**BBC Paris Update**

Available daily Saturday 27 July - Sunday 11 August (inclusive)

Programme duration: 3 minutes

Broadcast window: daily from 19:00 ET/23:00 GMT until 05:00 ET/09:00 GMT the following day

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A 3-minute round up of the day’s action from the Paris Olympics.

A century since it last hosted the Olympics, Paris is set to welcome another summer of sport with the 2024 Olympics. The City of Light will play host to the best of the world’s in the biggest sporting event ever held in France. **BBC Paris Update** will have the latest results and stories as athletes bid for gold and a place in Olympic history.

*Available via email or download from [https://wspartners.bbc.com](https://wspartners.bbc.com)*

**Contact your station relations rep by July 25 if you’re interested in carrying this module**

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**Discussion and Documentary: The Next Paralympians**

First aired: 24 August 2024

Number of Episodes: 1

Broadcast window: 24 August - 8 September 2024

Programme duration: 49 minutes 30 seconds (23 minutes & 26 minutes 30 seconds)

Download [https://wspartners.bbc.com](https://wspartners.bbc.com): from Saturday 12:30 GMT until 8 September 2024

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The trailblazing sports stars with a learning disability - and the barriers they face.

Presented by Dan Pepper, a British ex-Paralympic swimmer who has a learning disability, **The Next Paralympians** tells the story of pioneering athletes who are the first to represent their country at the Paralympics in the intellectual disability classification.

Why do fewer than half of the countries competing in the Paralympics send athletes with an intellectual impairment? And what have the trailblazers and their teams done to buck the trend in their country?
Dan Pepper was the presenter of the World Service’s award-winning series *The Fake Paralympians*, in which he investigated the cheating scandal at the 2000 Paralympics that shocked the world and how it led to a ban on athletes like him from the Paralympic Games, ruining his sporting career.

Presented by Dan Pepper

**Broadcast times:** Saturday 11:06-12:00 repeat Sunday 02:06-03:00, 15:06-16:00; Wed 07:06-08:00, 23:06-00:00 GMT

### The Documentary: Courting Success - A Journey to Paris 2024

First aired: Thursday 29 August 2024

Number of Episodes: 1

Broadcast window: 29 August 2024 - 8 September 2024

Available in two different durations: 23 minutes or 26 minutes 30 seconds

Download https://wspartners.bbc.com: from Thu 20:00 GMT until 08 Sep 2024 (23 minutes) / Thu 02:30 GMT until 08 Sep 2024 (26 minutes 30 seconds)

Kogothatso Montjane talks about her life as a wheelchair tennis champion.

One of the highlights of the Paralympics Wheelchair tennis is truly exciting, capturing the imaginations of many. One of its true champions is Kgothatso Montjane. KG, as she likes to be known, was born with amniotic band syndrome, a condition that prevents limbs from developing properly. It didn’t stop her from pursuing her dreams. An inspiration to many in 2021 KG became the first black South African to compete at Wimbledon. In this programme she tells the story of her life and career, the big successes and the challenges faced.

The roots of wheelchair tennis go back to the 1970’s. Brad Parks, who co invented the game, describes initial negativity towards it with concern over damage to the courts. Legendary wheelchair tennis players talk about their love for the game including Shingo Kuneida, regarded to be the best male player of all time, former champion Jordanne Wiley, and KG’s hero Esther Vergeer.

Andrew Parsons, president of the International Paralympic committee gives his thoughts on why wheelchair tennis and the Paralympics are so special. An event that KG is very much looking forward to.

Presented by Kogothatso Montjane
The Documentary: The gay activists who won an Olympic-sized battle

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct6rb0

Programme duration: 26 minutes 30 seconds

First aired: 25 July 2024

Number of Episodes: 1

Available to broadcast 25 July - 21 August 2024

This documentary contains discriminatory and homophobic language that some listeners may find offensive.

How a small campaign group took on the all powerful Olympic organisation to force change.

In 1993 the legislators in Cobb County, Georgia passed a resolution stating that “lifestyles advocated by the gay community are incompatible with the standards to which this community subscribes”.

Cobb County was due to welcome the Olympics in 1996 hosting the volleyball competition as part of the Atlanta Games. Narrated by Wanda Guenette, a member of the 1996 Canadian volleyball team who identifies as gay, and who faced the prospect of having her Olympic dream turned into a nightmare, forced to compete in a place that had made it clear she and other gay athletes were not welcome.

This is the inspiring story of a small campaign group who took on one of the most powerful organisations in the world and forced change. With the help of an Olympic legend and after months of high-profile peaceful protests, the Atlanta organising committee finally stripped Cobb County as a host venue and diverted the torch relay away from its streets.

Broadcast times: Thursday 25 July 07:32-08:00 GMT, repeat Saturday 27 July 23:32-00:00 GMT

The Documentary: India's Wrestling School for Girls

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct6r9y

First aired: 25 July 2024

Number of Episodes: 1
We look at what it takes for the girls in North India to become wrestling heroines.

In the industrial town of Haryana in Northern India, young girls are breaking barriers training hard to become the next generation of gold medal winning wrestlers, following their idols who have tasted Olympic glory abroad and made a stand against attitudes to women at home. But their success has come at a price. BBC Journalist Divya Arya looks at what it takes for these girls to become an Indian wrestling heroine.

In the Studio: B-girl Raygun: Breaking into the Olympics

Behind the scenes as Australia’s top-female dancer prepares for her debut at Paris 2024.

