

# BRX set Dakar Rally record

Team becomes first to complete world's toughest rally with cars running on sustainable fuel as Sebastien Loeb finishes as overall runner-up in cars class

● Orlando Terranova joins Sebastien Loeb in top 10 of cars' general ranking at the end of Dakar Rally

● Nani Roma finishes 50th overall in third BRX car after solid Dakar run

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Bahrain Raid Xtreme (BRX) rounded off the 44th Dakar Rally with a place in the record books as Sebastien Loeb and navigator Fabian Lurquin took their BRX Prodrive Hunter to second overall at the end of the 12-stage event in Saudi Arabia.

Loeb was ranked fourth in the final 164 km stage from Bisha to Jeddah, which was enough to claim second place overall behind winner Nasser Al Attiyah, who claimed the world's most demanding rally in first place 27 minutes 46 seconds ahead of Loeb.

With the stage win going to South African Henk Lategan, Loeb's BRX teammates Orlando Terranova and Dani Oliveras cruised to sixth place on the day to record a fourth-place outright finish, the Argentine driver's best Dakar result to date.

Nani Roma and Alex Haro also brought their Prodrive Hunter home to make BRX the first top Dakar team to complete the rally with a full comple-



BRX ace Sebastien Loeb, third from right, and navigator Fabian Lurquin, right, with the race winners at the end of the stage

ment of cars running on next generation advanced sustainable fuel.

It has been a highly impressive competitive debut for the new Hunter T1+, with all three BRX cars in Saudi Arabia powered by the Prodrive EcoPower fuel which reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 80% compared to petrol.

Loeb said at the finish: "It was a good rally. We lost some time at the beginning with some technical problems. After that we really pushed hard to close the gap with Nasser, but he did a really good job so it was impossible. But we finished second in a great rally,

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SEBASTIEN LOEB



Sebastien Loeb in action yesterday in the Dakar Rally's 12th and final stage

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Terranova said: "That was a fantastic

rally. The team work was genuinely incredible as it felt like a family from the beginning.

"The first week maybe we lost a little bit of time but in the second week we made some great stage times. I feel very comfortable as the car is fantastic and the human relationship in the team is great for our job."

The Dakar Rally was the opening round of the new FIA World Rally-Raid Championship which continues in March with the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge ahead of the other rounds in Kazakhstan, Spain and Morocco.

## Tarada rocket helps Ahli draw with Hala

● Al Ahli move up on league table to eighth place after improving to six points, while Al Hala go sixth

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Substitute Mahdi Ali Tarada fired in a brilliant rocket in the second half to help Al Ahli come away with a 1-1 stalemate against Al Hala in their ninth week match in the 2021/2022 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League.

Hala opened the scoring in the 39th minute when Yahya



Action from the match

Ahmea Infahi Mohamed had a fine strike from inside the penalty area off a headed pass

from Ahmad Mohamad Aldouni. That gave Hala the slim single-goal lead at half-time.

But after the break, Ahli's efforts in search of an equaliser were rewarded when Tarada scored from around 30 yards out in the 65th minute.

Close to midfield, Tarada received the ball and with his first touch, set up an opportunity to volley in his shot. He made no mistake with his effort as the ball rose above Hala goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulrahim and his outstretched arm into the net. The result lifted Ahli to eighth place on the league table after they improved to six points with their sixth draw from nine matches. Hala had their third deadlock and they went to nine points in sixth place.

## EK Kanoo juniors tennis begins today

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The ninth Ebrahim K Kanoo Juniors Open Tennis Championship 2022 gets underway today at Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) in Juffair.

The tournament is being held under the patronage of Ebrahim K Kanoo vice-chairman Fuad Ebrahim Kanoo.

BTC published yesterday the draws and order of play for the competition. They are available for participants and supporters on the BTC website bahraintennisclub.com, as well as on the club's social media channels.

An opening ceremony is scheduled for today along with 17 matches in the under-12 boys singles, under-12 girls singles, and under-16 boys doubles.

The first matches begin at



Fuad Kanoo

4pm.

There are a total of nine categories in the tournament. The others are under-14 boys singles, under-12 boys doubles, under-16 girls singles, open 6 and 8 singles, and open 9 and 10 singles.

Meanwhile, BTC will hold a tennis festival next Friday in which 57 boys and girls, aged eight and 10, will participate. The competitions will take place on the mini tennis courts at BIC where red and green tennis balls are used.

## Al Ettihad, Nuwaidrat triumph in Silver League

● Ettihad cruise past Samaheej 96-64 to claim second successive victory

● Nuwaidrat maintain unbeaten record after three games with 96-80 win over Isa Town

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Al Ettihad and Nuwaidrat were both winners last night in their respective Silver League games of the 2021/2022 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Ettihad cruised past Sama-

heej 96-64 to claim their second straight victory of this stage of the season while Nuwaidrat made it three in a row after overcoming Isa Town 96-80.



The Silver League is the second-tier of the ongoing basketball season, featuring the bottom five clubs following the preliminary round

The Silver League is the second-tier of the ongoing basketball season, featuring the bottom five clubs following the preliminary round.

In Ettihad's win last night, they enjoyed a commanding 54-30 lead at the end of the first half and never looked back, going up by as many as 32 the rest of the way and never trailing in the game.

Hassan Fahad was their top scorer with 27, while newly signed professional CJ Giles had a monster 15 points and 20 rebounds. Mohamed Ghazwan and Ali Ghadeer each also contributed 15 marks.

Mansour Kasse had 22 points and 23 rebounds to lead Samaheej. But that wasn't enough to

prevent them from dropping their second successive game.

Meanwhile, Nuwaidrat started off their game against Isa Town strong and did well to hold on to their lead until the final buzzer.

They went up by as many as 21 points following a three-pointer by Abbas Jameel with just under four minutes to go in the second quarter.

It was one of an impressive six triples in the game for Jameel, who finished as Nuwaidrat's top scorer with 23 points. Hassan Abbas added 21 and Anthony Walker chipped in with 20 points and 11 boards.

Brian Alexander led Isa Town with 31 points and 23 rebounds in their third straight loss.

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