

## Man City is banned for 2 years!



In a major blow, defending English Premier League Champions Manchester City have been banned from competing in all European competitions for 2 years. The ban comes in effect from 2021 season and will prevent the Citizens from participating in Champions League and the Europa League. According to UEFA which is the European governing body for football, City has been banned for breaching the Financial Fair Play (FFP) rules.

**Why? What happened?** According to the FFP rules set by the governing body, football clubs are prohibited from spending more money to acquire new players, in comparison to what they earn. Every football team targets new talent for their side and end up paying a huge amount of money for the player. Sometimes, young players who have potential are bought by the teams for astronomical amounts which lock their future at a club.

Manchester City is owned by Abu Dhabi based Oil baron Sheikh Mansour who has pumped a lot of money into the club. According to the charges against City management, UEFA has said that Sheikh Mansour illegally routed his money through sponsors in Abu Dhabi which helped his team show huge profits. As a result, the team could buy more and more players which benefited them in some way or another.

**So what is the full penalty and what happens next?** Apart from the 2-year-long ban, UEFA has also imposed a \$32.4 million fine on City. The management of the club has appealed against the ban in Court of Arbitration for Sports which is the top court in the world of sports.



Written by: Yash Chawla. Yash is former Anchor of NDTV with over 9 years of experience as a sports journalist

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## The Week in Sports - February 14th, 2020

### **Coronavirus fears push Formula 1 to postpone Chinese Grand Prix**

Formula 1 management has decided to indefinitely postpone the Chinese Grand Prix race which was originally scheduled on 19th April in Shanghai. With over a thousand deaths and close to 50 thousand people infected due to the virus, the F1 management was in no mood to take chances. The management also confirmed that they will either relocate the race or completely remove it from the calendar for this season but the call will be taken closer to the proposed day of the race.

### **India's Amit Panghal crowned the number 1 boxer in the World**

Indian boxer Amit Panghal has been crowned World number 1 ahead of the Olympics qualifiers. Panghal has been named as the top boxer by the Boxing Task Force, a committee that is running the sport for the International Olympic Committee. Panghal recently won a silver medal for India at the World Championships and is the first Indian boxer in over a decade after Vijender Singh to climb to the top of the rankings.

### **Indian cricketers enjoy a day off before Test series vs New Zealand**

After a disappointing 3-0 loss in the One Day International series vs New Zealand, the Indian cricketers decided to take a day off from their training on Thursday. The team visited the iconic Blue Springs in Putaruru near Hamilton. The team is currently stationed and practicing in Hamilton before they move to Wellington for the 1st of the two-match Test series.

### **Dhoni was the best captain India ever had: Raina**

Former India cricketer Suresh Raina has claimed that MS Dhoni was the best captain India has ever had. The tall claim came for Raina who has been Dhoni's teammate in both the national side as well as in Chennai Super Kings. Dhoni has led India to 2 World Cups and also led Chennai Super Kings to 3 IPL titles. Dhoni is currently on a break after last playing for India at the 2019 World Cup but is expected to play in the IPL.

### **Ousmane Dembele to miss Euro 2020 due to hamstring injury**

Barcelona's star forward and French footballer Ousmane Dembele will miss the Euro 2020 due to a hamstring injury. The 22-year-old who joined Barcelona on a reportedly 160 million dollar fee has been plagued with injuries. He underwent a hamstring surgery which will keep him out of action for at least 6 months.



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# **Bangladesh defeats India to win the ICC Under-19 World Cup for the first time**

Sunday night saw a tense battle between India and Bangladesh in the final of the Under 19 World Cup in South Africa. India who was on a 10-match winning streak in Under One Day International matches were the favorites but Bangladesh was expected to give a tough fight. Bangladesh won the toss and asked India to bat first. Defending champions India were off to a slow start due to some aggressive fast bowling from the boys in green. India's star opening batsman Yashasvi Jaiswal

fought hard despite the team losing regular wickets. He made 88 which powered India to a small score of 177 not out. Jaiswal who once sold *Paani Puris* in Mumbai to meet ends has been the star for India at the World Cup. His 400 runs in 6 innings including a stunning hundred vs Pakistan in the semifinals was the silver lining for India despite the loss in the final.

