

Mokaev vs McVeigh bout gets Fight of the Night honours at BRAVE CF 37



TDT | Manama

The explosive match-up between the two debutants stole the show at BRAVE CF 37, last Saturday, in Sweden. Muhammad Mokaev’s dominant performance was coupled with Glenn McVeigh’s valiant effort, after signing on to fight the number one pound-for-pound amateur fighter in the world on two days’ notice, to produce an amazing contest that left fans from around the world impressed with the potential of both fighters.

The duo was compensated with a Fight of the Night bonus from BRAVE CF president Mohammed Shahid, as the best bout of a stacked BRAVE CF 37, which had several moments of brilliance, from the head kick KO of Bianca Antman to the perfect rear-naked choke locked in by Louis Glismann in the main event against Henri Lintula.

However, the added drama between both young men brought up by McVeigh’s aggressive call-out on social media, and their clash on the lobby of the host hotel in Stockholm and during the staredowns after the weigh-ins, made that bout have the highest-stake in the card.

Mokaev was dominant throughout showing flashes of his brilliant cage control, as well as perfect takedown timing, while McVeigh had a few moments to let the world know that when he has a full camp under his belt, he will be a problem for all Bantamweights.

This week, Mohammed Shahid has confirmed that Mokaev’s next fight will take place on BRAVE CF’s debut in Poland, set for September 5th, while the BRAVE CF president has also indicated his willingness to sign McVeigh permanently.

Bahrain to host AFC Cup Group A matches

● Manama Club set to compete at home, while fellow-Bahraini side Riffa will be playing in Jordan in Group C of the continental competition this October/November

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Bahrain will be hosting the remaining Group A matches of this year’s AFC Cup later this year, it was confirmed yesterday.

This follows an official letter received by the Bahrain Football Association (BFA) from the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), informing the BFA of the decision.

The games are scheduled to be played from October 26 to November 4, the AFC stated.

Bahraini club Manama are competing in Group A of the competition, along with Al Jaish of Syria, Al Ahed FC of Lebanon and Hilal Alquds Club of Palestine.

The clubs have already played two matches apiece, with Manama and Jaish currently deadlocked on the division table with four points each. Ahed are third with three points and Hilal Alquds fourth with



AFC Cup trophy is seen in front of a screen displaying the results of the group stage draw (file photo)

zero.

According to the current schedule of remaining games, Manama next take on Hilal Alquds on October 26 before facing each other once again on October 29.

Manama then play against Jaish on November 1, and then take to the pitch for their final group encounter against Ahed on November 4.

Manama are one of two Bahraini clubs competing in this

year’s AFC Cup. Riffa are the other, and they are playing in Group C alongside Qadsia SC of Kuwait, Dhofar Club of Oman and Al Jazeera of Jordan.

According to the AFC, these matches are set to take place in Amman, also from October 26 to November 4.

Riffa are currently tied on their division standings with Qadsia and Dhofar on three points apiece. Jazeera have zero. Riffa have four games to play.

36

sides from all over Asia taking part in this year's AFC group stage, including two from Bahrain

On October 26, they face Dhofar before playing the return game against the Omanis on October 29. The Bahrainis then battle Qadsia on November 1 and then go head to head with Jazeera in their concluding game on November 4.

The AFC Cup is an annual continental club competition organised by the AFC. The competing teams are those who were unable to qualify for the AFC Champions League. There are a total of 36 sides from all over Asia taking part in this year’s group stage.

Both Manama and Riffa need to finish amongst their group’s top two teams to have any chance of advancing past this stage.

This year’s AFC Cup kicked off in February but has been delayed due to the global coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

BRAVE CF introduces most stacked fight card from the “European Invasion” this Saturday

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A former champion looking for revenge, a one-time title challenger in search of validation; two explosive Super Lightweight bouts that highlight the need for a 74kg weight class; and the next two big things at Bantamweight. This is the main card of BRAVE CF 38, headlined by Abdoul Abdouraguimov and Carl Booth and taking place this Saturday, in Stockholm, Sweden.

