

# Iran U18 Volleyball Team Stands Second in Asia



TEHRAN - Japan won the title of the Asian Men's U18 Volleyball Championship after winning Iran 3-0 in the final match in Tehran.

Iran lost to Japan in straight sets (25-22, 25-22, 25-23) in the final match of the 2022 Asian Men's U18 Volleyball Championship at the Federation Hall in Tehran.

Earlier in the day, India defeated South Korea in hard-fought five-set thriller 25-20, 25-21, 26-28, 19-25, 15-12 in the third-place playoff.

Top four teams Japan, Iran, India and South Korea qualified for the 2023 FIVB Volleyball Boys' U19 World Championship as the AVC representatives.

## Zverev Pulls Out of U.S. Open With Ankle Injury

PARIS (AFP) - World number two Alexander Zverev has withdrawn from the U.S. Open as he continues his recovery from torn ankle ligaments, tournament organizers announced.

He left the court at Roland Garros in a wheelchair and subsequently underwent surgery to repair three torn ligaments in his right ankle.

The German lost the 2020 U.S. Open final to Dominic Thiem, having led by two sets, and reached the semifinals last year.

He is still waiting for a maiden Grand Slam title, despite winning five Masters trophies and the ATP Finals twice.



World number two Alexander Zverev will miss next week's US Open after failing to recover from an ongoing ankle injury.

His place in the main draw of the August 29-September

11 tournament will be taken by American Stefan Kozlov.

Zverev had played in 27 consecutive Grand Slams since his 2015 debut before the injury forced him to miss Wimbledon.

He has been named in Germany's team for the group stage of the Davis Cup finals next month.

Zverev might not be the only top-10 men's player absent from the year's final Grand Slam. Novak Djokovic is unlikely to be able to play because of his refusal to get vaccinated against COVID.

The 21-time major winner was forced out of last week's Cincinnati Masters and Montreal earlier this month for the same reason.

## Ten Hag Hails Man Utd's Change of Attitude in Liverpool Win



Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag

LONDON (AFP) - Manchester United manager Erik Ten Hag said a change in attitude and spirit from his players was the reason behind a huge 2-1 win over Liverpool on Monday to lift the gloom around Old Trafford.

The Dutch coach became the first United manager to lose his opening two games in charge for more than a century as defeats to Brighton and Brentford left the Red Devils bottom of the Premier League for the first time in 30 years.

On a big night for Ten Hag, his decision to drop Cristiano Ronaldo and club captain Harry Maguire paid dividends as United's high tempo blitzed Liverpool for the opening 30 minutes.

Jadon Sancho gave the home side a deserved half-time lead before Marcus Rashford's first goal since January put United 2-0 up.

Mohamed Salah pulled a goal back for Liverpool 10 minutes from time, but Jurgen Klopp's men have now failed to win any of their first three league games of the season to fall seven points behind leaders Arsenal.

"We can talk about tactics but it is all about attitude," said Ten Hag.

Ten Hag reportedly dragged his players in on a planned day off to run 13.8 kilometers the day after a

4-0 defeat to Brentford last weekend.

That was the extra distance covered by Brentford players and United collectively covered 18 kilometers more than eight days ago with a number of players struggling with cramp in the closing stages.

"Today was really important for us," said Bruno Fernandes, who was made captain in the absence of Maguire.

"We showed the right intensity and more importantly the right character. We got the three points. Scoring first was really important for us, for our confidence.

"It was important for us to take the first step in the league, now we have to carry on"

Victory took United above Liverpool in the league table and to within four points of the top four.

## Injury-Hit Juventus Miss Di María in 0-0 Draw at Sampdoria

MILAN (AP) — Injury-hit Juventus clearly missed Ángel Di María as they were held to a 0-0 draw at Sampdoria in Serie A.

Di María had added some much-needed flair to the Juventus side and scored on his debut last weekend as well as providing an assist as the Bianconeri opened the season with a 3-0 win over Sassuolo.

