

BIC wraps up another incredible National Race Day season



● Ali Almansoori dominates Bahrain Touring Car Challenge

● Al Sulaiti and Al Darwish claim victories in Bahrain Motorcycle Championship

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', hosted a thrilling seventh and final round of National Race Day (NRD) over the weekend, wrapping up an incredible 2025/2026 season of local racing.

The event featured an ac-

tion-packed double-header under lights, with the Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) and the Bahrain Motorcycle Championship (BMC) hitting the tarmac.

Ali Almansoori starred once again in the BTCC, winning both the meeting's races to complete an unprecedented sweep of all 14 sprints held this past campaign. He closed his perfect run on a high – topping every session in the finale along BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Track.

Meanwhile, in the BMC, Saeed Al Sulaiti triumphed in the series' 1,000cc class, while Yousif Al Darwish was victorious amongst the 600cc riders.

NRD was organised and run by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, and the Bahrain Motorcycle Com-



mission.

Almansoori kicked off the curtain-closing weekend by topping the BTCC's practice timesheet with a fastest lap of 1min 18.273secs. He went on to secure pole position for the meeting's first race with a best time of 1:15.815 in qualifying.

Almansoori then powered his Honda Civic challenger to a dominant victory after 15 laps in race one. He secured the top podium step in a total winning time of 19:59.614. Almansoori built a comfortable 14.174s gap from runner-up Moaaz Elzahrawi, while Ahmed Bajnaid came third nearly two minutes adrift. Both Elzahrawi and Bajnaid were also behind the wheel of a Honda Civic.

Almansoori then started race two from the back of the grid with James Taylor on pole in his

Volkswagen Scirocco.

That mattered little, however, as Almansoori charged to the front early on and stayed in charge until the end, creating another commanding lead from the rest of the field. He claimed his season-ending triumph in a time of 23:32.997 – 19.351s ahead of Bajnaid. Taylor joined them on the podium in third after finishing 21.913s from Almansoori.

In the BMC, Al Sulaiti and Al Darwish set the practice pace in their respective categories, with Al Sulaiti clocking a lap of 1:06.522 on his BMW S 1000 RR and Al Darwish posting a mark of 1:10.003 riding his Kawasaki 600.

Al Sulaiti rode his momentum into qualifying, where he bagged overall pole position with a lap of 1:05.591. Mohamad Alzaidan



on his Kawasaki ZX6 claimed the leading grid spot amongst the 600cc entrants with a fastest time of 1:09.631.

In the round's sole 14-lap race, Al Sulaiti clinched the overall victory in 15:45.993. Fahad Al Gharabally followed 21.721s behind on his Suzuki GSXR also as a 1,000cc competitor, while Al Darwish completed the overall podium and took the 600cc spoils 29.593s back.

Finishing third amongst the 1,000cc bikers was Fahad Al-osaibi on his BMW 1000RR, while

climbing onto the BMC's 600cc podium alongside Al Darwish were Alzaidan and Abdulrahman Ahmed riding his Honda CBR600RR.

Following each of the round's races, the winners were awarded their respective trophies in podium ceremonies.

This season's national champions in the BTCC and BMC, as well as in the Kingdom's other racing series, will be presented their respective accolades in the End-of-Season Ceremony, scheduled for 15 May at BIC.

Lewis-Skelly says leaders Arsenal know 'job is not yet done'

AFP | London

Myles Lewis-Skelly is adamant Arsenal know better than anyone what they must do to secure the club's first Premier League title in more than 20 years.

The Gunners moved closer to being crowned champions of England for the first time since 2004 following a 1-0 win at West Ham on Sunday but only after the hosts had a stoppage-time equaliser ruled out following a lengthy VAR review.

Victory left leaders Arsenal five points clear of second-placed Manchester City, with two games to play -- at home to already-relegated Burnley and away to Crystal Palace before the Gunners face Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League final on May 30.

"We have to stay humble," said teenage rising star Lewis-Skelly, now back in Arsenal's starting line-up after spend-



Arsenal's Myles Lewis-Skelly (R) tackles West Ham's Tomas Soucek (L) during much of the season on the sidelines.

"(The dressing room is) just joy, excitement, fulfilment -- everything you can describe," he explained. "We are buzzing, but we know that the job is not done."

"We have got two more (domestic) 'finals' (against Burnley and Palace) left now, and we have to take each game as it comes. The next one is Burnley -- and then we go on from there."

BIC hosts Batelco Fitness on Track tonight



Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', hosts the widely popular Batelco Fitness on Track tonight, 12 May, in Sakhr.

The activity will be held from 6pm to 10pm and will be an ideal opportunity for partici-

pants of all ages to take part in a unique physical activity within the safe and controlled setting of a world-class Formula 1 venue.

Batelco Fitness on Track can be done either on foot or on a bicycle, with runners and walkers utilising BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Circuit and cyclists enjoying their ride along the



3.543-kilometre Outer Circuit, with a separate dedicated area available for children's cycling.

The cost to participate is BD2 for cyclists and BD1 for runners. Registration and payment can be completed in advance via the circuit's official website bahraingp.com or by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.

Children under the age of 12 can participate free of charge if accompanied by a paying adult.

For more information on Batelco Fitness on Track or for other events and experiences at the circuit, visit bahraingp.com, call the BIC Hotline, or follow BIC's official social media channels.

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