

## SPORTS

## Bahrain's Brave CF to make Kyrgyzstan debut in partnership with WEF Global



TDI | Manama

**B**RAVE Combat Federation lands for the first time in Kyrgyzstan on December 14th, featuring a main event for the ages as two of the world's best Welterweights collide with Englishman Carl Booth making his much-anticipated return to the BRAVE CF fold. "The Bomber" will take on newcomer Hayder Hassan in Bishkek's first-ever international MMA event. The Bahraini-born brand will make its debut in a fourth country this year, after taking the Kingdom's name to new territories such as the Philippines, England, and Romania throughout 2019.

Also set for BRAVE CF 32 is the debut of Brazilian stand-out Daniel "Wilycat" Santos. The Chute Boxe Diego Lima product takes on local hero Nizambek Zhunusov in a Bantamweight feature bout.

Another Brazilian will also

make his debut as João Paulo Rodrigues, known for being Renan Barão's first conqueror. Rodrigues takes on Abdysalam Kubanychiev in a Super Lightweight fight.

Swedish standout Andreas Stahl is another debutant for BRAVE CF, as he looks to start his career in his new home with a win over Adis Taalaybek and extend his winning streak to three at Welterweight.

Rounding up the BRAVE CF 32 card, two other bouts for four debutants as Akhmed Shervaniev and Arturo Chavez meet at Featherweight while Light Heavyweights Bogdan Guskov and Nurlan Toktobakiev collide in the night's opening fight.

BRAVE CF 32 marks the first event of the partnership between BRAVE Combat Federation and star promotion WEF Global and will take place at the Sport Palace Kozhomkul.

### Brave Cf 32 Full Fight Card

Welterweight: Hayder Hassan vs Carl Booth  
 Super Lightweight: João Paulo Rodrigues vs Abdysalam Kubanychiev  
 Bantamweight: Daniel Santos vs Nizambek Zhunusov  
 Featherweight: Akhmed Shervaniev vs Arturo Chavez  
 Welterweight: Andreas Stahl vs Adis Taalaybek  
 Light Heavyweight: Bogdan Guskov vs Nurlan Toktobakiev

## Softball cricket returns to Indian Club

TDI | Manama

**T**he sound of bat on ball will once again be heard at The Indian Club as The Indian Club BMMI Indian Ex-pat 7-A-Side Softball Cricket Tournament 2019 gets underway at The Club's premises in Gudaibiya from Tuesday 10th December.

Always a popular event at The Indian Club, this year's tournament will no doubt attract a good entry as teams vie not only for the trophies and cash prizes on offer, but also the glory and bragging rights of coming out on top in India's no 1 sport.

Entry is now open; the entry fee is set at BD50 per team; each team will be allowed a

squad of 9 players, with 7 taking the field for each match; entries will close on 07th December. T-shirts for the teams will be provided by the Club. The number of entries will be limited, so best to enter sooner rather than later!

"This is always an exciting and enjoyable event, there are some really good cricketers in Bahrain and it's a great opportunity for these guys to showcase their talent whilst having a bit of fun as well; we are expecting a strong list of entries and look forward to some lively, tense evenings as the teams fight it out to take the winners' trophy," said Vicky Subramanya, The Indian Club's Sports Secretary - Football, Cricket, Hockey.

# BIC begins WEC countdown

BIC kicks off 10-day countdown to FIA WEC Bapco 8 Hours of Bahrain

TDI | Manama

**B**ahrain International Circuit (BIC) begins its final 10-day for the highly anticipated return of the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC), which will be taking place for the first time ever together with the BIC National Day Festival.

The four-day extravaganza is scheduled to take place December 13 to 16 at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", and it will be the biggest event held at BIC outside of the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix.

The WEC returns with the Bapco 8 Hours of Bahrain, extended from the six-hour race held at BIC in the past.

Both WEC and National Day will be open to the public from December 13, with WEC running for two days and the National Day celebrations offering four days of continuous entertainment, concluding on December 16.

Tickets are just BD1 per person per day and can be purchased online at BIC's official website [www.bahraingp.com](http://www.bahraingp.com), by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000 or at the BIC stand at City Centre Bahrain.

The Bapco 8 Hours of Bahrain marks the fourth round of the 2019/2020 FIA WEC season. The gruelling eight-hour event makes it the second-longest race on the WEC calendar, behind only the legendary 24 Hours of



Cars on track during a race at BIC (file photo)

Le Mans. Just as in previous seasons, there will be competition in four categories, comprising the Le Mans Prototype 1 (LMP1), LMP2, Le Mans Grand Touring Endurance (LMGTE) Pro and the LMGTE Amateur classes.

Among the leading sports prototype car brands to look forward to in the LMP classes are Toyota, Ginetta, Rebellion, Alpine, Oreca and Dallara. The GT cars that are set to take to the track in the LMGTE classes include the Ferrari 488 GTE Evo, the Porsche 911 RSR-19 and the Aston Martin Vintage AMR.