India were in no mood to give up. The Bangladeshi opening batsmen came out firing all cylinders as the Indian bowlers looked rather clueless. But 19-year-old leg spinner Ravi Bishnoi yet again proved why he is the trump card. The Jodhpur lad spun a web of destruction and picked up 4 wickets in no time to get India back in the game. The defending champions were back and dictating terms but the Bangladeshi batsmen batted with confidence and avoided mistakes. Slowly and steadily, the target came closer for the boys in green as they went past the finish line despite a small rain delay.

Bangladesh won by 3 wickets, a narrow win but that was enough to make them the World Champions. A first World Cup triumph for the side that looked menacing in the tournament right from the start. For India, the loss meant that their Under 19 World Cup tally remains at 4 titles and will have to try once again in 2022 in West Indies.



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## Sports Quiz!

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## Lakers pay tribute to Kobe and Gigi Bryant and 7 others at their first game post the helicopter crash

On Friday night, LeBron James and the LA Lakers took center stage at Staples Center to pay tribute to Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna, and seven others.

Fans filled the Staples Center with chants of “M-V-P, and Gi-gi”. The organizers had laid jerseys for Kobe (No. 24) and his daughter Gianna (No. 2) over the same seats the father and daughter occupied almost a month ago at their last Staples Center visit.

The Lakers’ tribute to Kobe Bryant began with a performance of “Amazing Grace” by Usher.

*Usher performs “Amazing Grace” during the Lakers’ tribute to Kobe.* [pic.twitter.com/NV88OpW5Uq](https://pic.twitter.com/NV88OpW5Uq)

— ESPN (@espn) [February 1, 2020](#)

Cellist Ben Hong then accompanied clips of Kobe speaking about his amazing career and his wonderful life as a husband and a father to his four girls

*Now some clips of Kobe's inspirational moments while the LA Phil's Ben Hong plays the cello.*  
[pic.twitter.com/hGqgydNvdg](https://pic.twitter.com/hGqgydNvdg)

— Lakers Outsiders (@LakersOutsiders) [February 1, 2020](#)

After Boyz II Men sang the national anthem, LeBron James came to the center of the court and gave a heartfelt speech:

[.@KingJames](#) gives a heartfelt speech during the Lakers' pregame ceremony. [pic.twitter.com/BsY00NlxIP](https://pic.twitter.com/BsY00NlxIP)

— SportsCenter (@SportsCenter) [February 1, 2020](#)

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## Sports update: Fedex loss at AUS open, Liverpool powers to the top, India stun New Zealand and much more.

### **There is no stopping Liverpool:**

It's just January and Liverpool are already 19 points clear at the top of the Premiere League. The Reds beat West Ham United 2-0 with goals from Mohd Salah and Oxlade-Chamberlain. Though the game was a regulation win for Liverpool, their star player Divock Origi exited the game with a hamstring injury.

## **Federer outclassed as Djoko enters the final:**

Roger Federer was doubtful for his semifinal clash vs Novak Djokovic but the Swiss Maestro turned up on the center court. His movement on court looked restricted as he went down to Djokovic in straight sets. 16 time Grand Slam winner and defending champion Djokovic won the match 7-4, 6-4, 6-3 to enter the final.

## **India stun New Zealand in a Super Over thriller:**

Rohit Sharma's back-to-back sixes in the Super Over against New Zealand ensured that the visitors took an assailable 3-0 lead in the 5-match T20 series. Chasing 180 to win, the Kiwis were restricted to 179 after a brilliant last over by Mohd Shami. In the Super Over, the Kiwis set India an 18-run target which the Men In Blue achieved on the very last ball in dramatic fashion on Wednesday. This is India's first T20 series win in New Zealand. The fourth match of the series will be played in Wellington on Friday.

## **Manchester United sign Bruno Fernandes:**

English Premiere League side Manchester United have signed Portugese midfielder Bruno Fernandes for \$88 million. The 25-year-old, who was previously with Sporting Clube de Portugal, was seen as a potential target by United for many months. Fernandes has scored 63 goals in 137 appearances for Sporting Clube de Portugal and has scored twice in 19 matches for Portugal.

