

Bahrain to replace Sebring in WEC calendar



Cars in action during Bapco 8 Hours of Bahrain at BIC (file photo)

TDI | Manama

8 Hours of Bahrain will replace the cancelled 1000 Miles of Sebring on 21st November in for 2019-2020 FIA WEC calendar as a result of the COVID-19 situation.

The WEC's Season 8 will re-start with the TOTAL 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps on 15th August, the traditional prelude to the 24 Hours of Le Mans which, as previously an-

nounced by the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, will be held on 19/20th September.

The number of events remains the same in order to guarantee fairness and equal sporting terms for all competitors.

The calendar for Season 9 (originally 2020-2021) will be completely re-worked and it's reasonable to say that it will not start before March 2021.

Premier League players' 'backs against wall' over coronavirus, says Rose

AFP | London

Newcastle defender Danny Rose is willing to contribute a portion of his wages to those fighting the coronavirus outbreak but says Premier League players feel their "backs are against the wall".

Top-flight stars have come under increasing pressure to take pay cuts from government officials after a number of clubs said they would use public money to subsidise pay for non-playing staff.

The Premier League said on Friday that clubs would consult players over a combination of pay cuts and deferrals amounting to 30 percent of their annual salary.

They agreed to provide a £125 million (\$153 million) fund for the English Football League and National League and pledged £20 million in charitable support for those affected by the coronavirus.

Talks were due to take place yesterday between the league, clubs and players' representatives.

Newcastle, where Rose is



Danny Rose kicks the ball during a match (file photo)

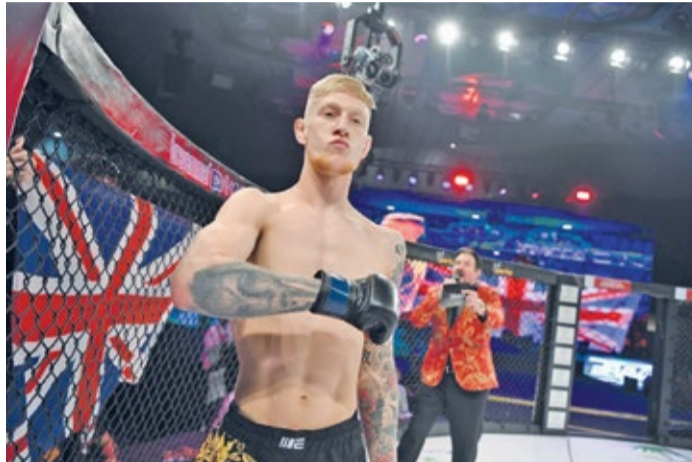
on loan, and his parent club, Tottenham, are among clubs to have furloughed some non-playing staff during the crisis, prompting criticism as players continue to receive their full salary.

"We're all keen to make something happen," Rose told the BBC.

"I can only speak for myself but I would have no problems whatsoever contributing some of my wages to people who are fighting this on the front line and to people who have been affected by what's happening at the minute."

Brewin vs Patterson clash delayed but inevitable

John Brewin and Sam Patterson were set to meet in the main event at BRAVE CF 36 in Romania



Sam Patterson reacts before a bout (file photo)

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John Brewin and Sam Patterson are two of mixed martial arts' hottest prospects right now. The duo was set to face each other in a blockbuster main event for BRAVE Combat Federation's return to Romania, which was to take place on April 13th. However, the spread of the Covid-19 virus has postponed all shows and they will have to wait to reclaim their spots as Lightweight's next big thing.

Brewin was especially aggrieved by the delay, since he hasn't fought since October, but recognizes that pause was much needed in light of the worldwide pandemic. John has had a very

bright start to his career and has been picked up by BRAVE Combat Federation in 2018.

John had his first bout for the promotion back at BRAVE CF 12, in only his second professional bout. The New Zealand representative beat Hardeep Rai by TKO and has never looked back. His only hiccup so far has been a decision loss to Morocco's Anas Siraj Mounir, but otherwise, he has looked incredible and better in each outing, forging a 4-1 record under BRAVE CF, with 6-1 overall as a professional.

