French Open: Cancer survivor Carla Suarez Navarro wanted to play at Roland Garros 'one last time' before retirement

Carla Suarez Navarro says she has "received a lot of love" from her fellow professionals at Roland Garros following her return to the court after successful cancer treatment.

Her inspiring comeback ended with a 3-6 7-6 (7-4) 6-4 defeat by Sloane Stephens in the opening round at the French Open on Tuesday.

It was the 32-year-old's first match since Doha last February, with Suarez Navarro revealing in September that she had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The Spaniard had initially planned to retire at the end of 2020 but, with the coronavirus pandemic halting the tour and then her off-court battle, she decided to continue for another season.

She announced in April she had completed her treatment and been given the all clear, and immediately set about preparing for her return to Grand Slam action.

For a long time it looked like being a winning return, with Suarez Navarro winning the opening set and serving for the match at 5-4 in the second. But Stephens, a former finalist at Roland Garros, found her form when she needed to and battled to victory.

The big disappointment was that Paris' 9pm curfew meant Suarez Navarro made her farewell to an empty Court Philippe Chatrier, with Stephens clapping her off court.

Suarez Navarro said: "It was a long time, really tough moments. Tough months. But every time I had on my mind that I want to be here, I want to come back. Roland Garros is one of my favourite tournaments, so I had it really clear that my first tournament will be this one.

"Then I tried to prepare myself for my best tennis that I can. Obviously I need more time, but I had a good time this week practising, I had a good level in my match.

"Of course I felt tired at the end. I knew that if I don't close the match in two sets, it will be so difficult for me. But I'm really proud, too, of myself and really happy to have the chance to play here one last time."

Suarez Navarro had not played a tournament since Doha last February, but she said she had received lots of support from fellow players in the locker room: "I'm really happy to be here again with all of them. Yeah. I receive a lot of love from them."

She added: "Until March 1 of this year, I could not practise full. I started to play with soft balls, I started to play for 20 minutes. Then every day I'm going better. I played a little bit more.

"Of course it was tough. My body felt a lot of change in those months. But I did everything that I could to be here."

James Bracey to make England Test debut against New Zealand; Stuart Broad named vice-captain

Gloucestershire wicketkeeper-batsman James Bracey will make his England debut against New Zealand in the first Test at Lord's from Wednesday, captain Joe Root has confirmed.

Bracey gets the chance with the gloves as a result of Ben Foakes suffering a freak hamstring injury after slipping in the Surrey dressing room and Jos Buttler and Jonny Bairstow among those rested after their Indian Premier League stints and subsequent quarantine.

The 24-year-old has averaged close to 50 batting in the top three for Gloucestershire in the County Championship this season but appears likely to bat at No 7 against the Black Caps.

On Bracey, Root said: "He has worked extremely hard and been around the squad for a good while now.

"He has a great work ethic and gone back and performed extremely well for Gloucestershire, so we are really excited to see him take his opportunity. We know how good a player he is and he is in great form.

"It's a chance for him to embrace and enjoy a great stage of his career."

Root says England are yet to decide on the full make-up of their side and whether to deploy a front-line spinner in Jack Leach.

However, the 30-year-old did reveal that Stuart Broad will be his vice-captain with Ben Stokes missing the series due to a fractured finger he sustained while playing for Rajasthan Royals in the IPL in April.

Root said: "Stuart has been a senior player for a long time.

"He speaks extremely well, he's got a very good cricket brain, and captaincy experience within the short format. He's the right man to take that in Ben and Jos' absence.

"He's at real peace with his game at the minute. He's an integral part as a senior player, and very much a leader within that bowling group. I'm really pleased for him, and it's a great opportunity for him to take that on.

"You don't play as many games as he has, or have the record he does, without having to go through some difficult moments in your career. A lot of the time it's how you respond to that.

England and New Zealand will meet at Lord's for the first time since the 2019 World Cup final. Will it be repeat or revenge?