## **Jofra Archer ruled out of T20 series vs South Africa:**

English fast bowler Jofra Archer has been ruled out of the 3-match T20 series vs South Africa because of an elbow injury. Archer is also doubtful for England's test tour of Sri Lanka in March. The 24-year-old has a sore right elbow as he missed England's last three Test matches in their 3-1 series win vs South Africa. He will be replaced by Saqib Mahmood.

## **Kenin upsets top-seed Barty in Australian Open:**

14th seed Sofia Kenin of United States knocked out women's top-seed and local favourite Ashleigh Barty to enter the final of the Australian Open. In a match that saw Barty smash 8 aces against just 2 from Kenin, the American won 7-6, 7-5 to enter her maiden Grand Slam final. Kenin now plays Garine Muguruza in the final after she beat 4th seed Simon Halep on Thursday.

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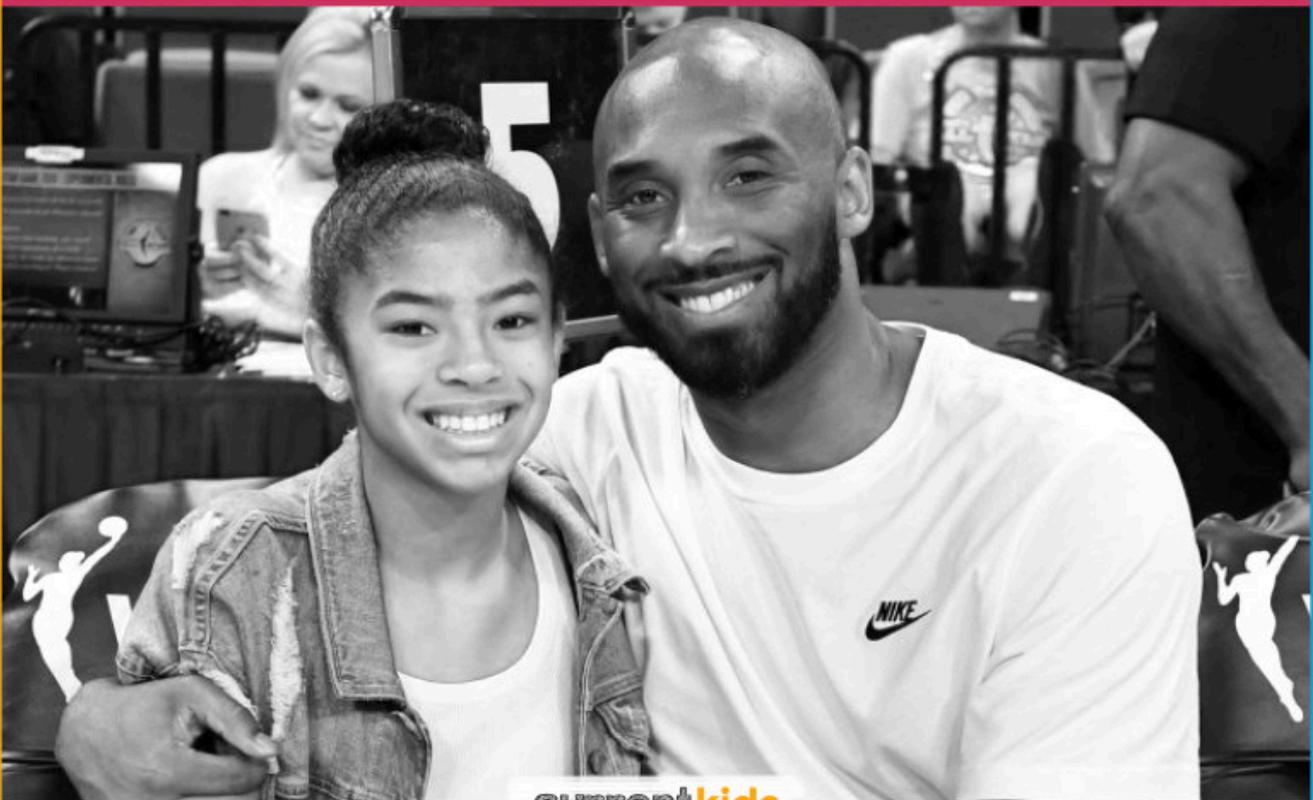


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## **Black Mamba For Life**

## Kobe Bryant (1978-2020) | Gianna Bryant (2006-2020)



currentkids

Image: LA Times

Retired N.B.A. legend Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna were among several people killed Sunday in a helicopter crash in Calabasas, California. Kobe Bryant played for Los Angeles Lakers for 20 years and wore jersey numbers 24 and 8.