Motor racing fans attending the FIA WEC Bapco 8 Hours of Bahrain will be able to enjoy an Open Paddock experience, offering a behind the scenes spectacle of the race experience. All racing will be open to the public



**The gruelling eight-hour event makes it the second-longest race on the WEC calendar, behind only the legendary 24 Hours of Le Mans**

on 13 and 14 December, with the race set to get underway at 3pm on Saturday.

Aside from the WEC, there will also be racing in racing in two highly popular support

series: the MRF Challenge single-seater championship from India and the BIC-based Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East.

Off the race track, the entertainment throughout the four-day festival will be highlighted by nightly concerts featuring some of the region's biggest names in music. They include star singers Balqees, Mohammed Al Salem, Essa Al Marzouq and Abdulla Al Rowaished.

There will also be the biggest fireworks display in the Kingdom of Bahrain, world-class performing artists from around the globe such as The Black Angels acrobats, Spark! LED Drummers and Stannage International Stunt Team, plus carnival rides for kids, traditional music, food stalls and a shopping bazaar.

## Lyon takes five as Australia thrash Pakistan with day to spare



Australia celebrate taking the final wicket

AFP | Sydney

**S**pin king Nathan Lyon snared five wickets, including dangerous half-century makers Shan Masood and Asad Shafiq, as Australia wore down a stubborn Pakistan to clinch the second Test and wrap up the series 2-0 yesterday.

Pakistan resumed day four of the day-night match on a precarious 39 for three with Masood not out 14 and Shafiq on eight after being bowled out for 302 in their first innings and forced to follow on.

It followed Australia's mammoth 589 for three declared, built around David Warner's exceptional 335 not out -- the 10th highest Test score of all time.

## Federer to have Swiss coin minted in his honour

Reuters | Zurich

**T**ennis great Roger Federer is to become the first living Swiss to have a coin minted in their honour, with a commemorative 20 franc (\$20.06) silver piece bearing his image being issued in January.

The 38-year-old 20-time Grand Slam champion is regarded by many as the greatest tennis player ever and is a national hero in Switzerland.

Swissmint confirmed that 55,000 of the coins, featuring Federer delivering a backhand, will be produced and will be available for pre-order from Tuesday until Dec. 19.

"Roger Federer's sporting achievements, his charitable commitments, his easy-going nature and his accessibility to his fans have prompted Swissmint to dedicate this 20-franc silver coin to him -- the first time it has done so with a living person," a Swissmint spokesperson

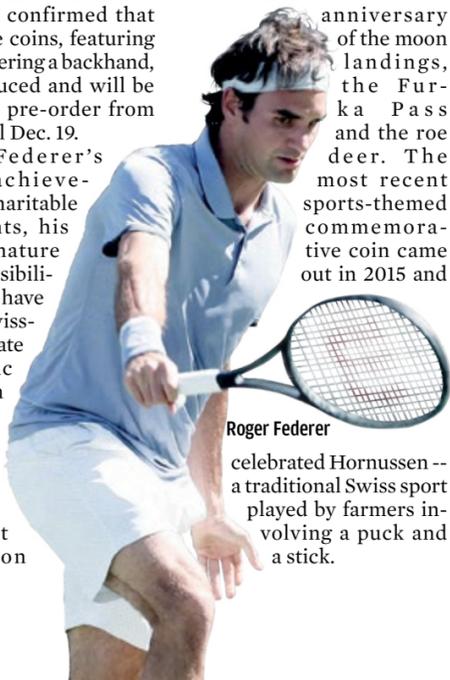
told Reuters.

With demand expected to be high, Swissmint said another 40,000 coins could be issued in May while a 50 franc gold coin, featuring a different design would also be produced next year.

"Thank you Switzerland and Swissmint for this incredible honour and privilege," Federer wrote on Twitter.

This year's commemorative Swiss coins included the 50th

anniversary of the moon landings, the Furka Pass and the roe deer. The most recent sports-themed commemorative coin came out in 2015 and



Roger Federer

celebrated Hornussen -- a traditional Swiss sport played by farmers involving a puck and a stick.

## Root delight as his 226 sets up England final day push



Ollie Pope and Joe Root run between the wickets

AFP | Auckland

**J**oe Root could not hide his delight after a masterful 226 ended his run drought and gave England a much-needed boost in the second Test against New Zealand yesterday as they ended day four believing they can square the series.

It took a five-wicket haul for the tireless Neil Wagner to bring England's first innings to an end at 476, a lead of 101.

At stumps, New Zealand were 96 for two and needing to bat late into the final day although rain may yet have the last word with further showers forecast for Tuesday.

"It felt good," a beaming Root said as he put a stream of low scores behind him.