

Bahrain buys 20pc stake in 2nd division French club Paris FC



A general view outside Paris FC's Charlety Stadium
AP | Paris

Bahrain has bought a minority stake of 20 per cent in second-division French club Paris FC with its sovereign wealth fund.

With its new investment, Paris FC hopes to achieve promotion to the first division within three seasons and to make the women's team among the best in France.

"The transaction was carried out through an increase in capital shares to strengthen the club's own capital and allowing sovereign funds to own 20 pc," Paris FC said Monday in a statement. "On top of this investment, Bahrain becomes the club's main sponsor with the objective of increasing the country's image."

Explore Bahrain will be the sponsorship name. Paris FC

chairman Pierre Ferracci will remain the main shareholder with a 77pc stake.

Paris FC finished 17th in the second division last season and narrowly avoided relegation. The new campaign starts on Aug. 22.

The club's youth academy will also be expanded in a bid to develop more players from the sizeable Paris region, while the French club will help oversee the development of young players in Bahrain.

Paris FC added that it expects further foreign and domestic investment over the coming months.

Veteran coach Jean-Marc Nobile will run the club's academy. He won the second division with Le Havre and was voted the league's best coach that year. Nobile also won the French Cup at youth level with Auxerre in 2015.

Stroll fastest as Hulk returns

● Stroll fastest for Racing Point at Silverstone as Albon crash brings out the red flags

● Sergio Perez who will miss the race after testing positive for coronavirus, was replaced by Nico Hulkenberg

AFP | Silverstone

Canadian Lance Stroll led the way for Mercedes-lookalikes Racing Point in British Grand Prix practice yesterday while Red Bull's Alex Albon crashed and brought out red flags.

Nico Hulkenberg meanwhile signed on as a stand-in team mate for Stroll after Mexican Sergio Perez tested positive for COVID-19.

The team owner's son lapped the former World War Two airfield with a best time of one minute 27.274 seconds -- marginally quicker than Max Verstappen's best effort of the morning for Red Bull.



Racing Point's Lance Stroll steers his car during practice

Verstappen, whose team mate Albon crashed at Stowe in the afternoon but still ended up second overall, managed a 1:27.422 in a sizzlingly hot opening session when Stroll was third fastest.

The Dutchman was only 14th after lunch when he was blocked on his sole attempt at a quick lap.

Hulkenberg, back for what may be two races, looked like he'd never been away after lapping ninth and seventh fastest respectively for a team whose car is subject to an ongoing protest over its legality.

Mercedes six times Formula One world champion Lewis

Hamilton was second and fifth in the sessions run in front of empty grandstands with spectators not allowed due to the pandemic.

The Briton, a six times winner at Silverstone, leads Finnish team mate Valtteri Bottas, sixth and third fastest in the respective sessions, in the standings by five points after three races.

Ferrari had Charles Leclerc fifth and fourth but the Monegasque's team mate Sebastian Vettel was sidelined for the opening session after Ferrari detected something wrong with his car's intercooler system and decided to strip it down.

The German was then 18th after lunch, when Ferracci decided to change his car's pedals.

Hulkenberg was the 'new' name on the screens, the experienced driver walking back into the paddock 10 minutes before the start of the session to take over the Mexican's 'Pink Mercedes'.

Wearing a spare pair of Stroll's overalls, the German acquitted himself well.

Alfa Romeo's Antonio Giovinazzi brought out red flags at the half hour mark after spinning at the exit to Becketts in the morning, leaving debris across the track.

BRAVE CF 37 staredowns almost come to a boil with Mokaev and McVeigh squaring off

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation will have a blockbuster fight night for this Saturday, as the fastest-growing MMA organization in the world lands in Stockholm, Sweden for the first time ever.

Ahead of fight night, the weigh-ins and staredowns went smoothly except for the highly-anticipated debut of the pound-for-pound number one amateur fighter in the world, Muhammad Mokaev.

"The Punisher" will take on Glenn McVeigh in what is now a Catchweight bout of 141lbs (64 kg) after the short-notice McVeigh didn't make weight. Both fighters agreed to go ahead but their staredown stole the show as the intensity almost came to a boil.

As they stared down, Mokaev and McVeigh went face to face, until Glenn lightly pushed Muhammad. The former IMMAF star then asked his opponent



Muhammad Mokaev and Glenn McVeigh react during weigh-in

"why he was shaking" and said that they saw each other yesterday and he did nothing. The Irish debutant proceeded to claim they could fight anytime, even volunteering his room number to Mokaev.

After they were separated by the extra security put in place just to avoid any brawls taking place, the staredowns went on with the main event athletes both weighing at the BRAVE CF Welterweight limit, which is 79.4 kg, or 79.8 with the tolerance. Louis Glismann stepped on the scales earlier at 79.4 kg, while Henri Lintula weighed in at 79.5 kg. Both fighters shook hands and squared off amicably before facing off tomorrow night.

YOU KNOW WHAT
The two know each other from the British-Irish MMA scene and the word-choice by McVeigh to grab BRAVE CF's attention wasn't much appreciated by Mokaev

BRAVE CF 35 Fight Card

Welterweight: Louis Glismann (79,4 kg) vs Henri Lintula (79,5 kg)
Heavyweight: Irman Smajic (119,6 kg) vs Fatih Aktas (108,4 kg)
Bantamweight: Muhammad Mokaev (61,2 kg) vs Glenn McVeigh (64 kg)
Catchweight (100 kg): Anton Turkalj (97 kg) vs Athanasios Chergkeletzis (99,2 kg)
Featherweight: Michael Deiga-Scheck (66,1 kg) vs Fernando Flores (66 kg)
Strawweight: Bianca Antman (52,6 kg) vs Veera Nykanen (51,9 kg)
Lightweight: Seyyed Masoud Derekeh (70,2 kg) vs Hamid Sadid (69,9 kg)
Welterweight: Ahouzi Kouame (76,5 kg) vs Mohamed Zarey (77,3 kg)

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