The 2024 Olympic Games in Paris will see the introduction of ‘breaking’ as a new category. Known to many as ‘breakdancing’, it sprung up in the economic and social unrest of 1970s New York, as a form of expressive protest. Today, it’s also a globalised and dizzyingly virtuosic competitive dance sport.

We follow Australian competitor Rachael Gunn (b-girl Raygun) as she hits pause on her day-job as a university lecturer and prepares for her debut on the world stage. In conversations across the final 100 days, as she practises at home in Sydney, tests out new moves in the UK, and gets settled in Paris, we hear about the challenges of training, experimenting, and honing her performance.

In breaking competitions it’s not as easy as crafting and replicating a routine – during one-minute, one-to-one battles, you have to respond creatively to what your opponent does, and foster your own style. So what techniques can she use to prepare for the unknown? Can you practice personality? Where does sport end and art begin?

Presented by Amelia Parker
On The Podium

Programme Duration: 26 minutes 30 seconds
Available to broadcast until 8 September 2024

Andrew Hoy

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct42l7
Still winning medals nearly 40 years on from his first Olympic Games
Still winning medals nearly 40 years on from his first Olympic Games, Australian equestrian Andrew Hoy has no plans to retire. After becoming the oldest man to win a medal at the Tokyo Olympics, he’s gearing up to compete again.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 10 August 2022

Anastasia Pagonis: Gold medal influencer

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct42l1
The blind swimmer breaking records and stereotypes.
The blind swimmer breaking records and stereotypes. Anastasia Pagonis collects medals in the pool and followers online.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 29 June 2022

Brighton Zeuner

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6n
How does a 16-year-old cope with the pressures of being an elite athlete?

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 7 July 2021

Ines Boubakri

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6h
How an Olympic fencer made history for Arab women.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 2 June 2021.
Lex Gillette

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6p

The story of one of the Paralympics' greatest ever athletes

Multiple Paralympic medallist Lex Gillette may be the greatest athlete in Games history never to have won gold, but he’s also an advocate for blind people in all areas of life.

*First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 14 July 2021*

Maarten van der Weijden

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6i

How an open-water swimmer overcame leukaemia before becoming an Olympic champion.

Just a few years after recovering from leukaemia, swimmer Maarten van der Weijden won Olympic gold. He reveals the techniques and mindset that got him through his darkest days.

*First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 9 June 2021*

Nikita Ducarroz: The power of sport

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct5hzh

“It saved my life.” Fighting anxiety through BMX competition

“It saved my life.” BMX competition helped the Swiss-American athlete fight anxiety attacks, which left her unable to leave home as a young teenager. The Olympic bronze medallist is now a mental health advocate.

*First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 30 August 2023*

Oksana Masters

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6k

How sport helped a multi-talented Paralympian come to terms with her traumatic past

*First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 16 June 2021*

Salum Kashafali: The fastest Paralympian on Earth

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct42l6

From a child fleeing conflict to gold in Tokyo
From a child fleeing conflict to the fastest Paralympian on earth. Salum Kashafali fought for survival, escaping the civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo with his family. He took 100 metres gold at the Tokyo Paralympics, breaking his own world record and becoming a global role model.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 3 August 2022

**Sizwe Ndlovu**

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct2g6m

How a rower’s victory became a symbol of hope in post-apartheid South Africa

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 30 June 2021

**Yip Pin Xiu: Swimming for gold**

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct5hzq

Singapore’s most decorated Paralympian

Singapore’s most decorated Paralympian, with five gold medals. When Yip Pin Xiu won her first gold at the Beijing Paralympics, she was the youngest in her country’s team. And it was the first time ever that Singapore’s national anthem had been played in an Olympic arena.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 23 August 2023

Following the architects creating the only permanent sports facility for the Paris Games.

In September 2017, The International Olympic Committee announced that a century after France last hosted the Olympics in 1924, the games would be returning to Paris for the third time in its history. The 2024 games are set to become the most sustainable games to date and are following a new model -which
involves only two new construction projects for the entire games – The Aquatics Centre and Olympic Village. The bid therefore to design the only new permanent sports facilities for Paris 2024 was highly sought after.

French journalist, writer and broadcaster, Agnès Poirier, is following the architects who have won this coveted contract - Cécilia Gross and Laure Mériaud.

Join Agnès as she discovers what is special about their design – a project which extends well beyond the Aquatics centre itself and involves transforming the entire surrounding area. They've even created a bridge enabling two distinct districts in the north of the city to link for the first time - creating an exciting legacy for this area of Paris.

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 16 July 2023 and was recorded before the protests and riots of July 2023.

Heart and Soul: Olympics - Wrestling for faith in Jordan

https://wspartners.bbc.com/episode/w3ct5tfd

Number of Episodes: 1

Programme duration: 26 minutes 30 seconds

Available to broadcast until 8 September 2024

The would-be Olympic champion who now fights for peace among faiths across the world.

Injuries meant wrestler Dan Russell missed out on not one, but two, opportunities for glory at the Olympics back in the 1990s. But despite losing out twice on chances fight for Gold for his native USA, it wasn’t these failures that left him feeling empty when he retired from the sport, it was the successes he did enjoy and the sense of ‘what next’.

A chance encounter with a Christian prisoner in a Russian jail reminded Dan about his own faith and how much it had been shaken by the ups and downs of career. In the decades since, Dan has worked within his sport to use the wrestling mat to bring people and faiths together across the globe.

Rajeev Gupta goes to meet Dan in Jordan to hear how the wrestling, which features in almost every sporting culture in the world, can be a force for peace.

Presented by Rajeev Gupta

First broadcast on the BBC World Service on 2 August 2024