Self-isolation makes training easier: Ricciardo

Reuters | London

ustralian Daniel Ricciardo reckons self-isola-Ltion makes for a perfect training camp -- although it helps to be on the family farm in western Australia with a swimming pool and some machinery to play with.

Speaking in a live Instagram Q+A organized by his Renault Formula One team, the Australian talked about what he was doing to pass the time waiting for a coronavirus ravaged season to start.

The opening race in Melbourne on March 15 was cancelled, along with the Monaco Grand Prix, and Formula One has said it hopes to start a reduced season some time in the European summer.

Six races have been postponed and await rescheduling.

"I know it's probably going to be a while till we race again, but I'm not allowing myself to go back into holiday mode," said Ricciardo.

"Training is definitely the thing that's keeping me with that competitive mindset. You get some anger out when you train, so that's my medicine for

"I feel like now it's kind of



Daniel Ricciardo holds his helmet after a press meet



Training is definitely the thing that's keeping me with that competitive mindset. You get some anger out when you train, so that's my medicine for now. I feel like now it's kind of perfect to get in shape," added the 30-year-old

DANIEL RICCIARDO

the 30-year-old. "We're forced airports, we can really create a along while driving a tractor.

real training camp, which we don't always have."

Ricciardo said he expected to see other drivers looking pretty fit when they finally got back together again, even if they might have so much pent up aggression that they all collided at the first corner.

The Australian said he might just qualify last to avoid the carnage and cash in.

Ricciardo obligingly jumped into his swimming pool after agreeing to do so if enough people urged him to and revealed his other activities involved driving buggies and watching the sheep being sheared.

He also posted a picture on perfect to get in shape," added to stay in, there's no jet lag, no Instagram of himself singing

Wimbledon to hold 'emergency meeting' with postponement or cancellation on cards

AFP | London

Wimbledon could be postponed or even cancelled after All England Club chiefs called an "emergency meeting" for next week to discuss whether to go ahead with this year's tournament amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Wimbledon is set to start in London on June 29, but the continuing spread of the virus has caused havoc with the sporting schedule and the grass-court Grand Slam could be the next major event to be delayed.

"The AELTC can confirm that it is continuing a detailed evaluation of all scenarios for The Championships 2020, including postponement and cancellation, as a result of the COVID-19 statement said on Wednesday.

"An emergency meeting of the AELTC Main Board is Olympics have both been put scheduled for next week, and in preparation we are commuhealth crisis to be resolved. nicating closely with the LTA, and with the ATP, WTA, ITF and the other Grand Slams."

The French Open was the first of this year's three remaining Grand Slams to be postponed due to the virus.

Originally scheduled to run hind closed doors. from May 24 to June 7, the clay-Tennis Federation in a move said. that angered some players.

US Open finishes and clashes and the rest of the world.

titles were won by Novak Djok- out." ovic and Simona Halep last year, is the crown jewel of the to get the Wimbledon site tire clay-court campaign.



Serbia's Novak Djokovic (R) holds the winner's trophy and passes runner up Switzerland's Roger Federer (L) during the presentation at the end of 2019 Wimbledon Championships.

sport's four Grand Slams.

tennis calender might be tricky England Club chief executive outbreak," an All England Club after the outcry over the unilateral French Open switch.

> Euro 2020 and the Tokyo back by a year to allow the

'Significant risk'

Pressure is growing on the All England Club to make a decision and organisers have ruled out playing the tournament be-

court tournament was moved onships is due to begin at the decisions we make. to September 20 by the French end of April," the statement

"At this time, based on the advery short window available to with the Laver Cup, the popular us to stage The Championships exhibition team competition set due to the nature of our surface up by Roger Federer and featur- suggests that postponement is ing leading players from Europe not without significant risk and difficulty. Playing behind closed Wimbledon, whose singles doors has been formally ruled

ready for the event, a decision But moving it deeper into the needs to be made soon and All Richard Lewis expects the call will be made at the emergency summit.

"The unprecedented challenge presented by the Covid-19 crisis continues to affect our way of life in ways that we could not have imagined, and our thoughts are with all those affected in the UK and around the world," Lewis said.

"The single most important consideration is one of public health, and we are determined "The build for The Champi- to act responsibly through the

"We are working hard to bring certainty to our plans for 2020 and have convened The new date for Roland Gar-vice we have received from the an emergency meeting of the ros is just one week after the public health authorities, the AELTC main board for next week, at which a decision will be made."

The Indian Wells Masters 1000 was the first ATP Tour event to be hit by the impact of the pandemic.

The men's and women's tours are currently suspended until Given it takes two months June 7, which includes the en-

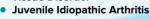
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Leeds players, coaches agree wage deferral so club staff can be paid

Reuters | London

eeds United's players, ior management have voluntarily deferred their wages to ensure the club's 272 members of full-time and casual staff are paid in the coming months, the English second-tier club said.

The coronavirus pandemic has brought sport to a virtual standstill worldwide and English soccer is suspended until at least April 30, with the hiatus hitting the revenue of clubs across the country.

Leeds said the lack of matches among other things will cost the club "several million pounds" each month, which led to coach Marcelo Bielsa and his squad deciding collectively to defer wages to keep the club running in "uncertain times".

'My players have demonstrated an incredible sense of unity and togetherness and I'm proud of their actions," Leeds' director of football Victor Orta said.

French sports minister evokes Tour de France spectator ban



background

AFP | Paris

bid to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

in talks with Tour organisers about the future of the June 27-July 19 edition of world cycling's top event which draws thousands of miles through the more than 10 millions fans antowns and villages of France nually to the roads of France.

ered including postponement in Paris. or cancellation of the event which has been raced every body is aware and responsible year in peacetime since 1903, about the period of isolation the minister said.

bans) for other competitions bring to all," she said.

before, even though it won't have the same impact because French sports minister Rox-ana Maracineanusays this Tour doesn't depend on ticket year's Tour de France could be sales like football or rugby," staged without spectators in a she told France Bleu radio station.

The postponement of the The French government is Tokyo Olympics and the Euro 2020 football championships has focused attention on the Tour which winds its way for in a wide loop for three weeks All options are being consid- ending on the Champs Elysees

"I think that today everywe are going through and "Everything is imaginable. everyone knows the reasons We have(imposed spectator and the benefits that it can