saturday, the fifth-best score on the day, but he was still stuck five shots back. It would take a great Sunday from him and a bad day by the leaders to allow him to make up that ground.

Na had started each of the first three rounds with a strong front nine, picking up two strokes each time. But on Sunday, he couldn't keep up that pace, balancing a first-hole birdie with a bogey on seven. Even three birdies down the stretch, including a 23-foot putt on the 18th hole, couldn't close the gap, so Na ended his day in fifth place, three shots behind tournament winner Dustin Johnson.

Just like Sungjae Im, Na is sure to appear on the leaderboard again this season and perhaps even finish atop one. Even if neither one does, young players like Collin Morikawa and a bunch of talented South Koreans will ensure that Asian-American sports fans will have plenty of golfers to follow this PGA season — and beyond.

## Shohei Ohtani returns to two-way role with Angels this season

By Greg Beacham  
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Shohei Ohtani will resume his two-way career with the Los Angeles Angels when baseball returns.

Angels general manager Billy Eppler confirmed that his Japanese star will pitch and hit in the majors this season.

Ohtani was only a designated hitter last season after undergoing Tommy John surgery. He wasn't expected to pitch in 2020 until at least May, and Eppler confirmed that the coronavirus pandemic hasn't altered the Angels' plans.

"We'll probably have a little bit more of a governor on him, at least at the outset," Eppler said. "He's had a number of live (throwing sessions against hitters), but we want to up that intensity a little bit more and put him into a game situation. Just watching how he responds on a day-to-day basis will help guide us to how much we can push down on the gas pedal on him. We're expecting him to be on the mound and stay on the mound and roll through spring training."

Manager Joe Maddon said he hoped Ohtani would start roughly once a week on the mound while serving as the Halos' designated hitter in 3-4 games between starts. The Angels could have a six-man rotation for the short season.

Ohtani batted .286 last season with 18 homers, 62 Runs Batted In (RBI), and .848 On-base Plus Slugging (OPS) in 106 games. His production at the plate was nearly identical to his work in 2018, when he was the AL Rookie of the Year while making 10 starts on the mound.

Eppler said none of the Angels' players are currently intending to opt out of playing in the shortened season. That includes three-time AL MVP Mike Trout, whose wife

## NWSL Challenge Cup kicks off in Utah without fans

The National Women's Soccer League's (NWSL) 2020 Challenge Cup kicked off June 27 at Zions Bank Stadium in Utah. The match was televised live on CBS to a reported audience of 572,000. The first three matches of the tournament also featured 12 goals scored by 11 different players.

The 25-game competition highlights eight clubs each playing four games to determine seeding. The teams then advance to the quarterfinals, when the tournament moves to a knockout phase. The semifinals are scheduled for 9:30am and 7:00pm on Wednesday, July 22, and final is Sunday, July 26 at 9:30am.

To ensure the safest possible environment for players, coaches, officials, and essential staff involved in the Challenge Cup, everyone is subject to consistent testing, temperature readings, and symptom review throughout their stay in Utah. An "NWSL Village" has been created to try to control as much of the surroundings as possible. Spectators are not allowed to attend any games because of the protocols.

Fans in the U.S. and Canada are able to watch all of the games live via the CBS All Access subscription service. Time-delayed re-airings of the games are broadcast on CBS Sports Network. The championship match is carried live on CBS. Fans outside the U.S. and Canada can stream the full tournament on Twitch. To learn more about the tournament, visit <www.nwslsoccer.com>.

*Editor's note: In U.S. men's pro soccer, Major League Soccer (MLS) is scheduled to begin its abbreviated season on July 8 with the 54-game MLS is Back Tournament, in which all clubs stay and play in Florida. The Portland Timbers play their first match on Monday, July 13 at 7:30pm.*

### Women's World Cup heads to a welcome Down Under in 2023

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — The Women's World Cup is heading to Australia and New Zealand in 2023 after a concentrated effort by the joint bidders to secure the global soccer event in the southern hemisphere for the first time.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, the mother of a two-year-old daughter who should be old enough to watch some of the action live in three years, had worked the phones in a bid to lobby any members of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Council who hadn't made up their mind.

