

Son sparks Koreans to Asian Cup victory

Vitali Lux's hat-trick puts Kyrgyzstan in good position to qualify for last 16

● Tottenham forward plays a part in both goals in the 2-0 win in Abu Dhabi to ensure his side progress as Group C winners

AFP | Abu Dhabi

An effervescent Son Heung-min inspired title-chasing South Korea to a comfortable 2-0 victory over China yesterday to finish top of their Asian Cup group.

Hwang Ui-jo and Kim Min-jae were on target as the Koreans, boosted by the arrival of their talisman, ran China ragged in Abu Dhabi.

Talisman Son won the penalty converted by Hwang and fizzed in the assist for Kim to spark South Korea, who finished top of Group C with a perfect nine points as they look to end 59 years of Asian Cup hurt.

Marcello Lippi's Chinese side finished as group runners-up having likewise already sealed their place in the last 16 by winning their first two matches.

Korean captain Son surprisingly started -- and completed 87 minutes -- despite a punishing run of 13 games for Tottenham since the start of December.



China's defender Linpeng Zhang (L) fights for the ball with South Korea's forward Heung-min Son

The mercurial Spurs forward, who played in the London club's 1-0 defeat by Manchester United three days ago, showed quick feet to tempt China defender Shi Ke into a rash challenge 12 minutes.

Hwang calmly tucked away the spot-kick to send thousands of Korean "Red Devils" fans wild at the compact Al Nahyan Stadium.

South Korea, who beat Asian Cup first-timers Philippines and Kyrgyzstan 1-0 in their opening two games, went for the jugular.

A Hwang Hee-chan rocket forced China goalkeeper Yan Junling into a fingertip save before Hwang Ui-jo curled an effort against the post.

Elsewhere in Group C, a Vitali Lux hat-trick sent Sven-Goran Eriksson's Philippines crashing out and gave Kyrgyzstan hope

of progressing as one of the best third-placed teams in a 3-1 victory.

German-based Lux struck once in the first half and twice in the second in Dubai before the Philippines grabbed a consolation goal through Stephan Schrock with 10 minutes to go.

Asian Cup

S Korea	2	-	0	China
Kyrgyzstan	3	-	1	Philippines
Iran	0	-	0	Iraq
Vietnam	1	-	0	Yemen

KHK Heroes to participate in Spartan Stadion 2019



KHK Heroes during a Spartan Race

Manama

Spartan Arabia will host the first-ever Stadion of the region on January 18, 2019, under the patronage of HH Shaikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa. The Bahrain National Stadium will see Spartans take on obstacles at this unique location, for a one of a kind experience.

KHK Heroes Team Captain



KHK Heroes in collaboration with BHR4All is driving change in society with a vision of inclusivity while acknowledging the diverse communities that live in Bahrain

HH SHAIKH KHALID BIN HAMED AL KHALIFA

for this race is 25 years old Ali Mohammed Moussa who is a motivational speaker of BHR4All. The team includes youth with cerebral palsy, au-

tism, intellectual disability, ADHD, Down syndrome or a combination.

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamed Al Khalifa said that KHK Heroes team will compete in a historic race exhibiting the ideals of inclusivity in Bahrain and highlight the significance of sports and wellness for all

"KHK Heroes in collaboration with BHR4All is driving change in society with a vision of inclusivity while acknowledging the diverse communities that live in Bahrain. Regardless of background or abilities, our aim is to support youth to achieve their full potential in life. Initiatives like these are our duty, they lead the principles of promoting values that enable all people to participate based on equality of rights and dignity" said HH Shaikh Khalid.

Spartan Arabia will make history in Bahrain with the KHK Heroes team participating at the first ever "Stadion Race". Spartan supports all active communities when the opportunity presents itself.

MOIC, BIC support Sports Day

TDT | Manama

Assistant Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Secretary General of the Bahrain Olympic Committee and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Bahrain Sports Day Abdulrahman Sadeq Askar admired the supporting initiatives of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism (MOIC), and the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), for the 2019 edition of the Bahrain Sports Day, scheduled for February 12.

The Ministry decided to provide discounted rates on sports supplies for all participants during this year's event, while the BIC has stepped forward to offer its hosting women's sports activities on the day.

This was announced during the third meeting of the Organizing Committee of the



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Third Bahrain Sports Day, attended by Askar, during which many topics were discussed on the agenda, such as an e-system to calculate the steps of the participants in the walking race. Askar was briefed on the mechanism required to provide the application of this first of its kind idea.

BTC to conduct training workshop

TDT | Manama

A training workshop will be organized by Bahrain Tennis Club for the parents of the Tennis players at 6 pm on Saturday, February 2, Lectures by ITF Tennis Consultant Luis de Sousa with coordinate with the Bahrain Tennis Federation.

The workshop will include the definition of the right nutrition for the tennis player and the correct behaviors to be followed a champion in tennis as well as continuous communication between the family and the technical and administrative of Bahrain Tennis Club.

BKS-Jeep badminton tournament begins

TDT | Manama

BKS-Jeep Junior & Senior Open has begun in Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam's Diamond Jubilee Hall on Monday.

BKS President PV Radhakrishna Pillai and MP Raghu jointly inaugurated the tournament.

Most of the events on the first day were for juniors; however, the second day witnessed the senior events. The tournament will conclude on 19-Jan-2019 with Finals of all events being played.

The tournament has Boys & Girls - Singles & Doubles in the age category of U11, U13, U15, U17, U19 and for seniors 4 events - Men's Doubles, Women's



Event organisers in action during inauguration

Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Veteran's Doubles. Trophies, Certificate (for Juniors) Will be awarded to the Winners and Runner-up.

312 players from various places to participate in BKS-JEEP Junior & senior Open Badminton tournament 2019.

Shanil Abdul Rahim, BKS Indoor Games Secretary said, "in the history of BKS Badminton Tournaments, this is the first time a huge number of players are flown into BKS to take part in the event."

"This tournament will be one of the major sporting events for the talents and will attract a crowd of more than 2000 spectators."

India hails Mahendra Singh Dhoni the finisher

AFP | New Delhi

India's Mahendra Singh Dhoni won plaudits yesterday for a match-winning knock against Australia that raised expectations the veteran will play his fourth 50-over World Cup this summer.

The 37-year-old wicketkeeper-batsman kept his usual cool during an unbeaten 54-ball 55 as India chased down Australia's 298 in the second one-day international in Adelaide on Tuesday. Seen by some as losing his

ability to finish matches, Dhoni rolled back the years and secured the win with four balls to spare as the tourists levelled the three-match series.

The Indian Express headlined its report "Dhoni finishes, the Mahi way", using his nickname, and the Mail Today said the former captain's innings was "Just Like Old Times".

Some observers have suggested India have better options behind the stumps and with the bat for upcoming ODI World Cup in England, but former skipper



India's Mahendra Singh Dhoni plays a shot (file photo)

Sunil Gavaskar thinks otherwise. "Only those who are not really cognisant with the value of Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be asking this question," Gavaskar told TV channel India Today.

"In the Indian dressing room, in the think tank that is the selection committee there is no doubt that Dhoni will be part of the Indian team for World Cup."

Following his debut in 2004, Dhoni quickly became one of India's key players, captaining the side to a World Cup win in 2011.