Qatar's national handball team will meet their Scandinavian counterparts today in their first-round opposition in the 27th IHF Men’s World Championship in Cairo, Egypt. The tournament will conclude on January 31.

The Qatari national team qualified after finishing second in Group C in the first round, where they had two wins over Angola 50-25, Serbia 38-31 and one loss against Morocco 35-39. They had three victories against Afghanistan 70-29, and Argentina 39-19, and Argentina 31-20.

The Qatari team looks forward to achieving surprise at the expense of the Danish team, a 2019 27th IHF Men’s World Championship runners-up. The Qatari national team has a successful performance by the Qatari national team, a 2019 27th IHF Men’s World Championship runners-up.

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Tabata hat-trick fires Al Sadd to 7-0 win over Al Khor

By Sports Reporter

R Rodrigo Tabata hat-trick and Baghdad Al-Hasawi added a late goal to secure victory over Al Khor in Al Sadd’s 7-0 win over Al Khor in Week 15 of Qatar Stars League. The game was played at Al Ahli Stadium.

Tabata led the crest with goals in both the 46th and 71st minutes, while prolific scorer Hamad Al-dubai added two in the first half. The most number of victories and points will be on 41 points.

The only time they had dropped points was when they drew with Al Hilal in the second half (76-76). They added another three points to be on 41 points.

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**FOOTBALL**

**PREMIER LEAGUE**

City go top after late show sinks Villa

After a slumping start, Guardiola’s men are hitting their stride at the right time.

Manchester City’s Bernardo Silva (second right) scores against Aston Villa in the Premier League match at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester yesterday. (Reuters)

**SPOTLIGHT**

Coach Rodgers coy about Leicester’s title chances

Leicester manager Brendan Rodgers is not giving in to mounting pressure as he seeks to defend Champions League place this season.

**BOTTOMLINE**

Klopp insists Liverpool slump is no ‘catastrophe’ and says he is calm

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp insists the club remains capable of challenging for the Premier League title.

**FOCUS**

Time running out for Lampard at Chelsea

Frank Lampard’s time as manager of Chelsea could be at an end after a run of losses has put his future in doubt.

**SPORTS**

Silk雙面旗

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**BUNDESLIGA**

Diaby shines to down Dortmund and send Leverkusen second

**FOOTBALL**

**ITALIAN CUP**

Spezia down nine-man Roma to enter last 8

**SPOTLIGHT**

Coach Koeman hopes Messi's two-game ban will be reduced

**FOCUS**

Pochettino guarded over Messi move

**ATTACK**

A possible transfer cue from Barcelona star Ansu Fati to Atletico Madrid has been revealed.

**NEWSPAPER**

**MUNICH**

Manuel Neuer was sent off against Freiburg in the 94th minute for a challenge on the ball in the area, giving Atletico Madrid a 1-0 win. The German goalkeeper was booked for the foul and will miss up to four matches after landing a two-yellow card against Mainz.

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**Two more Australian Open players test positive for Covid-19**

**Australian women return serve on tennis stars unhappy in quarantine**

People who want the sport's grand slam to survive amid the pandemic are not alone in the world of tennis. The tournament has survived without the usual $50 million in prize money, but some players were unhappy with the rules.

Two more Australian Open players have tested positive for Covid-19, adding to the growing list of infections among tennis players and officials participating in the tournament. The latest positive tests come ahead of the tournament's start next week, with players arriving in Melbourne for a two-week quarantine before the main draw begins.

According to reports, the latest positive tests were confirmed in two players, one from Russia and one from Ukraine. Both players were in the group of players quarantining in hotels in Melbourne. The Russian player, Andrey Rublev, tested positive for the virus earlier this week and was isolated from other players.

The positive tests come as the Australian Open, one of the four Grand Slam tournaments, is preparing to resume later this month with a reduced field of 40 players from 24 countries. The tournament was postponed in March due to the pandemic, and organizers have since faced criticism for imposing strict quarantine measures on players.

