Hussain Rasouli handicapped Afghan athlete opens way to Japan Olympics

KABUL: Unification of individuals with different disabilities under national, cultural and educational umbrella is provided through sport grounds.

Participation of handicapped in sport activity plays key role in the introduction of nationalities.

Hussain Rassuli is one of the Afghan athletes who lost his left hand in a mine explosion but the disability never prevented him to advance.

He forever thanks for his country's prosperity, spiritual prides and sending peace message.

In an interview with The Kabul Times, Rasouli said since his adolescence he was fond of sport and dreamed to bring pride to his country.

"I have never thought that I was a handicapped and for two years I played football. Then I started and continued exercises in the field of athletics in Afghanistan Paralympics National Committee and in 2016, I gained its membership and attended several domestic games," he said. He added, in 2018 I attended Asia Competition hosted by Indonesia I gained 5th position. Now I am prepared to attend Japan games and hope to bring Olympic medial to Afghanistan. **Nangyalai Osmani**

Anthony Joshua warned that Oleksandr Usyk has returned to his old amateur mentor for world heavyweight title fight

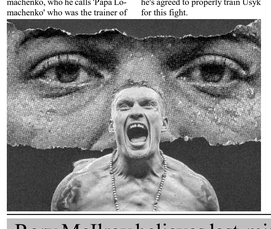
Anthony Joshua has been warned that Oleksandr Usyk has asked his amateur mentor Anatoly Lomachenko to mastermind a stunning world title triumph.

Joshua is set to defend his WBA, IBF and WBO heavyweight titles against Usyk, with Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London expected to stage the fight on September 25.

Usyk had been prepared by Yuri Tkachenko for his last points victory over Derek Chisora in October, but has now returned to Anatoly, the revered trainer and father of his close friend, pound-for-pound star Vasiliy Lomachenko.

Lomachenko's promoter Bob Arum revealed the change in Usyk's team, telling Sky Sports: "Let me caution you something, because even though I don't promote him, I consider him a really good friend and that's Oleksandr Usyk, who the reason I know him so well is he is the best friend of Vasiliy Lomachenko.

"Tigis Klimas, who is the manager of both, I talk with him and he has talked with the father of Lomachenko, who he calls 'Papa Lomachenko' who was the trainer of all these Ukrainian Olympians and he's agreed to properly train Usyk for this fight.



"I'm telling you, 'Don't think that Joshua is in a cake walk. He has a really tough fight with Usyk, who is a terrific boxer.'

"His father wouldn't train anyone else, but he will train Usyk, because Usyk is like family."

Lomachenko, who knocked out Masayoshi Nakatani last weekend, has suggested that Joshua's size advantage could work against him if he can't pin down Usyk.

"Of course I believe he can win," Lomachenko told Sky Sports.

"He has a very big chance but it won't be easy because Joshua also knows what he must do in the ring.

"Joshua also knows boxing, he has also had amateur experience.

"It will be an interesting fight, very interesting."

Asked about Joshua's considerably bigger and heavier frame, Lomachenko replied: "But Oleksandr is much faster.

"It will be a fight between styles."

Anthony Joshua says Tyson Fury's team are to blame for why bout isn't happening

Joshua exclusively told Sky Sports when asked about what dangers Usyk will bring: "None. I fear none of them.

"He doesn't bring anything that I haven't seen before.

"Two arms, two legs, a brain and a bit of heart. That's it, so let's get it on.

Wimbledon: Jack Draper took a set off top-seed Novak Djokovic and now the teenager has vowed to improve

British teenager Jack Draper has long been marked out as a star of the future but now the teenager has promised he has "still got lots to come" following his first taste of Wimbledon.

Draper's progress has been hampered by a number of injury issues associated with growing, while he also contracted coronavirus in January.

But the 19-year-old has made his mark this summer, having already upset Jannik Sinner and Alexander Bublik at the cinch Championships at The Queen's Club before the big-hitting left-hander unserved Djokovic for a set until the world No 1 took control early in the second and ultimately eased to a 4-6 6-1 6-2 6-2 victory.

Djokovic was impressed by Draper's game, saying: "He's tall, he's strong. He's got that lefty serve that is very awkward for right-handed players to face, particularly on grass.

"I thought he was behaving nice on the court. He was backing himself. It was a really nice atmosphere. I think he's got an all-around game really. A very good flat backhand, also a good forehand.

Rory McIlroy believes last-minute schedule change could benefit his Open hopes

Rory McIlroy is gearing up for five big tournaments in a punishing six-week run and has explained how travel complications prompted him to add the Scottish Open to his schedule.

McIlroy was planning to spend a week juggling practice with family time in the build-up to The 149th Open at Royal St George's, but strict coronavirus regulations announced by the R&A for the final major of the year forced him into a late change of plans.

The R&A has insisted that players who are in the field at Sandwich and staying in rented accommodation could share a house with a maximum of four people, providing they are registered as part of their backroom team, and the guidance has prompted rumours that some American players will avoid making the trip across the Atlantic.

The various logistical complications persuaded McIlroy to leave wife, Erica, and daughter, Poppy, at home in the United States before he made his way to Ireland ahead of his return to the Dubai Duty Free Irish Open at Mount Juliet.

After making his difficult family decision, McIlroy opted to confirm his entry for next week's Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club, where US Open champion Jon Rahm will also be teeing up.

"Everything has had an impact," said McIlroy. "Up until last week my family were going to travel with me and we were going to be here for three weeks. My original plan was to play here, take a week off and then play The Open.

