

## Paris proposes breakdancing among four sports for 2024 Olympics

## Kuwaiti shooter Al-Dosari qualifies for 2020 Tokyo Para Games

ABU DHABI, Feb 21, (Agencies): The Kuwaiti special needs' shooter, Atef Al-Dosari, has qualified to partake in the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games, said Chairman of Kuwait Sports Club for the Disabled Shafi Al-Hajri on Thursday.

Al-Dosari has scored 612 points in the 50-m rifle competition, held as part of the 2019 World Shooting Para Sport tournament, hosted by Al-Ain, the UAE, said Al-Hajri, in a statement to KUNA, hoping that Al-Dosari would make advance results in 10m (standing and sitting) rifle competitions.

He dedicated the victory to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Kuwaiti people.

The tournament, organized by Zayed Higher Organization for Humanitarian Care and Special Needs for the fourth consecutive year, involves 220 male and female shooters, representing 47 countries.

Meanwhile, breakdancing will become an Olympic sport in 2024 if the International Olympic Committee backs the inclusion of four sports proposed by the Paris Olympics organisers.

The Paris 2024 organising committee said on Thursday the four sports – also including surfing, skateboarding and sport climbing – would reflect the French capital's identity and help take the Games out of stadiums and into the streets.

The organisers said they wanted to deliver a Games that were "in keeping with the times and inspire new audiences and attract young people ... and which can be played



Kuwait's elite swimming team won third place in the Middle East International Swimming Championship, bagging 30 medals - 17 gold, 7 silver and 6 bronze – as well as breaking the championship's record in various age group competitions. According to a press release, the just-concluded championship was held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, and is considered one of the toughest championships in the Middle East. More than 1,000 swimmers from 62 teams around the world participated in the championship.



anywhere and anytime in urban and other environments."

Skateboarding, surfing and sport climbing will all be making their debuts in the 2020 Tokyo Games.

Under new IOC rules first introduced for the Tokyo Games, Olympic host cities can hand-pick sports and propose them for inclusion in those Games if they are popular in that country and add to the Games' appeal.

The IOC needs to approve the French proposals before they can be formally added to the Paris Games sports programme.

## IAAF allows 21 more Russians to compete as neutrals

MOSCOW, Feb 21, (AP): Russia's officially neutral track and field team swelled in size as the IAAF approved 21 more athletes on Thursday to compete internationally before the European indoor championships next week in Glasgow.

Yelena Sokolova, the 2012 Olympic silver medalist in long jump, returns to international competition for the first time since Russia's team was banned in 2015 over widespread doping. Triple jumper Irina Gumenyuk has her approval extended from last season.

However, there were complaints the latest approvals came too late for those hoping to compete in Glasgow, such as decathlete Artyom Makarenko.

"He doesn't have the time to get a visa for Britain and sort out other organizational issues," coach Ser-

gei Zhelanov told the Tass state news agency. "So it's been decided that Makarenko won't go to the European championships."

To get neutral status, Russian athletes have had to show they're clean by providing information about their drug-testing history to an IAAF panel.

The approvals are the first granted since the World Anti-Doping Agency started analyzing data from the Moscow laboratory last month.

The IAAF didn't immediately respond to a question about whether the new information was already being used to screen athletes who may have doped in previous years.

A total of 64 Russians have neutral status for 2019. Seventy-three Russians had the status at some stage last season, according to Russian officials, who said

they sent 192 applications for this season.

The review process continues ahead of the world championships in Doha, which runs from Sept. 28 through Oct. 6.

Even with the neutral-status system in place, there have still been doping-related embarrassments for the IAAF and Russia.

Of the six Russians who won world championship medals as neutrals in 2017, two have since been stripped of that status.

They are race walk silver medalist Sergei Shirobokov, who traveled to a remote part of Kyrgyzstan to work with a banned coach, and the high jumper Daniil Lysenko, who is charged with failing to make himself available for three drug tests.

## Sri Lanka shine with ball before S. Africa fight back



South Africa batsman Aiden Markram plays a shot on day one of the second cricket Test match between South Africa and Sri Lanka at St George's Park in Port Elizabeth, South Africa on Feb 21. (AP)

## Tourists trail Proteas by 162 runs with 7 wickets remaining

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Feb 21, (RTRS): Sri Lanka seamers Kasun Rajitha and Vishwa Fernando took three wickets each to bowl out South Africa for 222 on the first day of the second and final Test on Thursday, but the hosts struck back late in the day with the ball.

The tourists were 60 for three at the close, still trailing by 162 runs on a wicket that is providing assistance for the fast bowlers, as well as some turn for the spinners.

Opener Lahiru Thirimanne (25

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not out) and nightwatchman Rajitha (0 not out) will resume on day two, seeking to take Sri Lanka into the lead as they aim to become the first team from Asia to win a Test series in South Africa.

Duanne Olivier (2-25) bowled Oshada Fernando (0) and made Kusal Mendis (16) caught to have early inroads into the Sri Lanka batting, while Kagiso Rabada grabbed the wicket of captain Dimuth Karunaratne (17) as the hosts fought back with the ball.