A number of players have complained about the conditions, drawing a fierce backlash from authorities. Craig Tiley, the tournament director, has defended the measures, saying they were necessary to protect the health of players and the wider community.

Michael Lang is one of an estimated 100,000 Australians in quarantine after passengers from three charter flights carrying 72 players were found to have tested positive. The move came as the government confirmed it would send quarantine should get preference from officials in Victoria, where the Melbourne Open is being held.

Kameron ballenger

**Two new ATP 250 events added to calendar**

The most recent Open on Tuesday announced that two new ATP 250 events would be added to the 2021 calendar. The Singapore Open, which is set to take place in February, will now be held in Singapore in March, while the tournament in Malaysia, which was originally scheduled for October, will now take place in November.

The new events, which are part of the ATP's Asia-Pacific tour, will be held in Singapore and Malaysia, respectively. The Singapore Open will feature a 250-level draw, while the Malaysian Open will be a 500-level event.

The ATP's Asia-Pacific tour has been hit hard by the pandemic, with several tournaments canceled or postponed. The new events will help alleviate some of the pressure on the tour, which has been struggling to find a footing in the region.

The ATP recently announced a number of changes to its schedule, including the postponement of the Australian Open until February. The new events will help fill the gap in the calendar, providing additional opportunities for players to compete.

The Singapore Open is scheduled to take place from February 22-28, while the Malaysian Open will run from March 1-7. Both events will be held on hard courts, with the Malaysian Open set to feature a 500-level draw.

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The number of positive cases in tennis remains relatively low, but the virus continues to pose a threat to the sport. Authorities have imposed strict quarantine measures on players to prevent the spread of the virus, but some players have expressed frustration with the conditions.

Australian Open tournament director Craig Tiley on Tuesday said "the truth is, we have very well prepared and extremely confident one of the two new player infections this week will have fixed the situation." However, Australian Open participant comprised of three players were found to have tested positive.

"It's actually a lot of them! Not even 1 in 10 players have questioned the conditions so far," Tiley added. "This couldn't be farther from the truth. Things are isolating in Adelaide along with social media. The Kazak swapped rooms ear-lier for the rodents scurrying around their room. The player in question was in the hotel was full and that they could not be housed in a different hotel. The Hungarian Open claycourt court was isolated and there was a general feeling of privilege to be of service as scheduled. Did not see the expression. We all come to that because I do know how grateful many are. We all come to Australia to compete. Not being able to train and pro-gress to the tournament was unfair."

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**COMMENT**

**Locked down players should get preferential treatment: Valverdu**

Tennis coach Daniel Valverdu says players who have tested positive on Tuesday were also considered to be "very well prepared and extremely confident one of the two new player infections this week will have fixed the situation." However, Australian Open participant comprised of three players were found to have tested positive.

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Donovan Mitchell shines as red-hot Utah Jazz down Pelicans

The Utah Jazz continued their scorching form as they defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 119-101 to extend their winning streak to 14 games. Mitchell, the team's star guard, had a career-high 51 points, including 15 in the final quarter, leading the Jazz to their eighth straight victory.

Mitchell's performance overshadowed the Clippers'27-point effort by guard Reggie Jackson. The Jazz scored 65 points in the second half to pull away from the Clippers, who had been competitive throughout the game.

Utah's depleted lineup, missing several key players due to injury, was bolstered by Mitchell's impressive display. The Jazz, who entered the game as the NBA's best team, have now won 16 straight games, setting a new franchise record.

With the win, the Jazz moved into first place in the Western Conference, putting pressure on the Los Angeles Lakers and the Phoenix Suns, who are currently tied for second place.

The Pelicans' only consolation was that they were able to keep the game competitive for the majority of the contest. However, they were outmatched by the Jazz's depth and overall team play.

Utah's defense was also a key factor in the victory, holding the Clippers to just 101 points, well below their season average.

The Jazz will now look to continue their winning ways as they prepare to face the Phoenix Suns in their next game on Saturday.
Refreshed McIlroy hoping to ‘get the job done’

It’s a golf course I’ve done well at. I’ve done everything but win here and I’ll try again and see if I can get the job done.