"But with travel restrictions and obviously with me being exempt as a sports person and the restrictions not maybe being as heavy as they would be for Erica and Poppy, I just felt like it wasn't fair to put them through what they

would have to go through to be here with me, so plans changed very quickly.

"We made the decision that I would travel on my own, and because I wasn't going to go back to the States for one week in between the Irish and The Open, I thought I might as well play the Scottish. So it went quickly from them coming to them not coming, and then me playing three events in a row."

McIlroy admitted the change of schedule could benefit his chances of landing a second Open title at Royal St George's, as his decision to play the Scottish Open gives him some useful competitive preparation on a links course.

"It is nice to get a tournament on a links course before going into Sandwich so, if anything, it's probably all worked out for the best," added McIlroy, who arrived at Mount Juliet with positive vibes following his encouraging US Open performance, when he was tied for the lead until dropping three shots in two holes at 11 and 12 on the final day.

"I was very encouraged walking away from Torrey Pines, and to have a share of the lead on the final day through a few holes, I gave myself a good chance.

"Looking back, the one thing that I kicked myself about was the three-putt on 11 that stopped the momentum. I made a really good putt for par on 10 and then probably hit my best shot of the day into 11 - a great five-iron into the middle of the green.

"But that three-putt was pretty sloppy, and that killed the momentum to go on from there. But I thought the week was a real positive on the whole and I'm looking forward to these next three weeks."

McIlroy is also a little rusty, having put family before practice in the knowledge that he will be on the road for most of the next six weeks, so he is looking forward to getting back to business on home soil this week.

England 2-0 Germany: Raheem Sterling and Harry Kane strike in second half to send Three Lions into Euro 2020 quarter-finals

After 55 years of hurt, England finally beat Germany in a knock-out game again, with Raheem Sterling - their Euro 2020 hero - and Harry Kane sending them into the quarter-finals with a 2-0 win over their great rivals.

Sterling scored both England goals in the group phase and began and finished their slick second-half move to light up a previously tense, stodgy game and send the majority of the 45,000 fans inside Wembley wild with delight.

Thomas Muller had a wonderful chance to level it up but when he shot wide, Kane put England in full control, shrugging off a difficult campaign so far, and a first half in which he was starved of the ball, to head in Jack Grealish's cross.

Germany had gone seven games unbeaten at Wembley, not losing a competitive fixture at England's national stadium since the 1966 World Cup final, but Gareth Southgate's new generation of players made history of their own on Tuesday evening. It was redemption for the manager, too, with Southgate striking a blow against the side he missed the vital penalty against at Euro 96. His focus will now be on claiming the title, which England came so close to 25 years ago. Their next step on that journey will be in Rome against Ukraine - and after recording a victory which will be remembered for years to come, they will go to Italy full of belief.

Chris Woakes and Joe Root lead the way as England ease to victory over Sri Lanka in first ODI

Chris Woakes played starring role with the ball before Joe Root hit an unbeaten 79 as England eased to a five-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in the first one-day international at Durham.

Woakes took 4-18 in his 10 overs, the most economical figures by an England bowler in ODI cricket since Stuart Broad (2-14) against New Zealand in 2008, as Sri Lanka were bowled out for 185 in 42.3 overs.

Captain Kusal Perera (73) and Wanindu Hasaranga (54) put on 99 for the fourth wicket but that was the only partnership of note as the tourists, shorn of three of their most experienced batsmen, collapsed to lose their last seven wickets for 40 runs.

Jonny Bairstow (43 from 21 balls) got England off to a flyer in the chase before a mini collapse saw the hosts slip to 80-4 but Root, in his 150th ODI, put on 91 with Moeen Ali (28) and went past 6,000 runs in one-dayers as he saw the home side over the line with 15.1 overs to spare.

After a 3-0 series sweep in the IT20s, England got the start they wanted in the 50-over format too as Eoin Morgan won the toss, elected to bowl and promptly had Sri Lanka three down.

Pathum Nissanka (5) was first to go, pulling a short slower ball from Woakes to Ali at midwicket before David Willey had Charith Asalanka (0), one of three debutants for Sri Lanka, caught at first slip by Joe Root.

A beauty from Woakes accounted for Dasun Shanaka (1), who nicked through to Bairstow as the ball moved away late.

Perera was scoring freely despite the wickets falling at the other end but, with Hasaranga providing some much-needed support, he became more becalmed at the crease. The pair gradually managed to get the innings back on track with Hasaranga even getting after Adil Rashid, taking the legspinner for three boundaries in an over, and at 145-3 at the start of the 29th over, a competitive total appeared well within their reach.

However, Woakes had been brought back into the attack and broke the stand with another short ball, taken on by Hasaranga but not timed and Liam Livingstone came sprinting in from deep midwicket to take a fine low catch.

Woakes struck again in his next over, Dhananjaya Lakshan (2) pushing outside off and the edge flew to the left of Root, who took an excellent catch at slip.

Ramesh Mendis (1) followed, lbw to Ali (1-5) in the next over, and when Perera holed out to give Willey his second, England were into the tail.

Chamika Karunaratne ended unbeaten on 19, smashing a big six as well as being involved in some less than impressive running between the wickets that saw both Dushmantha Chameera (7) and Praveen Jayawickrama (4) run out by Sam Billings after Willey (3-44) had bounced out Binura Fernando (2).

The innings was wrapped up inside 43 overs and when Bairstow thumped back-to-back boundaries to start the reply, the chances of England needing anything like that long to knock off the runs seemed slim.