

PSG deny Galtier reports



Nice's French coach Christophe Galtier (R) and Paris Saint-Germain's Argentinian head coach Mauricio Pochettino (L) speaks before AFP | Paris

Paris Saint-Germain denied reports on Monday that Nice coach Christophe Galtier will be named the Parisian club's new coach.

Newspaper L'Equipe and radio station FranceInfo claimed the Frenchman had agreed to replace Mauricio Pochettino at Parc de Princes.

A source close to the club told AFP later that "numerous discussions are underway", despite the reports.

Argentinian Pochettino, who was appointed in January last year and led the club to the Ligue 1 title in the season just ended, has another 12 months remaining on his contract.

French newspaper have reported however that Pochettino and the club to come to an agreement that would see the Argentine leave the French capital.

Galtier's current employers were unavailable for comment. If he does make the move

YOU KNOW WHAT

Argentinian Pochettino, who was appointed in January last year and led the club to the Ligue 1 title in the season just ended, has another 12 months remaining on his contract

to Paris, Galtier would reunite with Louis Campos, PSG's recently appointed football advisor.

Earlier this month, French press linked former Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane with the position, with PSG's Qatari owners desperate to win the Champions League.

Murray hopeful of being fit for Wimbledon

Andy Murray admits coming days are key in effort to be fit for Wimbledon

● Briton hopeful of overcoming an abdominal injury to play

AFP | London

Andy Murray faces a race against time to be fit for Wimbledon next week, but believes he is in a better position than he was ahead of the championships last year.

The three-time Grand Slam champion was forced to pull out of last week's tournament at Queen's due to an abdominal injury suffered in losing the final of the Stuttgart ATP event to Matteo Berrettini.

"The positives are I've been able to practise but there are certain shots I've not been able to practise, so that has obviously disrupted my preparations. The injury is healing but still not perfect," said the two-time Wimbledon winner.

"I've been practising for the past three or four days and have been practising well. But unfortunately in matches you can't just not hit certain shots. In the next couple of days hopefully I'll get the chance to test that



Andy Murray receives treatment during his defeat against Matteo Berrettini

BETTER YOU KNOW

Murray sustained the injury in the Stuttgart final against Matteo Berrettini on 12 June, his first grass-court final since his Wimbledon victory in 2016

and hopefully it will be fine."

Murray made it through to the third round at Wimbledon last year despite an injury-disrupted preparation.

His form on the grass at Surbiton, where he reached the semi-finals, and Stuttgart has edged the 35-year-old back up to 51 in the world.

And he is confident of performing well at the All England Club, as long as he is not hampered by injury.

"Going into Wimbledon last year I'd gone in with hardly any proper practice at all, hadn't really played much in the build-up

”

I've been practising for the past three or four days and have been practising well. But unfortunately in matches you can't just not hit certain shots. In the next couple of days hopefully I'll get the chance to test that and hopefully it will be fine

ANDY MURRAY

to it and the fact I got through a few matches was a great effort considering what I was able to do in the build-up," added Murray.

"I was in a good position against Berrettini as well before the issues so that for me is the biggest thing.

"I practised really well the last few months and worked on a lot of things with my team. I'm in a good place tennis wise. Physically I do feel good overall, I just unfortunately got this slight injury, which is frustrating."

Wimbledon begins on June 27.

Kyrgios first to sign to Osaka's Evolve sports agency

Reuters | London

Nick Kyrgios on Monday became the first athlete to join Evolve, the new sports agency co-founded by four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka.

Osaka broke with IMG last month to launch Evolve with longtime agent Stuart Duguid. Evolve describes itself as a multifaceted agency focused on brand partnerships, investing, creating athlete-owned businesses, and philanthropy.

"Kyrgios embodies the types of athletes we want to work with at Evolve," Osaka told sports business website Boardroom.

"He's got an unmatched style, passion, and personality that is unlike any other in the sport. We have some big things in the pipeline for him that are very unique and pioneering."

Duguid called the fiery and controversial Kyrgios the most talented and entertaining tennis player on the tour.



Naomi Osaka and Nick Kyrgios during an event as part of Australian Open

”

He's got an unmatched style, passion, and personality that is unlike any other in the sport. We have some big things in the pipeline for him that are very unique and pioneering

NAOMI OSAKA

The world number 45 is one of the biggest draws in the sport thanks to the unpredictable nature of his matches. While the hugely talented Australian often bamboozles opponents with an array of incredible trick shots, his on-court histrionics and run-ins with umpires have often dominated the headlines.

"Love or hate him, you definitely can't keep your eyes off him. If you go to any junior tennis tournament, you will see Nick's influence," he said.

Dzalamidze says Georgia switch was for Olympics, Wimbledon just a bonus

Reuters | London

Russian-born tennis player Natela Dzalamidze said her decision to change nationality to Georgian was motivated by her desire to play at the Olympics and that being able to compete at Wimbledon was a bonus.

In April, the All England



Natela Dzalamidze Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) banned Russian and Belarusian players from competing at

Wimbledon due to the invasion of Ukraine, which Moscow calls a "special military operation".

Belarus has been a key staging area for the invasion.

Dzalamidze's nationality is Georgian in Wimbledon's entry list, allowing her to partner Serbian Aleksandra Krunic in the women's doubles at the Grand Slam.

Giggs resigns as Wales manager to avoid World Cup distraction

AFP | London

Ryan Giggs resigned from his role as manager of Wales on Monday as the former Manchester United great awaits trial on an accusation of domestic violence.

Giggs has been on leave since November 2020 when he was arrested.

The 48-year-old is accused of controlling and coercive behaviour against his former girlfriend Kate Greville between August 2017 and November 2020.

Giggs is also accused of assaulting Greville, causing her actual bodily harm, and common assault of her younger sister, Emma Greville, at his home in the Manchester area in November 2020.

He has denied the allegations and pleaded not guilty to all charges.

His trial has been delayed until August in January to a courts backlog.

Since then, his former assistant Rob Page, has led Wales to their first World Cup since 1958.

Giggs' decision to step aside means Page will take charge of games against the USA, Iran and England in Qatar in November.

"After much consideration, I am standing down from my position as manager of the Wales men's national team with immediate effect," Giggs said in a statement.

"It has been an honour and a privilege to manage my country, but it is only right that the Wales FA, the coaching staff and the players prepare for the tournament with certainty,



Ryan Giggs looks on during a training session (file photo)

”

I do not want the country's preparations for the World Cup to be affected, destabilised or jeopardised in any way by the continued interest around this case

RYAN GIGGS

YOU KNOW WHAT

Giggs was appointed Wales boss in January 2018 and helped them secure qualification for Euro 2020

clarification and without speculation around the position of their head coach."

Giggs won 13 Premier League titles and two Champions Leagues among 25 major honours during a 24-year career with United at club level.

He began his coaching career at Old Trafford, taking temporary charge at the end of the 2013/14 season after David Moyes was sacked before working as an assistant to Louis van Gaal for two years.

Giggs was appointed Wales boss in January 2018 and helped

them secure qualification for Euro 2020.

And he said he hopes to return to management in the future.

"I do not want the country's preparations for the World Cup to be affected, destabilised or jeopardised in any way by the continued interest around this case," he added.

"It is my intention to resume my managerial career at a later date and I look forward to watching our national team alongside you in the stands."