

# Iran Win Three More Medals in Asian Olympic Qualifying Tournament



ALMATY, Kazakhstan (Tasnim) – Iranian freestyle wrestlers have claimed three medals at the Asian Olympic qualifying tournament in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Amir Mohammad Yazdani, Yones Emami and Mohammad Hossein Mohammadin, who had already secured three Olympics spots for Iran, won one silver and two gold medals.

Yazdani lost to Ernazar Akmataliev from Kyrgyzstan in the 65kg final weight.

Emami beat Uzbekistan Bekzod Abdurakhmonov in the 74kg final bout by Default and seized the gold.

And Mohammadin defeated Magomed Ibragimov from Uzbekistan by Default in the 97kg final.

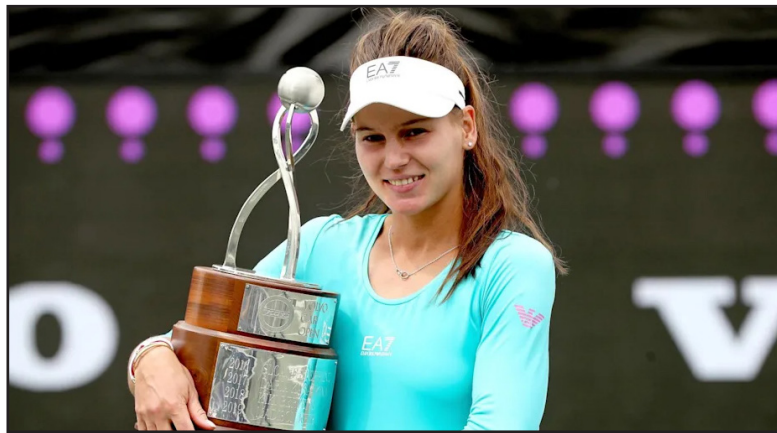
## Kudermetova Wins Her First WTA Title on Clay in Charleston

CHARLESTON, S.C. (Dispatches) – Veronika Kudermetova of Russia has won her first WTA title, coming up strong on the big points to beat Danka Kovinic 6-4, 6-2 at the Volvo Car Open.

The 23-year-old Kudermetova did not drop a set in six matches on the way to the championship at the season's first clay-court tournament – a feat last accomplished here by Serena Williams in 2012.

Kovinic, also seeking her first title, sailed a forehand long on match point, making the fifth first-time winner this season on the WTA.

"I really enjoyed the play here," Kudermetova said to the few dozen people watching as she held the championship trophy up high.



Veronika Kudermetova of Russia won her first WTA title

The tournament was closed to the general public because of the coronavirus pandemic. It was canceled last year.

Matches were also shuffled to a secondary court with the main

stadium undergoing a \$50 million renovation.

None of that mattered to Kudermetova, who'll cherish this win as if she played in a full house.

"Of course, it means a lot," Kudermetova said. "I'm really happy and proud of myself at my first title."

Kudermetova didn't feel confident when the week began. Her only other appearance in Charleston was first-round loss in 2019 and she wasn't sure how she'd perform on the slower surface.

On Saturday night, Kudermetova had trouble calming her nerves at the prospect of her first tournament crown.

When she stepped on the court, though, she channeled her performances of the past week to take control against Kovinic.

"It's an amazing week for me," she said. "I played really well. I think I deserved this trophy."

## Celtic End Nuggets' Eight-Game Winning Streak



Tatum was key in helping Boston Celtics to victory

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The Boston Celtics ended the Denver Nuggets' eight-game winning streak with a 105-87 win in the NBA.

The Celtics trailed 79-65 late in the third quarter but went on a run of 31-3 to turn the game around at the Ball Arena in Denver.

"We just picked up the intensity," said Jayson Tatum, who scored 28 points and made 10 rebounds for the Celtics.

"That was big because we could have let it get away from us."

DeMar DeRozan scored the winner with less than a second left as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Dallas Mavericks 119-117.

The Atlanta Hawks beat the Charlotte Hornets 105-101, with Bogdan Bogdanovic scoring 32 points, including eight threes, and Lou Williams putting the Hawks 103-101 ahead with 58 seconds to go in the fourth quarter.

Zion Williamson's 38 points helped the New Orleans Pelicans overcome the Cleveland Cavaliers 116-109.