It was the first time in his professional career that he did not earn a second place, but he had being a tied third place for the first time. It’s been a bumpy ride personally and professionally, but that’s why we are so fortunate.

Scotland include unapped Redcap in Six nations squad

Scotland have included full-back centre Cameron Redpath in their Six Nations squad for the tournament, which starts on Friday, with the winger having been ruled out of the opening game against England last weekend.

The winger has been in training since March and has been cleared to play by the RFU medical staff.

Rugby

Israel’s new coach Eddy Maloiy

The Israel rugby coach has been confirmed as the permanent head coach of the national team.

However, he will not be able to start his new role until the end of the season, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

San Diego’s new coach

San Diego have announced the appointment of former New Zealand coach John Lavery as their new head coach.

Lavery has been in charge of the New Zealand national team since 2016 and was one of the most successful coaches in world rugby.

He replaces Craig Brown, who parted ways with the club earlier this year.

Brown had been in charge of the San Diego team for three seasons, leading them to the playoffs in each of those years.

However, the club decided to make a change in head coach in order to take the team in a new direction.

Lavery is expected to bring a fresh approach to the team and help them achieve greater success.

He is also known for his work with the New Zealand national team, where he helped them win the Rugby World Cup in 2011.

His appointment is a positive move for San Diego, as they aim to continue their growth and compete at the highest level.

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India coach Ravi Shastri hailed Rahane's tactical command as 'simply brilliant'

India's wicketkeeper-batsman Sanju Samson was appointed captain of the side which won the inaugural edition in 2018 under Australian skipper David Warner. The Australian bowler captaincy was reminiscent of India's 2007 World Cup triumph, which saw the Australians crowned world champions. Rahane was also part of India's 2012 tour of Australia under skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni and current skipper Kohli. Rahane's appointment as captain is a significant milestone in his career, and his appointment in such a high-profile role is a testament to his leadership abilities.

India's batting lineup is brimming with talent, with opener Shubman Gill, star all-rounder Hardik Pandya, and veteran KL Rahul all set to provide a solid foundation. The middle-order is led by the likes of Rahul, Pant, and Shreyas Iyer, who have been in top form in recent games. The lower-order features the experienced Rishabh Pant and Wriddhiman Saha, who are known for their resilience and ability to chase tight totals.

India's bowling attack is equally formidable, with the likes of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, and Jasprit Bumrah providing a potent pace attack. The spin department is well-covered with the presence of Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, and Chetan Sakariya, who have been in impressive form.

India's team is well-prepared and well-equipped to take on this challenging series. The team's tactics and strategies have been carefully planned, and the players are confident in their abilities. The team is looking forward to the challenge and ready to showcase their skills on the field.
Al Shaqab’s Lauded grabs feature sprint victory

Ronan Thomas rides the Ibrahim al-Malki ward to Marmi Cup win. Alberto Sanna guides three winners

**Al Gharafa and Al Shamal reach Qatar Men’s Basketball League final**

Qatar and Asian Equestrian Federations President and OREC vice-chairman Hamad Abdulrahman al-Abdulmalik (right) presents a memento to Al Gannas Society Chairman Ali bin Khatam al-Mehshadi (fourth from right), and Qatar and Asian Equestrian Federations President and QREC vice-chairman Hamad Abdulrahman al-Attiyah (third from right) during the Marmi Cup race meeting yesterday.

The meeting opened with Race 1: LOCAL PUREBRED HANDICAP under a fantastic ride by Francois Herholdt.


**Race 1: LOCAL PUREBRED HANDICAP (Class 4 (70-90)) (Distance: 1800m)**


**Race 2: PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (Class 3) (70-90) (Distance: 1200m)**


**Race 3: PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS (Class 2) (Distance: 1800m)**

1. Ronan Thomas rides the Ibrahim al-Malki ward to Marmi Cup win. Alberto Sanna guides three winners