

# Bahrain1's Al Balooshi clinches Pro Mod title at BIC

Emirati ace powers Kingdom's top drag racing team to fourth straight victory to secure 2021 crown in Bahrain Drag Racing Championship

● Al Balooshi, Bahrain1 headline group of six newly crowned champions. Others include Hani Ali, Obaid Al Balooshi, Hussain Mohammed, Mahmood Mohammed and Nawaf Almannai

● Five titles still to be decided: Index 10.5, Index 9.0, Super Street Bikes, Index 8.5 Bikes and Street Fight Bikes

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Bahrain1 Racing's Khalid Al Balooshi in action at BIC in round four

Bahrain1 Racing's Khalid Al Balooshi has added another feather to his cap after securing the Pro Mod title in the 2021 Bahrain Drag Racing Championship at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC).

Al Balooshi clinched the highly coveted crown following the season's fourth and penultimate round, held over the weekend at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" in Sakhir.

BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa hailed Bahrain1 Racing and Al Balooshi for their success. Shaikh Salman commented: "Congratulations to His Majesty the King's Personal Representative His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Khalid Al Balooshi and the entire Bahrain1 Racing crew for a brilliant season and for securing the Pro Mod title amongst a competitive field."

"Bahrain1 have been dominant this entire campaign, winning all four rounds held to date and continuing to raise the bar each time they take to the drag strip."

"The team's prowess and professionalism are a true testament to what it takes to be a champion, and they continue to make the Kingdom of Bahrain proud both on the international and local stages."

"We wish them continued success in their upcoming com-

petitions, particularly in their upcoming bid to claim a hat-trick of world championship titles in the NHRA Pro Mod Series in the United States."

Al Balooshi sealed his national Pro Mod title after defeating defending champion Hani Ali of Bapco Motorsport in their final elimination run of round four. The Emirati ace had a blistering time of 3.689 seconds in the head-to-head with a top speed of 328.22kph. Ali put in an impressive fight with a time of 3.778s at 318.67kph.

The result gave Al Balooshi 1,464 points with his fourth successive victory this season in a clear sweep of the category so far. He has built a gap from Ali on the standings that ensures him of the title, even with the final round still to take place.

Al Balooshi and Bahrain1 Racing headline the group of six newly crowned champions who were all able to seal their respective crowns heading into the season-ending meeting, which is scheduled to take place April 13 to 16 at BIC.

The other title winners include Bapco's Hani Ali in the Index 8.5 category, Obaid Al Balooshi in the Competition 4.5 class, Hussain Mohammed in the Super Street V8 category, Mahmood Mohammed in the Outlaw 4 and Nawaf Almannai amongst the Outlaw 6 challeng-

ers.

The titles still to be decided are the Index 10.5 currently led on the standings by Ali Abdulla, Index 9.0 presently led by Hamdan Al Kaabi, the Super Street Bikes led by Yusuf Hilal, the Index 8.5 Bikes led by Ali Bahram, and the Street Fight Bikes currently led by Hamad Ahmed.

In round four, Hani Ali was able to secure the Index 8.5 title despite losing to Sayed Hussain Salman in the category final. Salman had a winning pass of 8.670s at 230.68kph.

Obaid Al Balooshi claimed first place in the Competition 4.5 class after defeating Abdulrahman Bu Alwa in their decisive elimination with a 4.526s time at 245.80kph.

Hussain Mohammed followed



Obaid Al Balooshi on the strip in the Competition 4.5 class at BIC

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BIC CHIEF EXECUTIVE SHAIKH SALMAN BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

suit in the Super Street V8 category's final, winning against Khalid Saif.

Mahmood Mohammed had a solo run in the Outlaw 4 final to claim his win, while Nawaf Almannai defeated Yousif Al Zayani in the Outlaw 6 decider with a 4.541s elapsed time at 2.59.87kph. It was a close finish as Al Zayani was beaten by only 0.005s.

Elsewhere in the fourth round, Raed Buti took the Index 10.5 victory, Ahmed Sarhan won the Index 9.0 class, Hamad Ahmed was triumphant amongst the Street Fight Bikes competitors, Ali Bahram was first in the Index 8.5 category, and Jehad Al Jamal won amongst the Super Street Bikes.