"He's always done that extremely well, and it's why he's such a wonderful player - and one of the best in the world."

The first Test will be the first in England to be played in front of fans since September 2019.

Crowds of around 7,500 per day are expected at Lord's, before that swells to 18,000 at Edgbaston from June 10 with the second Test selected as a pilot event.

Root added: "It will be great to have fans back in, that atmosphere back and Seeing people enjoying our sport again live. That's what it's all about.

"As a kid growing up, going to those games meant a huge amount to me and it will be great to see some youngsters in and around the crowd this week enjoying live cricket again.

"It is a step forward and I hope that can continue as the summer progresses and we can really enjoy that as a sport."

Watch the first Test between England and New Zealand, at Lord's, live on Sky Sports Cricket from 10am on Wednesday.

Floyd Mayweather 'his own boss' and idea to face Logan Paul came 'from his mind': How the fight was made

Logan Paul's social media jibes were the first public hint but those close to Floyd Mayweather insist the fight was his idea.

Boxing icon Mayweather steps back into the ring to face social media superstar Logan Paul on Sunday night, live on Sky Sports Box Office.

Last September a social media influencer called Keemstar tweeted the first suggestion about Mayweather vs Logan Paul.

Viddal Riley, a fighter promoted by Mayweather who trained KSI to defeat Logan Paul, then said: "Remember, I get the inside scoop. I hang around the family. It is not confirmed yet but it is in talks."

Paul, whose only pro boxing match was a defeat to fellow YouTuber KSI, posted last November: "If I caught Floyd with one punch, one punch? I would snap [him] in half. I am eight inches taller. I am 40lb heavier."

Mayweather hit back in reference to Conor McGregor: "Three years ago a fighter from the UFC said my name and I had to put a muzzle on [him]. Logan Paul can get the same treatment."

Logan Paul shared footage of a private conversation with Mayweather where he said: "What I want to do with you is create the biggest fight the world has ever seen."

An unimpressed Mayweather replied: "Without you I can do that."

Mayweather: "This ain't what you do. You play boxing. I fight for real, you know that."

Paul: "So show me. You don't need to know who I am, but I know this would be one of the biggest fights in the history of the internet. Ever. There is no bigger headline."

Was Mayweather immediately interested?

"A conversation was had. Somebody asked Floyd if he would be opposed to entertaining it," Mayweather Promotions CEO Leonard Ellerbe told Sky Sports.

"He loved the idea because this is entertainment."

Did Mayweather seek a second opinion?

Mayweather gave his fans on social media a choice of five US cities to host this fight before Miami was chosen.

He then told the Disruptive Entrepreneur podcast: "I can fight a fighter right now and I can guarantee myself $35million.

"I can eventually probably make $50million, for just a regular fight.

"Or me and Logan Paul can go out, entertain, have fun and make nine figures $100million or more.

"Everybody thinks that 'retired' means at home with your feet up and picking up weight."

Paul warned: "I need as much practice, training, sparring under my belt against this guy. With every day that goes past, I get better and he gets older."

How did the Miami mega-event come together?

"As usual with big spectacles and big events, it came from the mind of Mayweather," Stephen Espinoza, the president of US TV network Showtime, told Sky Sports. "I asked him: 'What is the idea? What is the vision?'

"He said: 'Understand that I am retired. I am not holding up the belts. I am not trying to stop the sport. I am doing what I've done my entire career'.

England's Euro 2020 squad: Trent Alexander-Arnold, Bukayo Saka, Harry Maguire in; Jesse Lingard, Ollie Watkins miss out

Southgate had named a 33-man provisional squad last week as he waited on several key players nursing injuries but seven players were cut on UEFA's squad deadline day of June 1.

It looked as though Trent Alexander-Arnold's return to the England fold would last for a matter of days, but after months of debate, the 22-year-old is in.

The right-back's omission from Southgate's spring selection prompted widespread discussion, but Alexander-Arnold finished the season with his domestic struggles seemingly behind him, perhaps spurred by Southgate's snub in March.