Having won the toss and elected to bat, it was a disappointing batting display from South Africa again. Their innings was dominated by a brisk 86 from Quinton de Kock and 60 from opener Aiden Markram.

They were in early trouble at 15 for three as the excellent Fernando

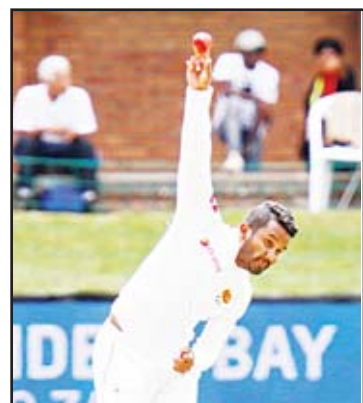
## South Africa vs Sri Lanka Scoreboard

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Feb 21, (RTRS): Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of 2nd Test between South Africa and Sri Lanka.

**SOUTH AFRICA 1st innings**  
D. Elgar b V. Fernando..... 6  
H. Amla b V. Fernando..... 0  
T. Bavuma run out (Rajitha)..... 0  
F. du Plessis b Karunaratne..... 25  
Q. de Kock b de Silva..... 86  
W. Mulder lbw Rajitha..... 9  
K. Maharaj c Dickwella b Rajitha..... 0  
K. Rabada c Dickwella b de Silva..... 22  
D. Steyn not out..... 3  
D. Olivier c Dickwella b V. Fernando..... 0  
Extras: (1b, 6lb, 4nb)..... 11  
Total: (all out, 61.2 overs)..... 222  
Fall of Wickets: 1-15 (Elgar), 2-15 (Amla), 3-15 (Bavuma), 4-73 (du Plessis), 5-130 (Markram), 6-145 (Mulder), 7-157 (Maharaj), 8-216 (de Kock), 9-221 (Rabada), 10-222 (Olivier)

**Bowling:** Lakmal 13-2-33-0, V. Fernando 18.2-2-62-3, Rajitha 15-2-67-3, Embuldeniya 5.3-0-26-0, Karunaratne 4.3-1-12-1, de Silva 5-0-15-2

**SRI LANKA 1st innings**  
D. Karunaratne c de Kock b Rabada..... 17  
L. Thirimanne not out..... 25  
O. Fernando b Olivier..... 0  
K. Mendis c de Kock b Olivier..... 16  
K. Rajitha not out..... 0  
Extras: (1lb, 1nb)..... 2  
Total: (3 wks, 20 overs)..... 60  
Fall of Wickets: 1-25 (Karunaratne), 2-34 (O. Fernando), 3-59 (Mendis)  
Still to bat: Perera, Dickwella, de Silva, Lakmal, Embuldeniya, V. Fernando  
Bowling: Steyn 8-2-20-0, Rabada 7-3-14-1, Olivier 5-1-25-2  
Match situation: Sri Lanka trail South Africa by 162 runs with 7 wickets remaining  
Umpires: Aleem Dar, Ian Gould  
TV Umpire: Richard Kettleborough  
Match Referee: Richard Richardson



Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne bowls on day one of the second cricket Test match between South Africa and Sri Lanka at St George's Park in Port Elizabeth, South Africa on Feb 21. (AP)

swung back into them and smashed into the stumps.

Temba Bavuma (0) was run out for a second time in three innings as South Africa wobbled, before Markram and captain Faf du Plessis (25) took the score to 73 before the latter was bowled the last ball before lunch.

Markram and debutant all-rounder Wiaan Mulder (9) were both trapped lbw by Rajitha (3-67), who then also grabbed the scalp of Keshav Maharaj (0), caught by wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwella.

De Kock scored freely as he put on 59 for the eighth wicket with Rabada (22), before being bowled by spinner Dhananjaya de Silva (2-15) and South Africa's innings folded soon after that.

Sri Lanka won an epic first Test by one wicket in Durban, a result that ensures South Africa's streak of seven home series wins will come to an end.

## Roy, Root score centuries

## England beat Windies in 1st ODI

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Feb 21, (AP): Jason Roy and Joe Root hit centuries to power England to its record one-day run chase on Wednesday, seeing off the West Indies by six wickets after weathering a barrage of sixes by Chris Gayle.

The tourists were given a target of 360 in the first ODI after Gayle ended his six-month exile from the team by hitting 12 sixes in a knock of 135. England's previous best pursuit was the 350 they scored against New Zealand in 2015 but Jos Buttler clipped his first ball for four to put England on 364-4 and seal a historic win with eight deliveries remaining.

Roy led England at the top of the order with 123 in 85 balls, while Root all but finished the job with a measured 102 before falling with the scores tied.

Gayle, beginning a lap-of-honor that will end with retirement after this summer's World Cup, was nearly caught when he was on just nine from 33 balls when he fended Liam Plunkett just over the grasping Roy at point.