## Italian Expert: UEFA's Euro 2020 Fan Deadline Is Unrealistic



The Italian government has yet to decide how many fans will be allowed into the Stadio Olimpico where their country plays its three group games

ROME (AFP) – Italy needs more time from UEFA to decide how many fans can safely attend Euro 2020 matches in Rome, the Italian government's chief scientific advisor said on Monday.

UEFA last week extended the deadline for the host countries to say how many fans they would host but at the same time it threatened four of the 12 cities with losing their matches.

Originally, UEFA asked for a firm decision from host cities by April 7, but when some countries said they were not in a position to give assurances that they would allow fans into the grounds, the governing body of European football gave them 12 more days while issuing a warning.

Like Munich, Bilbao and Dublin, the Italian capital has "until 19 April to provide" UEFA with "additional information" on its plans for spectators.

Franco Locatelli, the scientific advisor, told state broadcaster RAI that the deadline was unrealistic because it was hard to predict the spread of Covid-19.

The Stadio Olimpico is due to host Italy's three group-stage matches, including the opening game against Turkey on June 11, as well as a quarter-final.

"Every effort will be made to keep the opening match as well as the other three matches," said Locatelli.

The Italian government has given a green light to fans at Euro 2020 games, but asked its technical and scientific committee to come up with health protocols.

The president of the Italian Football Association, Gabriele Gravina, is in favour of opening up the Stadio Olimpico to 30 percent of its capacity, or some 20,000 spectators.

## Japan's Matsuyama Wins Historic Masters Title



Hideki Matsuyama, of Japan, celebrates after putting on the champion's green jacket after winning the Masters golf tournament on Sunday, April 11, 2021, in Augusta.

LONDON (Dispatches) – Hideki Matsuyama held off the field to win the Masters by one stroke at Augusta National and become the first Japanese man to claim a major title.

Matsuyama had a four-shot lead heading into the final day and, despite some nervy moments on Sunday, shot a one-over 73 to win on 10 under par.

American debutant Will Zalatoris was his closest challenger on nine under.

England's Justin Rose, who led for two rounds, faded in the final 18 holes with a two-over 74 to end five under.

Xander Schauffele, playing with

Matsuyama, birdied the 15th to close to within two shots, but hit his tee shot in the water on the 16th as his challenge finished with a triple-bogey six.

He ended on seven under in a share of third with fellow American and 2015 champion Jordan Spieth.

Spanish world number three Jon Rahm posted a final-day 66 to come in a further stroke back, alongside Australia's Marc Leishman.

Scotland's Robert MacIntyre impressed on his debut and finished joint 12th at two under to secure his place at next year's Masters.

## Man Utd Beat Spurs, West Ham Maintain Top-Four Charge

LONDON (Reuters) – Manchester United underlined their 'comeback kings' tag by recovering from a first-half deficit to beat Tottenham Hotspur 3-1 on Sunday and cement their place in the Premier League's top four.

Victories for Chelsea and Liverpool on Saturday and West Ham United earlier on Sunday meant defeat at Tottenham might have induced some jitters at Old Trafford.

But they responded to going behind to Son Heung-min's opener to win 3-1 with goals by Fred, Edinson Cavani and Mason Greenwood. Victory 'narrowed' Manchester City's lead to 11 points but more importantly for United they are nine points above fifth-placed Chelsea with seven games remaining.

United had an opener scored by Cavani controversially disallowed after Scott McTominay was harshly adjudged to have fouled Son in the build-up -- accidentally catching the South Korean in the face with a trailing hand.



Manchester United's Brazilian midfielder Fred scores a goal during the English Premier League football match between Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London, on April 11, 2021.

## Cavendish Earns First Win Since 2018

ANKARA (Reuters) – Mark Cavendish won the second stage of the Tour of Turkey, a 144.9-km ride around Konya, to end a three-year dry spell on Monday.

The Briton, back with Deceuninck-Quick Step six years after leaving the Belgian outfit, outsprinted Belgian Jasper Philipsen to raise his arms in celebration for the first time since winning the third stage of the Dubai Tour in February, 2018.

The 35-year-old, who was pondering retirement last season, had joined Dimension Data in 2016 before spending a season at Bahrain-McLaren.

Cavendish, who has won 30 stages on the Tour de France and is considered one of the best sprinters in the event's history, also won the 2011 world championships' road race.

He has been omitted from his team's Tour de France roster in the last two years.