For more information on the 2021 Bahrain Drag Racing Championship, visit [bahraingp.com](http://bahraingp.com).

## Torres vs Santella confirmed as BRAVE CF 49 main event



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A rematch six months in the making will be headlining the stacked BRAVE CF 49: Super Fights card, scheduled for March 25 in Kombat Kingdom. Jose "Shorty" Torres will, once again, take on Sean "Shorty Rock" Santella, as part of the prestigious BRAVE CF Flyweight World Title tournament. On the line, a spot in the semifinals of the biggest-ever tournament in the weight-class.

The first encounter between the two men who share the nickname Shorty was an instant classic, ending up in a draw, and forcing an extra bout to the Flyweight tournament.

A two-time IMMAF World Champion, Jose Torres became a two-division champion in the USA circuit before joining the big leagues. A product of KHK MMA, Shorty boasts a

professional record of 9 wins, a single loss, and one draw.

Sean Santella might not have the same amateur track record as Torres but definitely stood out in the American circuit as much as his now back-to-back opponent. A multi-champion in the USA scene, Santella holds a pro record of 23 wins, 7 losses, and two draws.

The two top Flyweights will fight for a spot in the next round of the prestigious BRAVE CF Flyweight World Champion Tournament and the winner will certainly advance as a heavily favorite moving forward.

BRAVE CF 49 will take place on March 25, in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The event will be the third of four scheduled fight cards for Kombat Kingdom, in a series that will culminate in the historical 50th BRAVE CF card.

## B1 Hygiene back on board for Kombat Kingdom

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BRAVE Combat Federation welcomes B1 Group with B1 Hygiene back on board for the return of Kombat Kingdom to the Kingdom of Bahrain for the "21 days of mayhem" celebration taking place throughout the month of March up till the 1st of April.

B1 Group is a multi-activity business entity that provides turn-key solutions to medical, business, and agriculture sectors by providing clients with general trading, contracting, medical services, education technology, quality assurance,

business consultancy, training, and event management.

"B1 Group, is delighted to be a part of Kombat Kingdom; yet again to safeguard and help follow up all hygiene guidelines laid out by the World Health Organization," says Zainab Sulaibi, CEO B1 Hygiene Services.

The safety of everyone involved in the execution of events has always been key for BRAVE CF. With the risk of infections still arise, BRAVE CF is proud to have a notable company assist in maintaining the well being of everyone on board.

## BRAVE CF president excited by new signings and future of Super Welterweight

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BRAVE Combat Federation has beefed up its roster with a string of huge signings in the Super Welterweight division, which will now compete with the strong line-up already in place in the fastest-growing MMA organization in the world.

In the last few days, BRAVE CF has announced the signings of Ismail Naurdiev (20-4), Kamal Magomedov (8-0), Andreas Stahl (12-4), Nursulton Ruziboev (29-8-2) and Luis Felipe Dias (14-3). They join the likes of world champion Jarrah Al-Silawi (15-3), the best Arab MMA fighter of all time, former champion Abdoul Abdouraguimov (12-1), Kevin Ruat (9-3), and



BRAVE Combat Federation's decision to open up the Super Welterweight division was met with welcome arms from fighters, who now had a new option to compete at their optimal weight

other established BRAVE CF stars.

For president Mohammed Shahid, this will be one of the weight-classes to keep an eye on for the year, as the line-up of fighters will have the advantage of fighting at their optimal weight class.

"In 2021 my attention will be heavily on the Super Welterweight division (79,4kg/175 lbs). The fact that these athletes, who are either cutting too much weight or fighting in a weight-class that looks above their own, can now fight in a division that is optimal for them, will bring you one of the strongest and most exciting weight-classes. I just can't wait to see the new signings join the BRAVE CF Super Welterweight roster, with all of

them fighting in their best division. That's a list of world class killer fighters", said Shahid.

BRAVE Combat Federation's decision to open up the Super Welterweight division was met with welcome arms from fighters, who now had a new option to compete at their optimal weight. The 165-pound division (Super Lightweight) has been opened up with the same goal - to provide an option to fighters that feel as if they're too small for Lightweight (155-pounds), and too big for the traditional Welterweights, now have an opportunity to fight at an in-between weight with championship aspirations and worldwide recognition on the line.