However, he went off injured in that match and could also miss next weekend's key game against Roma, which beat newly promoted Cremonese 1-0 on Monday to make it two wins out of two.

Juventus were also missing Paul Pogba as well as Federico Chiesa, Kaio Jorge and goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny, while veteran defender Leonardo Bonucci was only fit for a place on the bench.

Sampdoria had hit the woodwork — twice — in a 2-0 loss to Atalanta



Sampdoria's Abdelhamid Sabiri, right, and Juventus' Weston McKennie battle for the ball during the Serie A soccer match between Sampdoria and Juventus at Luigi Ferraris Stadium in Genoa, Italy, Monday Aug. 22, 2022.

last weekend and did so again in the opening few minutes following Mehdi Lérís' effort.

Shortly afterward, Juventus almost scored an own-goal as Bianconeri forward Dušan Vlahović

kicked a corner onto his own post.

Juventus thought they had broken the deadlock in the 65th minute but Adrien Rabiot's strike was disallowed because Vlahović was in an offside position in the buildup.

## Taremi in UEFA 2022 Top Scorer List



TEHRAN – UEFA Champions League has announced Mehdi Taremi as one of the top scorer players in 2022.

UEFA Champions League, in a tweet, has just announced eight football players among them the name of Iran's forward can be seen.

Mehdi Taremi (born on July 18, 1992) is a footballer who plays as a striker for the Portuguese Primeira Liga club Porto and the Iranian national

team.

The list contains eight players who have scored the most goals for their clubs and countries in 2022.

Kylian Mbappé (Paris Saint-Germain) has ranked first with 31 goals.

Iran's athlete Mehdi Taremi (Porto) has ranked sixth with 22 goals.

Earlier last year, the forward was shortlisted for the FIFA Puskas Award 2021.

## Iranian Athletes Win Gold, Silver Medals in 2022 Para Shooting



CHANGWON, South Korea – Two Iranian athletes Sareh Javanmardi and Nasrin Shahiaheve won the gold and silver medals in the Para Shooting World Cup 2022 that is being held in Changwon, South Korea.

The World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) is being held in Changwon, South Korea on August 15-26, 2022, and the competition marks the first multi-year agreement for World Shooting Para

Sport and is being held at the shooting range of the 18th ISSF World Championships.

Female shooters Nasrin Shahi, Faezeh Ahmadi, Zahra Gholamzadeh, Mahsa Hadi Muhammad, Roghiyeh Shojaei, Sareh Javanmardi and Mobina Mostafaei and male shooters Mostafa Khadem, Muhammad Reza Amini and Muhammad Reza Mirshafiei represent Iran in the competition.

## Nadal Loss at Cincinnati Secures Medvedev's No. 1 Status

PARIS (AFP) - Rafael Nadal's disaster comeback match at the Cincinnati Masters leaves the Spaniard lagging in the chase for the top ATP ranking.

Nadal was ambushed 7-6 (11/9), 4-6, 6-3 in his second-round start by Croat Borna Coric, ending his hopes of overtaking Daniil Medvedev for the world number one rankings.

Top seed Medvedev, who plays on Thursday for a quarterfinal spot against Denis Shapovalov, can tighten his grip on his current top position heading into the US Open.

Third-ranked Nadal was rocked by his loss after six weeks away as he healed an abdominal muscle injury that forced his withdrawal from a Wimbledon semifinal against Nick Kyrgios.



Now Nadal goes into the U.S. Open, which begins on August 29 in New York, with only one summer hardcourt match.

The 36-year-old Spaniard with 22 Grand Slam titles said he hopes to feed off fan energy at the U.S. Open, where Nadal won titles in 2010, 2013, 2017

and 2019.

"There is an energy the crowd gives me in New York. It's a very special place for me," Nadal said.

"I've had unforgettable moments there and I'm going to try my very best every single day to be ready for that."