



REHC signs sponsorship agreement with Konexus Resources Group for the 2026/2027 racing season

TDT | Manama

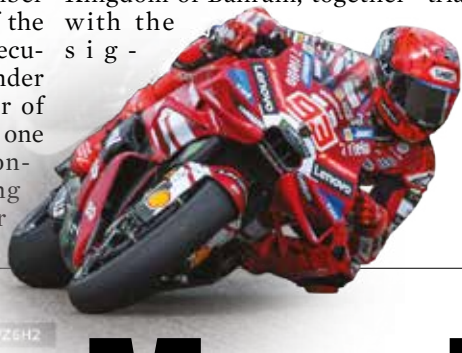
The Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) has signed a sponsorship agreement with Konexus Resources Group for the 2026/2027 racing season, reinforcing its commitment to strengthening partnerships with local and international organizations while supporting the continued development of horseracing in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The agreement was signed during the REHC's participation in the July Festival at Newmarket Racecourse in the United Kingdom, coinciding with the Club's Golden Jubilee celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of its establishment. It was signed by His Excellency Mr. Yusuf Osama Buheji, Member of the High Committee of the REHC and Acting Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Brijender Singh, Managing Director of Konexus Resources Group, one of the leading international companies specializing in innovative solutions for



the resources and industrial sectors.

His Excellency Mr. Yusuf Osama Buheji noted that the strong support for horseracing in the Kingdom of Bahrain, together with the s i g -



nificant development the sector has witnessed through the international championships and distinguished events organised by the Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club, has contributed to attracting more partners and investors from within the Kingdom of Bahrain and abroad, supporting the continued development of the sport. He welcomed the partnership with Kon-

exus Resources Group, noting that it opens new opportunities for cooperation between the two parties and reflects the Group's support for horseracing through its sponsorship of one of the Club's local race days during the 2026/2027 racing season.

For his part, Mr. Brijender Singh expressed his pride in entering into this partnership with the REHC, marking Konexus Resources Group's first partner-

ship in Bahrain's sports sector. He commended the Club's international achievements and growing global standing, noting that they were among the key factors behind the Group's decision to sponsor the upcoming 2026/2027 racing season. He added that the sponsorship reflects the Group's commitment to supporting the long-standing sport of horseracing while recognizing the Club as an ideal platform for building

business relationships. He noted that the Group's manufacturing subsidiary, Konexus Aluminium International (KAI), operates a flagship aluminium rod mill in Bahrain, producing premium-quality EC grade aluminium rods for regional and international customers.

The facility proudly bears the Made in Bahrain mark and creates more than 75 jobs.

Hundreds of Peruvian newborns named after Norway striker Haaland
Lima, Peru

Droves of Peruvian football fans have named their newborns after Norway's star striker Erling Haaland ahead of his team's World Cup quarter-final against England, Peru's identity registry said Friday.

Norway's scoring machine Haaland has been coasting on a wave of popularity during the 2026 edition of the world's biggest football extravaganza.

The sports sensation, who has scored seven times in four appearances so far in this World Cup, made both goals in his team's historic victory against Brazil and has helped ensure their first-ever quarter-final appearance, against England on Saturday.

His fans in Peru have gone as far as naming their children after him, with 468 bearing the 25-year-old's surname, according to the national identity registry.

Another 91 infants carry the full name Erling Haaland, it said.

Marc Marquez claims pole at Germany MotoGP

Bezzecchi breaks collarbone

AFP | Hohenstein-Ernstthal, Germany

Marc Marquez secured pole position for the Germany MotoGP after the Spaniard set the fastest time on his Ducati in qualifying at the Sachsenring yesterday, but Marco Bezzecchi will miss the rest of the weekend after breaking his collarbone following a heavy fall.

Marquez, the reigning world champion, will start from pole for the ninth time in the premier class at the German circuit, becoming the first rider in history to achieve this feat.

He booked his place at the front of the grid with a new all-time lap record of 1min 19.041sec.

Nicknamed 'The King of the Ring', the 33-year-old Catalan will be aiming on Sunday for a 13th victory on the German circuit, his 10th in MotoGP.

"Front row was the target but pole position and especially the lap record here in Sachsenring... is something really good," Marc Marquez said.

Victory in the Grand Prix this weekend would see him equal two records held by Italian legend Giacomo Agostini: most wins at a single event (13) and most victories at the same circuit in the premier class (10).

Marquez finished ahead of his brother Alex Marquez, riding for the Ducati satellite team Gresini, and Italian Fabio Di Giannantonio for the VR46 outfit owned by Italian MotoGP icon Valentino Rossi.

"I was upset in the moment to not get the

pole," Alex Marquez said of his initial reaction to seeing he had come second in qualifying.

"But happy to see Marc and me again at the top," the 30-year-old added.

Spaniard Raul Fernandez of Aprilia-Trackhouse took fourth place, ahead of his Japanese team-mate Ai Ogu-

ra and France's Fabio Quartararo of Yamaha. The session was marred by another heavy crash involving Aprilia's Bezzecchi.

Two weeks after crashing at nearly 200 km/h (120 mph) in the Netherlands without suffering any injuries, the Italian this time lost his back wheel at over 130 km/h and was thrown over his handlebars before bouncing several times in the gravel.

Second in the championship, Bezzecchi, who had set the eighth-fastest time before crashing, broke his left collarbone in the fall, his team announced.

The 27-year-old will return to Italy for surgery.

It was a morning to forget for Aprilia, with their championship leader, Spaniard Jorge Martin, only managing the ninth-fastest time in qualifying.



Ducati Lenovo Team's Spanish MotoGP rider Marc Marquez

Klopp reaches 'understanding' to take over as Germany coach
Paris, France

The German Football Federation (DFB) announced yesterday that it was close to an agreement with Jurgen Klopp for him to become the new Germany coach.

However, before the 59-year-old makes his return to the touchline, the DFB said it still needed to secure the approval of his current employer, the Red Bull Group.

"DFB president Bernd Neuendorf and vice-president Hans-Joachim Watzke held an initial in-depth discussion with Jurgen Klopp in New York on Friday regarding his potential appointment as national team coach," the DFB stated in a press release.

"During this constructive discussion, an understanding was reached on the key points of a potential contract. "Discussions will continue next week. Both parties are confident that the negotiations -- subject to an agreement with Klopp's current employer, Red Bull -- can ultimately be brought to a successful conclusion," the statement continued.

'Beast' Haaland a different player to me, says Kane

Miami, United States

England captain Harry Kane labelled Erling Haaland "a machine" but said he and Norway's "beast" of a number nine are completely different players as they prepare to face off in Saturday's World Cup quarter-final.

Haaland has struck seven times in his first four matches ever at a major tournament, including a devastating double to eliminate Brazil, and his goals have carried Norway into the last eight for the first time.

Kane is only one goal behind the Manchester City striker for the tournament and has taken

his overall World Cup record to 14 goals.

"I think we're completely different players. I know we're both strikers, but we're in almost two different positions," Kane told his pre-match press conference.

"Erling is incredible, his goalscoring record, physical-

ly he's a machine, he's a beast. His finishing is at the highest level and his goalscoring record speaks for itself.

"I see myself as a different player, although I score the same goals. I like to maybe touch the ball a little bit more, be involved with the play a little bit more, but also can play as

maybe the out-and-out number nine.

"I don't think it's one to compare ourselves. I respect him a lot as a player and as a professional. Obviously, I'm hoping he has a quiet day tomorrow, but I think his overall performance is very good. He's a fantastic player."

