

Four World Champions, Led by Luke Littler, Announced for 2026 Bahrain Darts Masters

● **Current World Champion and global superstar Luke “The Nuke” Littler confirmed to participate**

● **England’s Stephen Bunting to defend his title at the event taking place on January 15-16 at the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre**

● **Former World Champions Michael van Gerwen, Gerwyn Price, and Luke Humphries also returning to compete in the Kingdom**

● **More world-class players to be announced after the World Championship**

TDT | Manama



“The Iceman” Price from Wales, and 2024 world champion Luke “Cool Hand” Humphries from England.

Popular players

All five players are hugely popular in Bahrain, with Bunting winning on his debut earlier this year. Price and Humphries are returning for their fourth consecutive year, while van Gerwen made his Bahrain debut in 2024, reaching the final.

Eight of the Professional Darts Corporation’s (PDC) legends will compete against a selection of the best players from across Asia, including two players from the Kingdom of Bahrain, in this two-night tournament, scheduled for just over a month from now.

Overwhelming demand

Tickets for the Bahrain Darts Masters are selling fast, so fans wishing to attend this spectacular

event should book their seats as soon as possible, following the overwhelming demand for the early bird offers released by the Bahrain International Circuit. Premium front-row seats have already sold out, with a limited number of tables still available in other areas. For the first time ever, grandstand seating is available for the Bahrain Darts Championship.

Grandstand tickets for both days of the tournament are priced at BHD 25, while premium seating starts from BHD 50 for both days. A VIP package is also available from BHD 180, including food and beverages for both days of the event.

All ticket options are available online at bahraingp.com or by calling the Bahrain International Circuit hotline at +973 17450000.

Darts has seen a surge in global popularity in recent years, and the Bahrain Darts Cham-

pionship has been incredibly popular in the Kingdom over the past three seasons. The event has been moved to the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre to accommodate the expected crowds, and the venue will be transformed into Bahrain’s version of the iconic Alexandra Palace.

Fantastic atmosphere

Fans can expect a fantastic atmosphere, complete with fancy dress and unique entertainment, as well as a wide selection of food and beverages, bringing the “greatest show on earth” to Bahrain.

For more information on the Bahrain Darts Championship 2026 or other events and activities at the Bahrain International Circuit, please visit bahraingp.com, call the circuit hotline, or follow the official Bahrain International Circuit social media accounts.

Man City smash Palace to fire title warning, Villa extend winning run

AFP | London

Manchester City thumped Crystal Palace 3-0 on Sunday to climb back to within two points of Premier League leaders Arsenal as Aston Villa twice came from behind to beat West Ham.

Elsewhere, Nottingham Forest demolished Tottenham 3-0 while Sunderland saw off local rivals Newcastle 1-0 thanks to a Nick Woltemade own goal.

Arsenal, who have set the pace in this season’s Premier League, squeaked home on Saturday with a 2-1 win against bottom-club Wolves, thanks to two own goals.

That put the pressure back on City, who have been showing ominous signs that they are finding their feet in recent weeks.

Pep Guardiola’s men braced for a tough task at Selhurst Park against high-flying Crystal Palace and Oliver Glasner’s side were the more dangerous team in the first half.

But Palace failed take their chances, with Jeremy Pino hit-



Manchester City’s Norwegian striker #09 Erling Haaland (R) vies with Crystal Palace’s French defender #05 Maxence Lacroix (L)

ting the crossbar with only goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma to beat.

Erling Haaland had largely been on the periphery of the game but scored his 101st Premier League goal when he headed a pinpoint Matheus Nunes cross across Dean Henderson and into the net shortly before the break.

Palace again started the second half brightly but could not

break through and paid the price when Phil Foden swept home from distance after receiving the ball from Rayan Cherki.

It was the sixth goal in four Premier League games for the forward, being watched at Selhurst Park by England manager Thomas Tuchel.

City made certain of the three points when Haaland thundered a penalty past Henderson after Savinho was taken down by the

goalkeeper following a surging run down the middle late in the game.

Villa show steel

Villa started their match at the London Stadium as the form team in the league, with nine wins in 10 league matches.

But they fell behind after just 29 seconds when Mateus Fernandes robbed Ezri Konsa and rifled home.

Unai Emery’s men were level just minutes later when John McGinn’s cross was headed into his own net by Konstantinos Mavropanos.

Jarrod Bowen put the Hammers back in front midway through the second half but Villa again drew level early in the second period through Morgan Rogers.

Rogers fired Villa into the lead for the first time in the 79th minute, smashing home a dipping drive from outside the box to seal a 3-2 win.

The victory leaves Emery’s men just one point behind City and five clear of fourth-placed Chelsea.

Napoli stumble at Udinese to leave AC Milan top in Serie A



AC Milan’s Italian defender #33 Davide Baresaghi (R) scores a goal

AFP | Milan

Champions Napoli squandered the chance to climb to the Serie A summit on Sunday when coming unstuck 1-0 at Udinese.

Napoli’s three consecutive league win sequence came to a halt when, after having two goals disallowed, Udinese stole the show thanks to Jurgen

Ekkelenkamp’s decisive 73rd minute goal.

Injury-ravaged Napoli will be feeling this was an opportunity missed as a win would have lifted them top of the table following AC Milan’s 2-2 draw with Sassuolo earlier.

The two teams had gone into the weekend level on points, with Milan in the driving seat on goal difference.

Chairman & Managing Director **P Unnikrishnan** | Editor-in-Chief **Mahmood Al Mahmood**

Advertisement: Update Media W.L.L | Tel: 38444692, Email: sales@newsofbahrain.com | **Newsroom:** Tel: 36458345, Email: mail@newsofbahrain.com
Subscription & circulation: Tel: 36458394 | Email: subscribe@newsofbahrain.com | Website: www.newsofbahrain.com | Printed and published by Al Ayam Publishing