

Police Traffic team wins futsal title

Bahrain’s Chief of Police attended the tournament finale and praised the Interior Ministry’s continued support for police sports

● The championship is part of efforts to strengthen the physical fitness of police personnel

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Bahrain’s Chief of Police, Lieutenant-General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan, attended the closing ceremony of the Police Open Futsal Championship, organized by the Police Sports Federation at the Bahrain Handball Federation Hall. The General Directorate of Traffic won the championship after defeating the Coast Guard team 7-3 in the final.

On the occasion, Lt.-Gen. Al Hassan praised the directives of Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa to provide the resources and facilities needed to organize distinguished sporting events



and tournaments. He said the minister’s continued support for sports and athletes across all Ministry of Interior teams has contributed significantly to achieving advanced positions in numerous local and international sporting competitions.

The Chief of Police also commended the standard of performance, fair competition and sportsmanship displayed throughout the tournament. He thanked the Police Sports

Federation and everyone who contributed to the successful organization and preparation of the championship.

Brigadier Khalid Abdulaziz Al Khayat, President of the Police Sports Federation, expressed his appreciation to the Chief of Police for attending the closing ceremony. He also praised his continued support for the federation’s sporting activities, which are carried out under its sports plan aimed at enhancing



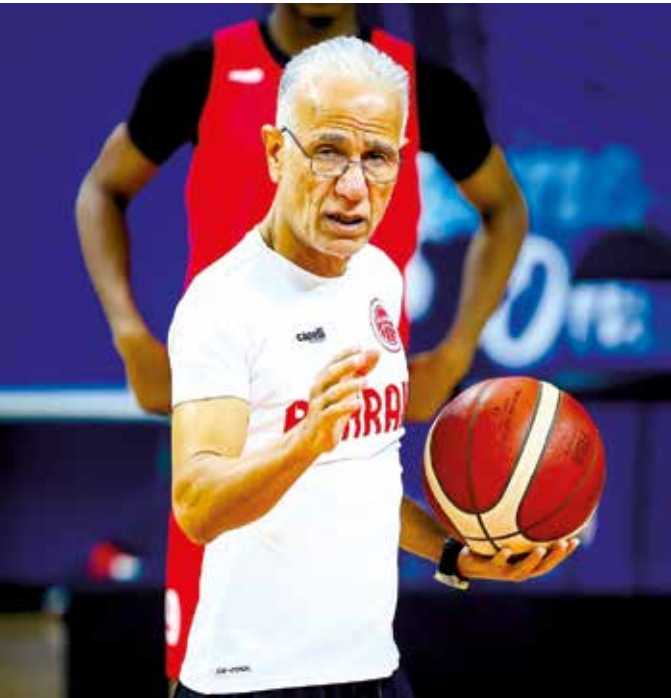
the physical capabilities of police personnel.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Chief of Police presented the championship trophy to the winning team. He

also honored representatives of organizations that contributed to the tournament’s success, including Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar, Chief Executive of the General Sports Authority; Majdi

Mirza Hussain, Secretary-General of the Bahrain Handball Federation; and Abdullah Mansour, Vice President of Al Shabab Sports Club, wishing them continued success.

Bahrain counting down to FIBA U18 Asia Cup



Coach Salman Ramadhan

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Bahrain’s youth men’s national basketball team are entering the final stages of their preparations for the FIBA U18 Asia Cup 2026, with the continental championship set to tip off in Ahmedabad, India, on August 13.

The reigning Arab and Gulf champions have been training at the Bahrain Basketball Association Arena in Um Al Hassam under head coach Salman Ramadhan and his technical staff as they fine-tune their preparations ahead of the tournament.

The squad is scheduled to depart for India tomorrow, where they will compete against some of Asia’s strongest basketball nations in the 16-team championship.

Bahrain have been drawn in Group B alongside Lebanon, New Zealand and Syria.

Group A consists of defending champions Australia, Chinese Taipei, the Philippines and Thailand. Group C features China, Iran, Qatar and

Sri Lanka, while Group D includes South Korea, Japan, hosts India and Kazakhstan.

The Bahrainis will begin their campaign against Lebanon on the opening day before taking on New Zealand on August 15. They will complete the group stage against Syria on August 17.

The winners of each group will advance directly to the quarter-finals, while the teams finishing second and third will contest a play-in round on August 20 for the remaining places in the last eight.

The quarter-finals are scheduled for August 21, followed by the semi-finals on August 22.

A place in the final four will also secure qualification for the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2027, which will be held in Pardubice, Czechia, from June 26 to July 4 next year.

The tournament concludes on August 23, when the gold and bronze medal games, along with the final classification matches, will be played.

Youth handball team step up Asian Championship preparations

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s U19 men’s handball national team have departed for Kuwait for a week-long overseas training camp as they enter the final stage of preparations for the 11th Asian Men’s Youth Handball Championship.

The camp will provide the national team with valuable match practice, with Bahrain set to play two friendly fixtures against their Kuwaiti counterparts as they continue fine-tuning their preparations for the continental tournament, which will be held in Amman, Jordan, from August 20 to 31.

The Asian championship will also serve as the qualifying event for the 2027 IHF Men’s Youth Handball World Championship, with the top four teams earning places at the global tournament.

Bahrain have been handed a challenging draw, with the two-time champions placed in



Action from a local training session

Group A alongside defending champions Japan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Chinese Taipei. Group B features South Ko-

rea, Kuwait, Iran, hosts Jordan, Syria and India.

The draw was conducted by the Asian Handball Federation after the tournament was relocated from its original host city of Andijan, Uzbekistan, to the Jordanian capital.

Bahrain will be making their 10th appearance at the Asian U19 Championship, having missed only the 2006 edition.

The kingdom has enjoyed considerable success in the competition, winning back-to-back continental titles in 2016 and 2018, while also securing a bronze medal in 2010. Bahrain have finished among the top five in every other appearance, underlining their consistency as one of Asia’s leading youth handball nations.

The Kuwait camp is expected to play a key role in Bahrain’s final preparations as they look to make a strong impact in Amman and secure qualification for the World Championship.

3x3 teams receive boost ahead of Singapore challenge

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) president His Excellency Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, accompanied by members of the Board of Directors, visited the training sessions of Bahrain’s national men’s and women’s U23 3x3 basketball teams as they continue preparations for the FIBA 3x3 Youth Nations League 2026.

The visit provided BBA officials with an opportunity to review the teams’ preparation programmes and assess their readiness ahead of the tournament, which will be held in Singapore from August 20 to 26.

Bahrain will compete in the Asia West/Pacific stop alongside Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, Australia and hosts Singapore, with all six nations



BBA officials with Bahrain's women's U23 3x3 basketball team

participating in both the men’s and women’s categories.

During the visit, Shaikh Mohammed and the board members met with the technical and administrative staff, as well as the players, reaffirming their support for both teams and wishing them success as they aim to showcase the continued growth of Bahraini basketball.

The tournament will mark

Bahrain’s first appearance in the FIBA 3x3 Youth Nations League, a competition designed by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) to develop emerging 3x3 basketball talent through international competition.

The Singapore event will also serve as a qualifying tournament for the FIBA 3x3 U23 World Cup, which will be held in Hubei,

China, from September 15 to 19.

Both teams have been following an intensive preparation programme, including participation in the Bahrain 3x3 Summer Tournament, as well as the Lite Quest and Quest competitions. The matches have provided valuable experience as Bahrain look to enter the Asian competition in the best possible shape.