

Fakhreddine to face Cortese in Romania

Mohammad Fakhreddine returns against Enrico Cortese, headlines BRAVE CF 35 in Bucharest

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BRAVE Combat Federation will return to action on July 20th, as BRAVE CF 35 takes place in Bucharest, Romania, in association with RXF. The fight card will be headlined by a Middleweight clash between Mohammad "The Latest" Fakhreddine and Enrico "The Killing Machine" Cortese. The winner of that fight will be in pole position to challenge reigning Middleweight world champion Daniel "Gaicho" Souza, as both Fakhreddine and Cortese look to make history by becoming the first world champions from Lebanon and Italy.

Lebanon's Fakhreddine is one of the Middle East's biggest stars and has fought for BRAVE CF since March of 2017, when he made a victorious debut against Vinicius Cruz in Abu Dhabi, at BRAVE CF 4. "The Latest" then credentialed himself for a title shot at Welterweight with another victory at BRAVE CF 6, but fell ill during the weight cut and didn't compete for the belt.

He then developed one of BRAVE CF's fiercest rivalries with Tahar Hadbi, fighting the French-Algerian twice (one No Contest and one loss). Fakhreddine then decided to reinvent himself and move up to Middleweight. He even fought at the first-ever KHK Open Weight world championship, losing in the final match-up to Azamat Murzakanov, and has been gearing up for a comeback.

Meanwhile, Cortese made



BRAVE CF 35 Fight Card

Middleweight: Mohammad Fakhreddine vs Enrico Cortese
Lightweight: Abou Tounkara vs Andrey Barbarosa
Heavyweight: Mamadou Lamine Sene vs Ion Grigore
Women's Flyweight: Malin Hermansson vs Ana Maria Pal

headlines late last year when he dominated Jorick Montagnac at BRAVE CF 30, in India. The Italian prospect, who's only 22, improved to 6-2-0, 1 NC, and is now riding a five-fight win streak as he gets ready for the biggest fight of his life on July 20th.

The co-main event of the evening will feature two debutants, as Lightweight Abou Tounkara, from Bulgaria Top Team, takes on Moldova's own Andrey Barbarosa. Also on deck

for the fight card is a Heavyweight bout between Mamadou Lamine Sene and Ion Grigore.

Rounding out the fight card is a Women's Flyweight bout as Malin Hermansson makes her BRAVE CF debut against local star Ana Maria Pal.

BRAVE CF 35 will be the first show back following the COVID-19 outbreak. It will have no live audience and will be under strict national and international health guidelines and regulations.

Basketball federation sets dates for return to play

Zain league to begin Golden Square in mid-August, mid-September resumption for Khalifa bin Salman Cup

● Only 20 members per club, including players and team staff, will be allowed to enter the arena for each game

● October 10 start for 2020/2021 campaign, just two weeks after end of current season



BBA president Talal Kanoo



BBA secretary general Ahmed Yousuf

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The Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) announced last night a mid-August return to action in the 2019/2020 Zain Bahrain Basketball League, and a mid-September resumption of the prestigious Khalifa bin Salman Cup.

This comes following the decision of the Government Executive Committee, headed by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, to allow for national leagues to return, without fans in attendance.

The BBA said that league play will see games in the Golden Square semi-final round from August 18 to 24 in a pair of best-of-three series, to be followed by the title-deciding round set for September 4 to 10, also in a best-of-three format.

Meanwhile, the Khalifa bin Salman Cup will hold its quarter-final games on September 13 and 14, with a pair of best-of-three final four match-ups held from September 17 to 23.



BBA decided to cancel the remaining games of the Silver League, which features the Kingdom's bottom-ranked clubs from the past season

The one-game final will then be held on September 26, marking the official end of the 2019/2020 season.

The decisions came following a meeting of the BBA's board of directors yesterday, headed by BBA president Talal Kanoo.

BBA secretary general Ahmed Yousuf said that the board's decisions were made according to the procedures approved by the Bahrain Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs.

He added that clubs will be allowed to sign foreign professional players for the remaining games.

Furthermore, he noted that all clubs must strictly adhere to all health and safety measures issued by the BOC and Sports Ministry in participating.

Only 20 team members per club, including players, along with technical and administrative staff members, will be allowed to enter the playing arena for each game. Five board directors apiece will also be permitted.

No participants will be allowed to enter the arena if their body temperature is 37.5 degrees Celsius or above.

Also at yesterday's meeting, the BBA decided to cancel the remaining games of the Silver League, which features the Kingdom's bottom-ranked clubs from the past season.

It was further announced that the 2020/2021 campaign is scheduled to begin on October 10, just two weeks after Khalifa bin Salman Cup final.

BRAVE CF back to representing Bahrain on the global stage

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BRAVE Combat Federation, a product of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa's vision, is back to holding events across the world, taking the Kingdom of Bahrain's name to the highest places in sports.

The announcement was recently made by BRAVE CF president Mohammed Shahid, who reinforced that the fastest-growing MMA organization on the planet will be back at the end of the month, with shows in Romania. It will become one of the first sports properties to return to action with the Covid-19 pandemic, following all of the national and international guidelines to guarantee a safe environment for athletes and staff.

The European invasion will continue after two shows in Bucharest, with Sweden also being home to a BRAVE CF event. In September and October, respectively, Poland and Belgium will also host fight nights.

Largest exposure platform for Bahrain

As a Bahrain-born sports



BRAVE Combat Federation serves as the biggest sports media property in the Middle East. No other regional-born brand has made a worldwide impact in so little time

world. So far, BRAVE CF has travelled to 19 countries in seven different regions across its 34 events.

In all of those shows, BRAVE Combat Federation makes sure to provide local fans, dignitaries and celebrities with the best action in mixed martial arts, while giving Bahrain the international exposure it deserves, aiding in

the development of international relationships, tourism, and trade. BRAVE CF is the biggest exposure platform for Bahrain across the world, also because of its reach - the organization has TV deals with broadcasting giants in several key markets as well as local deals with some of the biggest networks in the countries the promotion visits.

Biggest sports media property in the Middle East

Under the KHK Sports umbrella, BRAVE Combat Federation also serves as the biggest sports media property in the Middle East. No other regional-born brand has made a worldwide impact in so little time.

Founded in 2016, it took BRAVE CF less than four years to achieve numerous milestones in its reach, giving Africa its first taste of international MMA, while also setting strong footprints on combat sports traditional markets, such as Brazil, England, and Mexico.

BRAVE CF has hosted shows in Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, and South America, as

well as the Middle East.

Fastest-growing MMA promotion in the world

In a little over three years of being in operations, BRAVE Combat Federation has achieved what no other organization in the world of MMA was able to achieve in the same timeframe. With 34 events held in 19 countries (with three new destinations confirmed), BRAVE CF has become the only truly global promotion.

In all of these nations, BRAVE Combat Federation makes it a point of pushing the envelope when it comes to finding new talent, developing the sport on a national scale, as well as empowering local federations and governing bodies to take mixed martial arts and combat sports to a new level.

BRAVE CF's mission is to develop the sport globally, and that includes going to places where no other promotion has gone, and kickstart a true sports revolution by giving local fighters the global platform to showcase their talents, providing young athletes with a pathway to success.