### Kobe's Legendary Accomplishments

**5 NBA Championships Titles**

**Two NBA Finals MVP awards**

**One NBA regular-season MVP in 2008**

**2 Olympic Gold Medals**

**18 NBA All-Star selections**

**4 NBA All-Star Most Valuable Player (MVPs)**

**Scored 60 points in his final game before retiring**

**Scored a total of 33,643 points in his NBA career**

**Won an Academy award in 2018 for his animated short film 'Dear Basketball'**

But he will be remembered most for motivating young people around the world to play basketball and play to the very best of their capability. He took special pleasure in passing down his love of the game to his daughter Gianna. Bryant and his daughter were on their way to a youth basketball game when the helicopter crashed.

**Across the NBA on Sunday, teams honored the memory of Kobe Bryant by starting games with 24-second violations and, in some cases, 8-second violations.**

## Sports Update!



### India's tour of New Zealand starts

Team India's hectic and fairly long tour of New Zealand started on Friday with a T20 match in Auckland. A total of 5 T20 matches followed by 3 One Day matches and 2 Test matches will be played on this tour. India were knocked out of the 2019

Cricket World Cup by New Zealand but skipper Virat Kohli says that this tour won't be a revenge series as the Kiwis are very nice cricketers. KL Rahul is expected to get a long run as a wicket-keeper and opening batsman in the T20 series after skipper Kohli confirmed the same.

### **Serena Williams knocked out of Australian Open**

24-time Grand Slam champion and 7-time Australian Open winner Serena Williams was knocked out in the 3rd round of the Australian Open on Friday! Playing against Qiang Wang of China who Serena smashed in the US Open last year, Serena was beaten in a 3-set thriller which lasted for over 2 hours. Wang won 6-4, 6-7, 7-5 to seal a 4th round berth.

### **Caroline Wozniacki retires from competitive tennis**

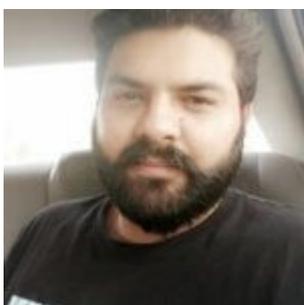
2018 Australian Open champion Caroline Wozniacki was knocked out of the tournament after a 3rd round loss. The loss also ends her career in competitive tennis as she confirmed that the Australian Open will be her last tournament. Wozniacki is a former World Number 1 and has won 30 WTA titles in her career.

### **Liverpool gallop towards Premier League title**

Wolverhampton almost stretched Liverpool on Thursday night but that couldn't prevent Jurgen Klopp's men to register a nervy 2-1 win against the Wolves. Roberto Firmino scored the winner in the 84th min which helped the reds register their 22nd win in their last 23 Premier League matches. Liverpool thus extends their lead to 16 points over Manchester City in the Premier League and also have a game in hand.

### **IPL match timings set to be changed**

The timings for the Indian Premier League matches are all set to change very soon. The Governing Council is expected to change the match timing from 8 pm to 7 pm to ensure a higher television audience. Currently, the evening matches in the league start at 8 pm and end at 11:30 pm. The broadcast partners Star has requested a 7 pm start to the games which promises a better TV audience.



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## This Week's Sports Update: U-19 Cricket, Australian Open and Football Updates

### **India thrash Australia, win the series 2-1:**

A clinical show from Team India ensured that they beat Australia by 7 wickets in Bengaluru on Sunday night to register 2-1 win in the ODI series. Rohit Sharma slammed a hundred while Virat Kohli missed out on one as Team India chased down the target of 287 with ease to win the match and the series. Virat was adjudged the player of the series as Rohit took home the player of the match honors. India now travels to New Zealand will start with a 5-match T20 series on 24th January 2020.

