

Mohammed-Khonji pair face Ahmed-Hassan duo in Super Doubles final



Abdullatif Mohammed, right, and Nasser Khonji



Salman Hassan, right, and Abdulla Mohammed Ahmed

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Abdullatif Mohammed and Nasser Khonji are set to take on Abdulla Mohammed Ahmed and Salman Hassan tonight in the final of the Super Doubles of the BTC Ramadan Tennis Tournament 2021, organised by Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC).

The match is scheduled for a 9.30pm start, and it will be played at BTC's newly inau-

gurated centre court, which features a state-of-the-art grandstand.

The Mohammed-Khonji pair advanced to the title decider after a semi-final win over the pairing of Khalid Yaqoom and Salah Al Najjar, while the Ahmed-Hassan tandem overcame the team of Ali Khonji and Ahmed Janahi.

Following tonight's final match, the awarding and closing ceremony will be held.

Bahrain set for Ukraine mini-training camp

Senior men's national team to face their European counterparts in an international friendly match on May 23 in the city of Kharkiv

- Mini training camp to be held from May 20 to 24 as part of Bahrainis' preparations for joint-qualifiers for FIFA World Cup 2022 and AFC Asian Cup 2023

- Prior to flying to Kiev, national team head coach Helio Sousa expected to begin training locally from May 15

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Bahrain's senior men's national football team will make a five-day trip to Ukraine later this month where they will play an international friendly match against their European hosts on May 23.

This was confirmed yesterday by a team official, who said that the Bahraini squad will be in Kiev from May 20 to 24.

During this period, they will face their Ukrainian counterparts at the Metalist Oblast Sports Complex stadium in the city of Kharkiv.

The game will be part of both teams' preparations for their upcoming international matches, which, for the Bahrainis, include their remaining joint-qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup 2022 and AFC Asian Cup 2023.

The Ukraine friendly is their first of two in the last week of May. They also face off with Malaysia at home on May 28.

Bahrain, coached by Portuguese tactician Helio Sousa, are expected to begin a local



Bahrain national team star Abdulwahab Al Malood in action during a training session held earlier this year (file photo)

training camp on May 15 before flying to Europe.

Sousa has yet to name the squad that he will call up for this crucial period, as Bahrain's three remaining joint-qualifiers are scheduled to be held in June.

They will be played in the Kingdom after the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) named Bahrain as the centralised venue for Group C, which also includes Iraq, Iran, Cambodia and Hong Kong.

Bahrain are set to go against Cambodia on June 3, Iran on June 7 and then Hong Kong on June 15.

Bahrain are currently second in their division with nine points, having won two matches and drawn thrice. Iraq are the



Bahrain's tune-up game with Ukraine is their first of two international friendlies in the last week of this month. They also face off with Malaysia at home on May 28

leaders with 11 points after winning three games and drawing two other times.

Iran are third with six points but have played just three matches so far and have two wins and two losses. Hong Kong and Cambodia completed the Group C table with five points and one point, respectively.

There are eight groups in all in this round of qualifiers, with five nations in each group. The other centralised venues selected by the AFC are China for Group A, Kuwait for Group B, Saudi Arabia for Group D, Qatar for Group E, Japan for Group F, the UAE for Group G and South Korea for Group H.

At the end of this stage of qualification, the eight group winners and the four best runners-up advance to the third round of World Cup qualifying, and also secure their berths in the Asian Cup. The next best 24 teams will compete in a separate competition for the remaining 12 slots in the Asian Cup.

Bahrain gearing up for Arab Futsal Cup

- Bahrain drawn in Group A with hosts Egypt, Kuwait and Mauritania

- National team currently preparing locally for competition, which takes place in Egypt May 20 to 30

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Bahrain have been drawn in Group A for the upcoming fifth Arab Futsal Cup 2021.

The competition is scheduled to be held in Egypt from May 20 to 30.

The nationals are in the same division as the hosts, Kuwait and Mauritania for the opening stage. Group B consists of Morocco, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Comoros.

The Bahrainis kick off their campaign on opening night against their Kuwaiti counterparts. Egypt and Mauritania face off in the group's other game that night.

All four teams are back on the playing court on May 22, when Bahrain play Mauritania and Egypt go against Kuwait.

The final Group A games are



Bahrain futsal team players during training

then scheduled for May 24. The Bahrainis play their Egyptian counterparts that evening, while Mauritania take on Kuwait.

The top two teams from each group at the end of this opening phase move on to the semi-finals, which are scheduled for May 27.

The final will then be held on May 29.

Bahrain's national futsal team are currently training locally for the competition.

The draw for the cup was held late Monday night at the Union of Arab Football Associations headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The Arab Futsal Cup was last held in 2008, also in Egypt, when Libya were crowned back-to-back champions, after having also won in 2007.

Egypt won the tournament's first two editions, held in 1998 and 2005. They also were the runners-up the two previous times.

Al Najma lift BBA Cup



Manama players and officials during the awarding ceremony

- Najma claim tournament trophy with 66-48 win over Manama in final

- CJ Giles and Fadalallah Abbas combine for 40 points to lead Najma, finishing with 20 apiece

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Al Najma were crowned champions of the 2020/2021 Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) Cup.

They clinched the title after defeating Manama 66-48 in the single-game final, played late Tuesday night at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hassam.

Najma led 20-18 at the end of the first period, which they stretched to a 31-24 advantage heading into the half. They then enjoyed a 13-point gap, 50-37, after three quarters,

before cruising in the final canto.

CJ Giles and Fadalallah Abbas top scored for the victors with 20 points apiece, while Qasim Hassan added 11.

Sadeq Shukrallah led Manama in the loss with 18, while Ahmed Najaf added 14.

BBA president Waleed Al Alawi was on hand to present both teams their respective medals and trophies in an awarding ceremony that followed the game.