It will be the first-of-a-kind World Cup, co-hosted by members of different confederations. Australia joined the Asian Football Confederation after qualifying for the 2006 men's World Cup, leaving New Zealand as the largest member of the Oceania Football Confederation.

Ardern and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison pledged the full financial support of their respective governments.

The tournament is already being billed as the largest sporting event New Zealand has hosted. The potential audience of more than 1 billion, according to FIFA, would outstrip the 2011 Rugby World Cup or the 2015 Cricket World Cup it co-hosted with Australia.



**BACK ON THE PITCH.** The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) was the first American professional sports league to return to action on June 27, 2020. The opening match of the league's Challenge Cup featured the North Carolina Courage and the Portland Thorns and drew a reported 572,000 viewers on CBS. Pictured is Courage fullback Abby Erceg heading the ball during the opening match against the Thorns in Utah. (Photo/ISI Photos, courtesy of the North Carolina Courage)

### 2020 NWSL Challenge Cup

Schedule & results (as of July 5)

#### June 27

NC Courage 2, Portland Thorns 1  
Chicago Red Stars 1, Washington Spirit 2

#### June 30 & July 1

Houston Dash 3, Utah Royals 3  
OL Reign 0, Sky Blue FC 0  
Portland Thorns 0, Chicago Red Stars 0  
Washington Spirit 0, NC Courage 2

#### July 4 & 5

Utah Royals 1, Sky Blue FC 0  
Houston Dash 2, OL Reign 0  
NC Courage 1, Chicago Red Stars 0  
Portland Thorns 1, Washington Spirit 1

#### Wednesday, July 8

9:30am: Utah Royals vs. OL Reign  
7:00pm: Sky Blue FC vs. Houston Dash

#### Sunday, July 12

9:30am: Washington Spirit vs. Houston Dash  
7:00pm: Chicago Red Stars vs. Utah Royals

#### Monday, July 13

9:30am: OL Reign vs. Portland Thorns  
7:00pm: Sky Blue FC vs. NC Courage

#### Friday, July 17

9:30am: Quarterfinal 1 ♦ 7:00pm: Quarterfinal 2

#### Saturday, July 18

9:30am: Quarterfinal 3 ♦ 7:00pm: Quarterfinal 4

#### Wednesday, July 22

9:30am: Semifinal 1 ♦ 7:00pm: Semifinal 2

#### Sunday, July 26

9:30am: Championship



**BOUND FOR THE MOUND.** Shohei Ohtani of the Los Angeles Angels bats during a spring training baseball game in Tempe, Arizona, in this February 28, 2020 file photo. Ohtani will resume his two-way career when baseball returns. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel, File)

is due with their first child later this summer.

Eppler confirmed that first-round pick Reid Detmers will be on the Angels' summer roster as the 56th player, although the left-handed starter hasn't officially yet been added.

Eppler also went into details on the Angels' adherence to health and safety protocols at Angel Stadium and at Blair Field in Long Beach, where the Angels also will hold their summer camp. The Angels have removed communal couches and tables from their clubhouses in a bid to remind their players of the new realities.

"Think of the clubhouse as more of a closet," said Eppler, who has received positive feedback from his players over their safety steps. "It's where clothes hang. Absent of anything you need to do in the training room or weight room, get outside."

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8	5		4		
4		8		6	
6			9	4	
				7	2
2	6			3	5
5	9				
	1		5		8
		2		8	1
			6		5 3

Difficulty level: Medium #85448

**Instructions:** Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

Solution to last issue's puzzle

Puzzle #53847 (Easy)

All solutions available at <www.sudoku.com>.

5	3	4	7	6	9	2	1	8
2	6	1	5	3	8	4	9	7
8	7	9	4	2	1	6	3	5
4	1	3	8	7	5	9	6	2
9	8	2	6	4	3	5	7	1
6	5	7	9	1	2	3	8	4
7	2	6	1	9	4	8	5	3
1	4	5	3	8	6	7	2	9
3	9	8	2	5	7	1	4	6