### **Under 19 World Cup starts, India win the opening match**

The ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup has started with the Indian colts registering a thumping win in their opening game against Sri Lanka in South Africa. Siddhesh Veer won the player of the match awarded for scoring a quick 44 followed by 2 wickets as Sri Lanka failed to chase the 298 run target. India will next play Japan on Tuesday in their 2nd group game.

### **Australian Open 2020 starts in Melbourne**

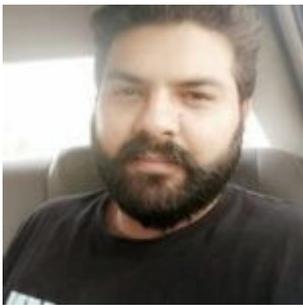
2020's first Grand Slam the Australian Open started on Monday with the big names sailing through to the next round. Serena Williams, Roger Federer registered easy wins as the tournament started despite calls for canceling it due to the raging bushfire and pollution in the city of Melbourne. All eyes will be on Sania Mirza as she makes a return to Grand Slams for the first time in 3 years after taking maternity leave.

### **Liverpool beat Manchester United 2-0**

Liverpool's unbeaten run in the Premier League continued as they thrashed Manchester United 2-0 on Sunday night as they go 16 points clear on top of the points table. Virgil van Dijk and Mohd Salah scored a goal each as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer 's men were beaten on the road. United remains 5th on the points table despite the loss and will next play Burnley on Thursday.

### **Ronaldo's brace helps Juventus win in Serie A**

Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice as Juventus beat Parma 2-1 on Sunday night in Italian Serie A. A crucial win for Juventus as they go 4 points clear of 2nd placed Inter Milan in the Serie A points table. Ronaldo scored a goal each in both halves as he took his tally to 16 goals this season for Juventus.



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## Sports Update!



**India lock horns with Australia in the 2nd ODI:** After a humiliating 10-wicket loss to Australia in the 1st match of the series, Virat Kohli's men will be looking to turn things around in the 2nd ODI in Rajkot on Friday. This will be a do-or-die game for Team India as a loss in Rajkot will mean that Australia will take an unbeatable lead in the series. The match is expected to be a high-scoring affair as the game starts at 7 pm.

**Bouncer knocks Rishabh Pant out of 2nd match vs Australia:** A nasty bouncer from Pat Cummins not only ended Rishabh Pant's innings on 28 in the 1st ODI of the series but also gave him a concussion. The doctors have ruled him out of the 2nd match as he undergoes rehabilitation in Bangalore and is expected to play the 3rd and final match of the series. In fact, in the 1st match after his injury, KL Rahul kept the wickets instead of Pant.

**Rohit Sharma is the ODI cricketer of the year:** The International Cricket Council announced its annual awards on Wednesday and India's Rohit Sharma got the top prize as he was chosen as the ODI cricketer of the year. With 7 One Day hundreds including 5 at the World Cup, Rohit beat tough competition from his captain Virat Kohli. England's Ben Stokes was named the Cricketer of the Year while Australia's Pat Cummins was the Test Player of the Year. Virat Kohli was named as the captain of both the Test and ODI sides and also received the spirit of cricket award.

**Manchester United enter the 4th round of FA Cup:** Manchester United edged past Wolverhampton 1-0 to enter the 4th round of the FA Cup on Thursday night. Juan Mata scored the lone goal for the Red Devils who lost Marcus Rashford to a back injury in the 2nd half of the match. Manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer admitted later that risking Rashford for a win in the 2nd half was a big mistake as the striker might be ruled out for some time.

**Momota reaches home after a horror crash in Malaysia:** World number 1 Badminton star Kento Momota reached Japan on Thursday night after getting discharged from the hospital in Malaysia. Momota and his support staff were involved in an accident which saw their driver die on Monday in Kuala Lumpur. With a broken nose and injuries on the face, Momota who is a gold medal prospect for Japan at the Tokyo Olympics is ruled out for almost 2 months.

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