Very rarely in the last three decades has an England manager had such a wealth of options in one position, and choosing between a Champions League winner in Reece James, La Liga winner in Kieran Trippier, Premier League winner in Kyle Walker and 2019/20 Premier League winner in Alexander-Arnold appeared an impossible job.

Only last week the England boss said: "Trent can play right-back, wing-back and in midfield. He's a terrific footballer - that's something I've never disputed."

The big decision was perhaps one to be expected from Southgate the pragmatist affer all.

Former England defender Michael Dawson reacts to the final 26-man squad for the Euros.

Flexibility seems to have helped Bukayo Saka's case, too.

Still only 19, the Arsenal man has played in a variety of positions from left-back to right wing but remained a shining light in a miserable Arsenal season wherever he played and proved his attacking prowess too, with seven goals and six assists in 2020/21.

"We have been able to cover ourselves in different positions, different tactical formations," Southgate said.

Southampton's English midfielder James Ward-Prowse(R) celebrates after taking a corner where Southampton's Danish defender Jannik Vestergaard (L) scored from a header during the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Hove Albion and Southampton at the American Express Community Stadium in Brighton, southern England on December 7, 2020.

With James Ward-Prowse not included, England have lost a large chunk of their threat from set-pieces.

And while England fans might demand free-flowing, attacking football, set-pieces are undoubtedly a huge part of Southgate's thinking.

In 2018, England set a record for most set-piece goals at a World Cup since 1966 - nine of their 12 goals came from the dead ball. Taking away the three penalties scored by Harry Kane, five of England's goals came from either corners or free-kicks.

Ward-Prowse, a master of the dead ball, created 1.08 chances per game from a set play in the Premier League last season (ranked 5th in the division) and made seven assists from a set play (ranked 1st). But Southgate will feel he has options. Though Alexander-Arnold's impact was less impressive in 2020/21, he did top the assist charts from the dead ball in 2019/20 with seven. Mason Mount created 1.28 chances per game from set-pieces in 2020/21 (ranked 3rd), and Luke Shaw made 0.98 (7th). Kieran Trippier, too, is a fine option. Harry Maguire's ankle ligament injury meant he missed Manchester United's defeat in the Europa League final last week against Villarreal, but Southgate has included his key centre-back.

Gary Neville said in mid-April that an injury to Maguire would be worse for England than an injury to Harry Kane. England's fears came true just three weeks later, and with the hope that Maguire could recover in time to play some part in this tournament, Southgate has risked it.

This isn't the first time England have brought an injured player to a major tournament; David Beckham (2002), Wayne Rooney (2006 and 2010) and Jack Wilshere (2016) are notable examples.

Jordan Henderson and Kalvin Phillips were Southgate's other injury worries but the pair have trained with their international team-mates and are ready to play their part.

The Open: R&A to introduce ticket ballot for historic 150th edition at St Andrews in 2022

A ticket ballot will be introduced for The 150th Open at St Andrews in 2022, ensuring more people have the chance to attend a milestone Championship at the Home of Golf; Ballot runs from July 1 to October 4.

The 150th logo is made up of individual threads that each represent the millions of journeys connected to the Championship.

The R&A has announced that a ticket ballot will be introduced for those wanting to attend The 150th Open at St Andrews next summer.

The system was deemed the "fairest and most equitable way" of ensuring golf fans from around the world can attend the event at the Home of Golf from 10-17 July 2022, with ticket demand for next year's contest at the Old Course already extremely high.

Ticket prices for adults will range from £20 to £50 on practice days and are set at £95 for Championship days, while weekly tickets have been discontinued to ensure as many as possible can attend the event, with the ballot running from July 1 to October 4.

"This is a momentous occasion for golf as well as The Open and one which sports fans everywhere are looking forward to enormously, said Martin Slumbers, Chief Executive of The R&A. "The 150th Open will give fans the opportunity to be part of a unique and unparalleled celebration at the birthplace of the game in St Andrews.