WHAT WE KNOW TODAY – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

• Australian Football League has returned to ESPN with one game a week at various times for rest of the season.
• With no further disruptions, the season concludes with the Grand Final in late October.

• U.S. Tennis Open on ESPN & ESPN2 continues through 9/13 without fans.
• ATP Men’s tour irregular schedule has resumed. Finals 11/15-11/22.
• French Open (Roland Garros) 9/27-10/11.
• Davis Cup finals in Spain on FS1 11/23-11/29.
• Select number of Light-Heavyweight and Super-Lightweight fights on Telemundo now through November.
• Light-Heavyweight championship unification fight (WBO, WBA & IBF) on 10/17 inside the “bubble” and on ESPN.

• Canadian Football League moved ’20 season from summer to fall, and now to spring ’21.
• ESPN still scheduled to carry 20+ games, mostly on Thursday and Fridays, including one division final and the Grey Cup championship.

• Qualifying for UEFA Champions League ’20-’21 tournament runs through 9/30.
• ’20-’21 season runs 10/20 through 5/29/21.
• Champions League winner plays Europa League champ.

• UEFA Europa League qualifying for ’20-’21 tournament runs through 10/2.
• The ’20-’21 group stage is 10/22-5/25/21.
• Europa League victor meets the Champions League winner.

• The 2020 Formula One World Championship season ends 11/1.
• Practices and races from Europe air live on ESPN2 & ESPN Friday, Saturday & Sunday mornings.

• 2020 open-wheel car race schedule ends 10/2.
• 2021 season set to run March-September.
• Next year will be the final year of the current engine package.
• In 2020, teams to use brand new chassis and engine packages.

• Korean Baseball Organization’s 144-game season carried live from 10 Korean cities on ESPN & ESPN2 through 10/18.
• Games played 6 nights a week in Korea, which means they air in the U.S. between 1:00 & 5:30 ET the following morning.

• Mexico’s Liga MX ’20-’21 regular season continues through 12/12.
• Games on ESPN & FS1.
• Teams for ’20-’21 playoffs will be expanded.
• Univision gets exclusive US rights to Liga de Expansión MX, the new second division league.

• 2021 Little League Baseball World Series set for 8/18-8/29/21 on ESPN nets.
• Next year’s LLWS field expands to 20 teams.
• LL Softball World Series field expands to 12.
• MLB committed to 2021 Little League Classic.

• LPGA tour runs through 12/20, with a few postponements.
• GOLF has LPGA coverage.
• Women’s U.S. Open rescheduled for 12/10-12/13.

• Trade deadline period ends with 32 trades of 66 players and 25 players to be named later.
• Playoffs expanded to 16 teams (8 per league).
• Best-of-3 Wild Card Series run 9/29-10/2 with 7 matchups on ESPN & 1 on TBS. All games to be played in top-seeded club’s home ballpark.

• For 2021, teams play 16 regular season games on ESPN nets from late May to late September.
• Season followed by a 4-team playoff and championship.
• First FCS-level game kicks off 8/29 on ESPN.
• Future expansion: Austin (2021), Charlotte (2022), St. Louis & Sacramento (2023).

• NASCAR Cup playoffs begin 9/6 with 16 racers vying for the 2020 championship.
• NBCSN carries all September races and one October race.

• Houston/OKC and Denver/Utah both go to Game 7 for privilege of playing LA Lakers and LA Clippers, respectively, in Conf. Semifinals.
• Best-of-7 Conf. Semifinals (8 teams) end 9/13.

• Each May, 64 top college baseball teams play a month-long tournament across the country. Top 8 go to the College World Series in Omaha.
• The 2021 CWS is set for 6/19/21-6/29/21 on ESPN & ESPN2.

• NCAA weighing four ‘20 start day options. (1) initial 11/10; (2) 11/20; (3) 11/25; (4) 12/4. Will settle on date this week. 11/25 and 12/4 are best bets.
• NCAA filed for “Battle in the Bubble” trademark.
• Major conference tournaments begin 3/3/21.
• Men’s March Madness begins 3/16/21.
• Women’s March Madness begins 3/19/21.

• First FCS-level game kicks off 8/29 on ESPN.
• Week 1 FBS-level season games played on 9/3 and 9/7.
• Some participating conferences delayed kickoff dates. Some mostly conference-only schedules.

• 20 teams (so far) will start season without fans.
• 5 games in Weeks 15 and 16 have yet to be scheduled. At least 2 each week will be NFLN Thursday Night Football doubleheaders.
• Playoffs will expand from 12 to 14 teams.

• Best-of-7 Conference Semifinals (8 teams) end by 9/5 on NBCSN.
• Conference Finals (4 teams) set to begin 9/8 on NBCSN.
• All games played in Toronto and Edmonton.
• ’20-’21 season to face off on 12/1.

• Mello Yello Drag Racing Series continues its 19 events on FS1 & FS2, ending 11/15.
• 2020 Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series season on FS2 ends on 11/26.

• For now, a record 33 sports, 339 medal events, and 42 venues are slated for ’21 summer Games.
• Beijing Winter Games set for 2/4-2/20/22 on NBC networks, with seven new events.

• Live early round Men’s U.S. Open coverage is 9/17-9/18 on GOLF.
• PGA Champions (senior) tour ‘20 season on GOLF ends 11/8.
• PGA tour ‘20-‘21 season runs 9/12/20-9/7/21.

• English Premier League ’20-‘21 season kicks off on 9/12 on NBCSN, with a few matches on USA & CNBC.
• The league adds three additional teams for the ’20-‘21 season.

• Matches air on ESPN, ESPN2, ENN & ESPD.

• Legendary French cross-country bicycle race continues on NBCSN through 9/20.
• 107th event hosts 22 teams with 8 riders each from around the world.
• Cyclists tested daily. Fans must wear masks.

• 22 game-per team regular season continues through 9/12 on ESPN, ESPN2 & CBSSN.
• 3 teams have clinched playoff berths so far.
• Up to 19 games playoff games on ESPN/ESPN2 starting 9/13.

• WTA Women’s tour is back but canceled finals.
• U.S. Open on ESPN & ESPN2 through 9/13 without fans and some players.
• French Open (Roland Garros) 9/27-10/11.
• Davis Cup finals in Spain on FS1 11/23-11/29.

• Live early round Men’s U.S. Open coverage is 9/17-9/18 on GOLF.
• PGA Champions (senior) tour ‘20 season on GOLF ends 11/8.
• PGA tour ‘20-‘21 season runs 9/12/20-9/7/21.

• WWE Monday Night Raw and NXT have taken residency at Amway Center in Orlando.
• USA Network telecasts bring virtual fans into the arena via live video on LED boards.

• Winter Games return to Aspen 1/28-1/31/21.
• Summer 2021 games dates & location not set. If held, look to mid-July.
• X Games were created by, and air on, ESPN.