Four balls later he struck his first six and began working through the gears, clattering four sixes from Plunkett's 14 balls at him.

Where Gayle's first 50 had occupied 76 balls, his second 50 required only 24. He celebrated the moment by dropping to his knees and hailing the pavilion before getting to his feet, balancing his maroon helmet on top of his bat.

He finally fell in the 47th over, turning

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a Ben Stokes slower ball into his stumps.

The England all-rounder finished with 3-37, including the wicket of Carlos Brathwaite.

Adil Rashid also took three wickets, despite being curiously held back until the 34th over, and Nurse added three late sixes to break the innings record of 22 previously held by New Zealand.

Far from being overwhelmed by the chase, Roy went after opening pair Devendra Bishoo and Oshane Thomas.

Roy's fourth ball of the day, from Bishoo, disappeared down the ground for six while both he and Jonny Bairstow used Thomas' express speed against him amid a flurry of early boundaries.

England reached 50 inside six overs and 100 in exactly 12, with Roy's focus undimmed by Bairstow's departure for 34.

With Root calmly accumulating, the West Indies needed to halt Roy's charge but a top edge drifted away from Thomas in the breeze and Holder failed to grab a reaction caught-and-bowled on 82.

## West Indies vs England Scoreboard

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Feb 21, (RTRS): Scoreboard at close of play of 1st ODI between West Indies and England on Wednesday.

**WEST INDIES**  
C. Gayle b Stokes..... 135  
J. Campbell c Ali b Woakes..... 30  
S. Hope c Rashid b Stokes..... 64  
S. Hetmyer c Roy b Woakes..... 20  
N. Pooran c Roy b Rashid..... 40  
D. Bravo c Woakes b Rashid..... 0  
J. Holder st Buttler b Rashid..... 16  
C. Brathwaite c Buttler b Stokes..... 3  
A. Nurse not out..... 25  
D. Bishoo not out..... 9  
Extras: (1lb, 1lb, 1nb, 15w)..... 9  
Total: (8 wks, 50 overs)..... 360  
Fall of Wickets: 1-38 (Campbell), 2-169 (Hope), 3-229 (Hetmyer), 4-230 (Pooran), 5-294 (Bravo), 6-317 (Gayle), 7-322 (Holder), 8-343 (Brathwaite)  
Did not bat: Thomas  
Bowling: Woakes 10-0-59-2, Wood 7-0-49-0, Ali 10-0-85-0, Plunkett 6-0-



England's Joe Root plays a shot against West Indies during the first One Day International cricket match at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados on Feb 20. (AP)

## Schwartzman retires from Rio Open

## Isner powers past Lacko to reach Delray quarters

DELRAY BEACH, Florida, Feb 21, (Agencies): Second seed John Isner used his powerful serve to overpower Lukas Lacko 6-4, 6-3 and reach the quarter-finals of the Delray Beach Open in Florida on Wednesday.

Isner dropped only one point on his first serve, and broke his Slovakian opponent three times on the outdoor hardcourt to advance. The big-serving American was also pleased with the way he returned against 133rd-ranked Lacko.

"It was a good win. I think I'm getting more comfortable on this surface, especially with the positioning on my return," Isner said.

"I was challenging him on a lot of return games. I was very happy how I came through that."

Isner faced only two break points, both in the eighth game of the second set. He saved the first with an ace, and the second when Lacko netted a forehand groundstroke.

Isner let out a huge roar going up 5-3 before serving out to stay unbeaten in four career meetings against Lacko.

Also on Wednesday, British quali-

fier Dan Evans qualified for his first quarter-final since returning from suspension when he thrashed South African Lloyd Harris 6-0, 6-2.

The win came a day after Evans, who returned to the tour last April after a 12-month ban for a positive cocaine test, came from behind to upset American Frances Tiafoe in three sets.

In other matches, Italian sixth seed Andreas Seppi outlasted Jordan Thompson 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, while French eighth seed Adrian Panatta beat Denis Istomin 6-2, 7-6(3).

The second round continued on Thursday, with an evening match between top seed Juan Martin del Potro and American Reilly Opelka likely to be the highlight.

Opelka on Sunday secured his first ATP title when he won the New York Open. He beat Isner in a semifinal in New York in a match that featured a combined 81 aces, an ATP record for a three-set match.

In Rio De Janeiro, defending champion Diego Schwartzman retired from the Rio Open on Wednesday because

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of a right leg injury.

The fourth-seeded Argentine player trailed Uruguay's Pablo Cuevas 6-1, 4-1 when he stopped playing. The first-round match began Tuesday and was interrupted by rain.

Cuevas, the 2016 winner, will face Argentina's Juan Ignacio Londero in the round of 16.

In second-round matches, Jaime Munar of Spain beat Cameron Norrie of Britain 7-6 (6), 5-7, 7-6 (4); Bolivia's Hugo Dellien topped Roberto Carballes Baena of Spain 7-5, 6-4; and Slovenia's Aljaz Bedene beat Thiago Monteiro of Brazil 6-3, 6-4.



Isner