Abdoul is coming off back-to-back battles with the current Welterweight titleholder Jarrah Al-Selawe, who handed him his first pro loss in their last encounter. “The Conqueror”, one of the most underrated submission artists in Europe, is looking to get a third crack at “The Jordanian Lion” with a win over Booth.

The Englishman has been on a tear as of late, after being so close to BRAVE CF gold. At BRAVE CF 8, he was supposed to face Mohammad Fakhredine for the first-ever Welterweight title, but his opponent fell ill during his weight cut, and Carlston Harris stepped in, stifling Booth’s striking with his wrestling.

Carl then fought Al-Selawe for the second time - after beating the current champ by KO before BRAVE CF. This time,



BRAVE CF 38 Full Fight Card

- Welterweight: Abdoul Abdouraguimov vs Carl Booth
- Super Lightweight: Benoit St. Denis vs Mario Saeed
- Bantamweight: Bernardo Sopai vs Tariq Ismail
- Super Lightweight: Issa Isakov vs Djamal Chan
- Flyweight: Malin Hermansson vs Elin Oberg
- Catchweight: Dilmurod Movlonov vs David Jacobsson
- Catchweight: Joakim Jankovic vs Robert Nystrom
- Bantamweight: Jonny Touma vs Moher Azizi
- Catchweight: PK Zadeh vs Wasiu Idowu

however, Jarrah was the better man, beating Booth by decision.

back and work on his defensive wrestling which has been showcased in his latest wins, over tough Dino Bagattin and Hayder Hassan.

In the Super Lightweight division, two pivotal bouts take center stage at BRAVE CF 38, which showcases why this weight-class is so important for the sport. Too big for Lightweight, too small for Welterweight, both Mario Saeed and Benoit St. Denis hope to thrive at 165lbs, with a view to challenging champ Eldar Eldarov.

The same can be said about Dutch striker Djamal Chan and grappler Issa Isakov. Even though both men are coming off losses, they hope to use BRAVE CF 38 to kickstart their career, as they found themselves in the same predicament as their co-main event counterparts.

In the Bantamweight division, a young, hungry fighter will have the chance to mix it up with an established contender. Bernardo Sopai is only 21, but has been dominating the local scene in Greece and Albania, and will have his shot at the international stage. He will take on Tariq Ismail, who’s truly one of the most underrated Bantamweights in the world, and has shown in his first two BRAVE CF appearances that he’s dangerous at 135lbs and 145lbs.

HH Shaikh Nasser calls for taking safety measures before resuming sports

TDT | Manama

Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, has stressed that the resumption of sports activities, in general, and the Nasser bin Hamad Football Premier League, in particular, indicates that life in Bahrain is back to normal gradually.

HH Shaikh Nasser stressed the importance of implementing the decisions of the Government Executive Committee, chaired by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, to allow the resumption of sports

activities without spectators.

He also stressed the need to adhere to the recommendations made by the National Medical Taskforce for Combating Coronavirus and the guidelines issued by the Youth and Sports Affairs Ministry to protect the health and safety of the sports movement affiliates.

HH Shaikh Nasser pointed out that the resumption of football competitions in the kingdom indicates that Bahrain is on the right track towards returning to normalcy, calling on the sports community to be more aware and disciplined through full commitment to the precautionary measures put forward by the competent authorities to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Bale left out by Zidane for Man City test

AFF | Madrid

Gareth Bale has been left out of Real Madrid’s squad for their Champions League last 16 second leg against Manchester City on Friday.

Zinedine Zidane named 24 players on Wednesday for the trip to Manchester, where Madrid are aiming to overturn a 2-1 first-leg defeat to reach the quarter-finals.

Sergio Ramos will travel

with the squad, Madrid confirmed, despite being suspended for the fixture.

Bale, 31, was not on the list, adding another low-point to a turbulent season for the Welshman, who has hardly featured for Madrid this year.

Despite Madrid storming to the La Liga title, Bale made only two appearances during the 11 games after La Liga resumed, one of them from the start.