He was set to face one of England's biggest hopes at Lightweight. Similarly to his foe, Sam Patterson only has one career loss, against Hardeep Rai, in his BRAVE CF debut, back in 2017.



John Brewin reacts prior to a bout (file photo)



John Brewin won his first bout for the promotion back at BRAVE CF 12, in only his second professional bout

"The Future" has evolved into one of the greatest prospects of the division through his hard work with Team Crossface, in Watford, England.

Patterson is coming off a ca-

reer-defining win. Last December, he surprised the world by out striking muay thai champion Cian Cowley through two rounds before locking in a guillotine submission and putting his Irish adversary to sleep. The fight took place at BRAVE CF 33, in Saudi Arabia, and propelled him to the forefront of the MMA world.

His bout against John Brewin was a chance for Sam to look ahead into his future by knocking out one of his rivals en route to an eventual title shot at Lightweight. Both men will have to wait but the clash of the top prospects seems inevitable at this point in time and should take place very soon inside the BRAVE CF Arena.

Burnley face 50 mln pounds shortfall if season cancelled

Reuters | London

Burnley could lose up to 50 million pounds (\$61.30 million) in revenue if the Premier League season is not completed due the coronavirus outbreak, with the club adding yesterday that other top-flight clubs could miss out on double that amount.

The Premier League said on Friday the current campaign had been postponed indefinitely, adding that the "2019/20 season will only return when it is safe and appropriate to do so".

Burnley expect to lose five million pounds in match-day revenue as their remaining



General view inside Burnley's Turf Moor stadium

home games will likely be played behind closed doors should the league resume.

In addition, if the season is cancelled altogether, the club

will miss out on 45 million pounds in "broadcasting revenue and other items", Burnley said in a statement on their website.

"It's a completely unprecedented situation that we and other Premier League clubs face and which we could not have foreseen in any way only just a few weeks ago," Burnley chairman Mike Garlick said.

"It's now not just about Burnley or any other individual club anymore, it's about the whole football ecosystem from the Premier League downwards and all the other businesses and communities that feed from that ecosystem."

Burnley said they were releasing the figures to be "transparent with supporters, staff and stakeholders".

Ex-F1 ringmaster Ecclestone to be father again at age of 89

AFP | London

Colourful former Formula One boss Bernie Ecclestone is to become a father at the age of 89 with his wife Fabiana Flosi, who is half his age, expecting a son in July, he told The Daily Mail on Friday.

Ecclestone, who revolutionised Formula One as chief executive from 1978 to 2017, has three adult daughters from two previous marriages.

"There's nothing that unusual is there?" he told the newspaper from the couple's home in Brazil. "I haven't had a job for a little while so I have had plenty of time to practise!"

"I don't see there's any difference between being 89 and 29."

Ecclestone said his greatest delight was for his 44-year-old marketing executive wife.

"Yes, she (his wife) is thrilled," he said. "We're not sure what all the fuss is about!"

"I'm very happy and happy really for my wife, she's been looking forward to this happening for quite a few years so I'm happy she'll have someone after I'm gone."

Ecclestone, who said his daughters were delighted with the news of the family addition, hoped age had improved his parenting skills.

"We don't know, probably bet-



Former Formula 1 boss Bernie Ecclestone (L) and his wife Fabiana Flosi talk in the paddock ahead of the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix

"I'm very happy and happy really for my wife, she's been looking forward to this happening for quite a few years so I'm happy she'll have someone after I'm gone"

BERNIE ECCLESTONE

ter than before, probably a bit more relaxed!"

The former F1 ringmaster said he was mindful of the dangers posed by the coronavirus pan-

demic.

"You hope it's not going to happen but these things do happen so you just have to cope, what else can you do?" he told the Mail Online.

"You have to hope that the people who are looking after everything have not caught anything themselves.

"I'm not too sure we're ever going to get rid of this bloody nonsense, anymore than the flu that happens every year.

"It's just that at the moment this is a little bit more dangerous than what we've been used to but when it settles down I think the world will have changed an awful lot."