

Regulations, weights of 'GCC Strongest Man Championship' qualifiers approved

TDT | Manama

The organising committee of the GCC Strongest Man "Heavyweight" Championship, headed by the Director of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Media Office Mr Ahmed Al Shaikh, yesterday announced that it has approved the categories, weights and regulations of the qualifying rounds for the participants from GCC

countries in the first edition of the championship for heavyweights.

The final stages of the championship will be held from April 9, 2019, to April 11, 2019, under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, under



HH Shaikh Khalid

the slogan #GCC_Challenge at the open area near Bahrain International Circuit.

The revenues generated from the championship, which comes within His Highness's initiatives to support the humanitarian and sports fields, will be allocated to support cancer patients.

The qualifying rounds will witness three stages, which include "lifting the trunk", "the

farmer's walk" and "lifting the car". Participants will be given a minute to finish each of the three stages.

The committee confirmed that it will begin its visits by the end of this month to the brotherly GCC countries, including Saudi Arabia, the first destination, followed by Kuwait, the UAE and Oman, respectively, in order to meet the youth who are

interested in taking part in the championship.

The committee had previously announced that a website has been allocated for the registration for the championship on www.gccstrongestman.com, in addition to an official page for the championship on Instagram (@gccstrongestman), in which inquiries will be received through direct messages.



His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday met with the Chairman of Saudi Arabia's General Sports Authority, His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal, and the President of the Saudi Automobile and Motorcycle Federation, His Royal Highness Prince Khalid bin Sultan Al Abdullah Al Faisal, on the sidelines of the Dakar 2020 Rally award closing ceremony. During the meeting, HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman highlighted the deep historic ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which continue to thrive under the leadership of His Majesty, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman praised Saudi Arabia's success in hosting and organising international motorsport races and rallies, such as the Dakar 2020 Rally. HH Shaikh Mohammed concluded by wishing the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia further success across all levels. For their part, HRH Prince Abdulaziz and HRH Prince Khalid praised the strength of ties between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, noting motorsport is one such example of the ongoing cooperation between the two countries across various sectors. The President of the Bahrain Motor Federation, HE Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.



President of Seychelles, Danny Faure left the country on Thursday night, concluding a visit to the Kingdom, during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. President Faure was seen off by Foreign Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and HRH the Premier's Adviser Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

Bahrain's voluntary work tradition stressed

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Labour and Social Development Ministry's Undersecretary, Sabah Salim Al Dossary, said that Bahrain boasts a long history of voluntary and charitable work, stemming from GCC and Arab traditions.

This came as he received here Bahrain Voluntary Work Society Chairman, Abdulaziz Rashid Al Sanadi, along with the heads of GCC delegations to the seventh Social Future Volunteer Forum.

Held under the patronage of the Shura Council Chairman, Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, the forum is organised in cooperation with the Princess Seetah bint Abdul Aziz Foundation for Excellence in Social Work from January 15 to 18.

They reviewed the goals of the



Mr Al Dossary with members of the visiting delegation.

forum, which Morocco will attend as a guest of honour, hailing the role played by social work institutions to promote the con-

cept and culture of voluntary work among youngsters.

They also reviewed Bahrain's experience in support-

ing NGOs.

The Undersecretary hailed the forum's objectives, affirming Bahrain's support for the efforts

exerted by civil society organisations, especially charitable and voluntary ones.

He also asserted that the king-

dom encourages youth to be involved in voluntary work in order to use their potentials in this regard to benefit GCC society.

Dilapidated Houses Project 'on track'

Manama

Municipalities Affairs Undersecretary at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, has stressed that enhancing urban development and improving the quality of services across the Kingdom is the basis of municipal work.

This came as he handed over

a house, rebuilt by the Works Ministry within the dilapidated houses project in Muharraq to its owner, in the presence of officials from Muharraq Municipality and Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA).

He pointed out that under the project, dilapidated houses are repaired in co-ordination and co-operation with BACA to preserve their urban heritage features.

He highlighted the constant



Works Ministry officials at one of the houses rebuilt under the Dilapidated Houses Project.

follow-up of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister, Essam Khalaf, on the project in order to upgrade the level of urban development across all regions in Bahrain.

The Undersecretary said that the pioneering project, launched as per a kind gesture by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa contributes to providing the requirements of decent living for low-income families, as well as preserving Bahrain's

urban heritage.

Muharraq Municipal Council Chairman, Ghazi Al Merbati, lauded the Works Ministry's efforts to rehabilitate citizens' houses, noting that the Municipal Council is an essential partner in implementing the distinguished project.

He also commended the efforts exerted by the Municipalities Affairs department and BACA to preserve old houses in Muharraq.