

# Royal Horse, Godolphin triumph at Bahrain Trophy



TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain-sponsored Bahrain Trophy meeting was staged at Newmarket Racecourse during the July Festival, with King Charles III and Queen Camilla's horse Point Of Law and the Godolphin stable emerg-

ing among the day's winners. The event, held as part of celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC), was attended by Bahrain's ambassador to the United Kingdom, Shaikh Fawaz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Sustainable Development Minister Noor bint Ali

Alkhulaif, and REHC acting chief executive Yusuf Osama Buhiji, alongside senior club officials and international racing guests.

Point Of Law, trained by John and Thady Gosden and ridden by James Doyle, captured the Bahrain Trophy Stakes, with REHC officials presenting the trophy to representatives of the roy-

al owners. Godolphin enjoyed a double success as Inner City Blues, trained by Charlie Appleby and ridden by William Buick, claimed the Kingdom of Bahrain July Stakes, before Rebel's Romance, also trained by Appleby and partnered by Buick, won the Princess of Wales's Stakes, sponsored by Kingdom of Bahrain.

Buhiji said Bahrain's continued sponsorship of the Newmarket races reflected the close relationship between Bahrain and the United Kingdom, particularly in equestrian sport and horse racing. He added that the initiative forms part of the kingdom's broader efforts to strengthen its international presence in the

sport while promoting Bahrain as a destination for investment and tourism through major global racing events.

Bahrain also sponsors several leading European horse races, including the Bahrain-Ireland Race Series at Leopardstown in Ireland, as part of its international horseracing programme.

## Jose Mourinho begins Real Madrid culture 'mission'



Jose Mourinho reacts during a match (file photo)

AFP | Madrid

New Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho said yesterday he is on a "mission" to create the right culture at the club during his second spell in charge.

The veteran Portuguese was at the club's training ground overseeing preparations for the start of pre-season next week, after he was named Alvaro Arbeloa's successor in June.

Los Blancos failed to win a major trophy in the last two seasons and Mourinho's appointment has widely been viewed as president Florentino Perez trying to restore order and discipline to the dressing room.

"Words are not enough because this is like a mission," Mourinho told Real Madrid TV.

# Zverev ends wildcard Fery's run to reach first Wimbledon final

AFP | London

French Open champion Alexander Zverev ended the remarkable run of British wildcard Arthur Fery with a dominant semi-final victory yesterday to reach his first Wimbledon final.

The second seed will face either reigning champion Jannik Sinner or seven-time winner Novak Djokovic for the title on Sunday after seeing off Fery 7-6 (7/0), 6-2, 6-4 on Centre Court.

Zverev is the first German man to reach the final at the All England Club since Boris Becker in 1995.

He stands one win from ending his nation's 35-year wait for a men's Wimbledon champion since Michael Stich lifted the trophy.

The 29-year-old is also only the third man in the Open era to win a maiden Grand Slam title, which he achieved at Roland Garros last month, and then reach the final of his next major tournament.

He had never even got past the last 16 in nine previous visits to the All England Club.

Zverev will face a much tougher examination in his fifth Slam final against the winner of



Germany's Alexander Zverev returns to Britain's Arthur Fery

yesterday's second last-four tie between Sinner and Djokovic.

He has lost his last nine meetings with world number one Sinner, including last year's Australian Open final.

Zverev also only has one win from five Grand Slam matches against Djokovic, which was when the 24-time major cham-

pion retired injured after one set of their 2025 semi-final in Melbourne.

Fery was the first wildcard to reach the Wimbledon men's semis since Goran Ivanisevic 25 years ago, but his hopes of emulating the popular Croat by going all the way were dashed by a ruthless Zverev.

The home crowd's new hero will be able to console himself with the a rise from 114th to 36th in the ATP rankings, guaranteeing entry into tennis' biggest events.

The British dream of a first men's finalist since Andy Murray won his second title in 2016 looked alive when Fery respond-

ed immediately to an early break from Zverev.

But the world number three quietened the crowd with a brilliant tie-break, racing through it with a flurry of blistering serves and groundstrokes.

Fery managed three winners in a one-sided second set as Zverev took total control of the semi-final.

Zverev broke in the fifth game of the third set, before comfortably getting over the finish line on serve to book his spot in a final which Fery will have to watch from home on his 24th birthday.



Fery was the first wildcard to reach the Wimbledon men's semi-finals since Goran Ivanisevic 25 years ago, and will rise from 114th to 36th in the ATP rankings

# Youth handball team face UAE before Asian test

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's youth handball team will face the UAE in Dubai on Saturday in one last test before their Asian Championship campaign in China, where four places at the 2027 World Championship are up for grabs.

The squad flew to the Emirates in the early hours of yesterday and will play the hosts the following day before heading straight to Xuzhou for the 19th Asian Youth Championship, which runs from July 15



Bahrain youth handball team

to 27.

Bahrain begin against Chinese Taipei on Wednesday. Saudi Arabia come next, followed by Hong Kong and Oman, before a final group match against host nation China.

The new format sends the top four sides in the group into the quarter-finals. From there, one defeat means elimination, with the four remaining teams earning Asia's places at the World Championship.

Head coach Hussam Madan has named an 18-man squad for the trip. He will be aided by as-

sistant coach Jaffar Abdulqader, goalkeeping coach Makram Al Missawi, team administrator Ali Radhi and physiotherapist Kareem Hassan.

The squad is made up of Ali Al Mahroos, Ahmed Al Samahiji, Sayed Majeed Al Mahafdh, Abbas Hussain, Ahmed Eid, Ahmed Abdulla, Mahdi Jaffar, Salman Al Shuwaikh, Mahmood Jaleel, Hassan Saif, Sayed Ahmed Al Fallahi, Mohammed Haitham, Abu Darr Jaffar, Ali Sami, Mohammed Zuhair, Fadhel Abbas, Haider Mohammed and Hassan Khatem.