

We've updated our Privacy and Cookies Policy

We've made some important changes to our Privacy and Cookies Policy and we want you to know what this means for you and your data.

✓ OK
⚙ Find out what's changed

BBCSPORT

All Sport

Home

All Sport

Football

Formula 1

Cricket

Rugby U

Tennis

Golf

Athletics

Cycling

Tennis >

Live Scores

Results

Calendar

Order of Play

US Open to be held behind closed doors after New York governor gives go-ahead



By Russell Fuller
BBC tennis correspondent

Last updated on 17 June 202017 June 2020,From the section Tennis



Rafael Nadal beat Daniil Medvedev to win the men's singles at the US Open in 2019

The US Open will be held without fans from 31 August to 13 September but suggested restrictions on players' travelling teams will not be enforced.

The Grand Slam will be held at Flushing Meadows, despite some players voicing concerns about travelling to New York.

But there will be no qualifying and no mixed doubles under plans approved by the governor of New York, Andrew Cuomo.

"We can showcase tennis as the ideal social distancing sport," said US Tennis Association chief Mike Dowse.

There have been no professional tennis events since March because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Among the details in the US Open's health and safety plan, which has been widely shared on social media, were:

- Players travelling to New York will be entitled to two rooms in an official hotel outside Manhattan. No more than two people will be allowed to a room, but competitors will also have the option of renting a private house outside Manhattan at their own expense.
- Players will not need to quarantine on entering the United States, but will be tested before they begin their journey to New York.
- Tests will then be carried out once or twice a week during their stay, along with daily temperature checks.
- Everyone at the venue will be expected to wear a face mask, unless playing, practising or working out.
- The draw for the men's and women's doubles will be half the usual size (32 instead of 64).

The United States has the highest number of coronavirus cases and the highest death toll in the world and New York is the hardest-hit state, with more than 30,000 deaths.

Cuomo **wrote that "extraordinary precautions"** would be in place to protect players, including extra locker room space.

"We recognise the tremendous responsibility of hosting one of the first global sporting events in these challenging times," a US Tennis Association (USTA) statement read.

"We will do so in the safest manner possible, mitigating all potential risks."

Australian player Nick Kyrgios **called tournament organisers "selfish"** for pushing ahead with the event, while defending men's champion Rafael Nadal has previously said he "had little desire" to play the event.

World number one Novak Djokovic had called **the originally proposed protocols "extreme"** and said it would be "impossible" if he was only able to bring one member of his team to the site.

However, under the plans revealed on Tuesday the USTA says it is yet to determine how many will be able to accompany a player to Flushing Meadows.

Another of the changes is that the Western and Southern Open, which usually takes place in Cincinnati just before the US Open, has been moved to New York and will also be staged at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre from 22-28 August.

The USTA is putting up \$60m (£48m), the majority of which will be on offer as prize money for the two tournaments.

But \$6.6m will be set aside for the ATP and WTA tours, to allow them to compensate players being denied the chance to compete by the restriction in numbers.

Ranking points will also be on offer - something which is sure to further upset players who are not able to take part.

Top Stories

z sent off as Man City beat Arsenal
about 7 hours ago
in the section [Football](#)
177 Comments

Video
Premier League players take knee in solidarity with Black Lives Matter movement
about 9 hours ago
From the section [Football](#)

Players kneeling a 'massive step' - Sterling
about 7 hours ago
From the section [Football](#)

Also in Sport

Rooney bursts on to scene, Ronaldo dazzles and Brolin's brilliance

'Life has not been the same without football - I cannot wait for its return'

The shameful Saturday afternoon that might not change a thing

You're the selector - pick your world T20 team

What do you want to ask the BBC Sport website?

'We're working against a time limit' - the showjumper waiting for life-changing surgery

Serial winner and national figurehead - how Bale became a Wales icon

The loving punch thrown at a coffin - Ward v Gatti in a 'Greatest Fight'

Sadness, anger and isolation - athletes on racism

'We thought we'd changed everything, but the fight goes on'

What Match of the Day looked like in 1988

Zidane, Rooney, Bale, Gascoigne - how to watch BBC Sport's Euros Rewind this summer

Explore the BBC

Featured

Russell Fuller
Analysis and opinion from the BBC's tennis correspondent.

How to get into tennis
How to get into tennis - it's fun, will keep you fit and caters for all levels and abilities. Find your nearest court and learn the basics with our guide.

BRAND NEW: Make Me Famous
Explore the impact of fame on reality TV participants and those close to them

Tennis notifications, live guide and social media
Get the latest tennis headlines sent straight to your phone, sign-up to our newsletter and learn where to find us online.

Explore the BBC

Home

Sport

iPlayer

CBBC

Food

Arts

Local

News

Weather

Sounds

CBeebies

Bitesize

Taster

Three

Terms of Use

Privacy Policy

Accessibility Help

Contact the BBC

About the BBC

Cookies

Parental Guidance

Get Personalised Newsletters