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## City to host Olympic Qualifier Series for first time

**Wang Yanlin**

SHANGHAI is gearing up for an array of high-level sporting events, including hosting an Olympic Qualifier Series for the first time, as it targets becoming a world-renowned sports city by 2050.

The series, authorized by the International Olympic Committee, includes four sports, namely, BMX freestyle, skateboarding, breaking and sport climbing. It is a new and festive event that integrates sports with urban culture.

The series serves as an important step in determining athletes' qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, and also provides an immersive Olympic experience that combines sports, arts, music and culture.

Shanghai Vice Mayor Xie Dong said that "the series is the city's second close contact with the Olympic Games," following the Beijing 2008 Olympics during which the city functioned as a sub-venue for football matches.

The series will be held on May 16-19 next year at the Puxi Expo Park on the Huangpu Riverside.

In an ongoing bid to become a globally recognized sports city, Shanghai has been emphasizing the construction of a regulated and standardized sports environment.

Multifaceted significance of sports has been underscored, with the city also introducing various rules and regulations to offer legal support to the development of sports.

This year, Shanghai is hosting 121 major international and domestic events, including the ATP Tennis Shanghai Rolex Masters and the 2023 Shanghai Super Cup.

Next year, the city will see the return of international competitions like the Formula One Chinese Grand Prix and the Shanghai Global Equestrian Championship, along with proprietary events like the Shanghai Marathon and the MAGIC3 Youth 3-on-3 Basketball Competition.



The Shanghai Marathon will be returning at full scale with 38,000 runners this year.  
— Dong Jun

## Global design cities forum opens in city

**Huang Yixuan**

THE World Design Cities Conference opened in Shanghai this week, as the city solidifies its reputation as a "City of Design" and pursues a path of high-quality development.

With over 1,000 speakers hailing from 43 cities across 29 countries, the design event promises to offer a diverse range of perspectives and experiences. Participants will explore a wide array of topics spanning 10 design categories, including industrial,

construction, service, fashion, as well as design education and the influence of female designers.

The WDCC 2023, hosted by the Shanghai government, has garnered significant support from UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and the National Committee of China for UNESCO.

The event, held under the theme "Design Beyond Creativity" this year, aims to build a global platform for

design cooperation and exchanges, demonstrating the city's commitment to integrating design into every aspect of city and daily life.

The WDCC 2023 will run through October 2 at the Huangpu Riverside.

Parallel activities will also be held in London and Milan, in coordination with the London Design Festival and the Milan Fashion Week, with the aim of strengthening international cooperation and showcasing the vibrant design ecosystem of Shanghai.



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