

# 2 Seas Motorsport set for Monza race

● **Martin Kodric to suit up alongside newest team member Ethan Simioni at the wheel of 2 Seas' Mercedes-AMG GT3 for round six of International GT Open**

TDt | Manama

Bahraini-British motor racing team 2 Seas Motorsport are set to make their European race debut next week in round six of the International GT Open championship.

The event will be held at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Italy, over the weekend 26-27 September.

Set to suit up for the team are Martin Kodric and new team member Ethan Simioni at the wheel of 2 Seas' Mercedes-AMG GT3.

2 Seas Motorsport co-owner and driver His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Abdulla Al Khalifa commented: "The plan for 2021 was always to select specific events as we build up knowl-



A 2 Seas Motorsport Mercedes-AMG GT3 car during a recent test this month in Barcelona

edge and experience with the Mercedes-AMG, while looking at the options available in terms of championships and work with different drivers.

"We have enjoyed strong results in the events we have taken part in so far, and really looking forward to this next challenge competing at Monza. It is one of the proper old-school circuits, which always delivers great racing, and the International GT Open championship has an increasingly strong grid of teams and drivers, so it will be a great

weekend to be involved with.

"The season has provided some great racing so far, and I am looking forward to seeing what we can achieve with the exciting line up we have in Ethan and Martin."

Simioni will be making his European debut in the GT3 category. The young Canadian campaigned successfully in GT competition on home soil after progressing from karting.

"I am really pleased to be able to confirm that I will be joining 2 Seas Motorsport for the In-

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HH SHAIKH ISA BIN ABDULLA AL KHALIFA

ternational GT Open event, and I cannot wait to race at Monza," he was quoted as saying.

Kodric is returning with 2 Seas Motorsport having already scored victories with the team in both the Middle East and UK so far this season. The Croatian driver will be racing in the International GT Open and in Monza for the first time since 2018, where he scored victory to clinch third in the championship.

The 2021 season has proven to be successful for 2 Seas Motorsport so far, having achieved pole positions and race victories at both the Gulf 12 Hours Bahrain and the one-off Intelligent Money British GT entry at Silverstone.

# BRAVE CF announces 3 events in Germany for 2022 in association with NFC

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The year of 2021 still has an exciting schedule for BRAVE Combat Federation but the fastest-growing MMA promotion in the world is already shaping its 2022 calendar. BRAVE CF has announced three events for the second quarter of the upcoming year, marking its debut in Germany.

The series of events, to be held in subsequent weeks, April 9, 16, and 23, will be promoted in association with NFC, National Fighting Championship, the most prestigious Mixed Martial Arts organization in the European country under BRAVE CF exclusive media partner for Germany, Austria and Swizz, FIGHTING.DE.

"We are very excited to start our BRAVE CF national MMA vision in Germany with 3 groundbreaking shows," says BRAVE CF President Mohammed Shahid. "With the largest market share in European MMA, it is the responsibility of BRAVE CF to develop the MMA industry in the continent. With a strong partner like NFC we are confident to not only put



on some action packed MMA shows but also see many national superstars coming from Germany."

"The cooperation with BRAVE CF is an honour for us and shows that we are on the right track to make MMA huge in Germany," says Michael Ortlepp, CEO of FIGHTING.DE. "To work with such a high profile partner like BRAVE CF is a huge step for the development of MMA in our country. Also it's an incredible chance for local fighters to present and prove themselves on such a big international stage."

# Bahrain defeat Kazakhstan in Asian volleyball

Senior men's national team to face off with India for ninth place overall to end the 21st Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship

● **Ali Ebrahim scores 22 points to lead nationals against Kazakhstan while Nasser Anan adds 18**

● **Bahrain-India final classification game to be re-match of preliminary round contest, won by Bahrainis in straight sets**

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Bahrain continued their winning ways in the classification round of the 21st Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship in Japan yesterday after taking



Bahrain's Mohammed Anan hits a smash against Kazakhstan during their match

a hard-earned 3-1 (16-25, 25-23, 28-26, 25-22) victory over Kazakhstan.

The game was part of the battle for ninth-to-12th rankings in the competition and the Bah-

rainis are now set to play for ninth place overall on the final standings.

They will take on India for that spot, after the Indians came away with a 3-0 (25-22, 25-22, 25-23) triumph over Saudi Arabia in their match yesterday.

The Kazakhs and Saudis will play for 11th place.

Bahrain's game with India will be a re-match of their preliminary round contest, which the Bahrainis won in straight sets.

In Bahrain's win yesterday, the nationals fell behind in the first set but did well to fight back in the contest. They eked out a gutsy win on set four to take the crucial 2-1 advantage, and then managed to close things out in the fourth.

Ali Ebrahim was in fine form,

scoring 22 points, including 21 attacks, to lead Bahrain.

Nasser Anan also had a big contribution of 18 points, 15 of which came in attack with two service aces.

Mahmoud Abdulwahed added nine points, Abbas Al Khabbaz had six and Al Alsairafi scored five points. Mhammed Anan rounded out the national team's scorers with three points.

Vitaliy Vorivodin scored a match-high 24, including 21 attacks and 2 blocks, in Kazakhstan's losing effort.

The bronze and gold medal games are also scheduled to take place today. Hosts Japan will take on defending champions Iran for the tournament title, while China will battle Chinese Taipei for the bronze

medals.

The Iranians defeated their Chinese counterparts 3-1 (25-22, 17-25, 25-22, 25-17) in their semi-final clash yesterday whereas Japan overcame Chinese Taipei 3-1 (25-16, 22-25, 25-21, 25-20).

By booking their tickets to the final, Japan and Iran also secured their berths in the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship as Asian representatives.

This year's championship is Bahrain's 10th participation in the continent's leading event. The nationals first competed in 1979 as hosts, and last appeared in 2015 when they finished 12th.

Bahrain's best classification was eighth, which they achieved in the 1987 edition.

# Bahrain set up Curacao, New Zealand friendlies

● **Both exhibition matches to be played in Kingdom next month, with Bahrain facing Curacao on October 6 and then the Kiwis on October 12**

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Bahrain's senior men's national team will play a pair of international friendly matches next month as part of their preparations for their upcoming competitions.

The Bahrainis are first set to take on Curacao on October 6, before facing off with New Zealand on October 12.

Curacao and New Zealand will also be facing one another



Bahrain's national football team (File photo)

in an exhibition game on October 9.

All the matches will be held at the National Stadium in Riffa.

Curacao is part of the Confederation of North, Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF) and they are currently ranked higher than Bahrain in 79th overall on the FIFA World Ranking.

New Zealand are the top-ranked team from the Oceania

Football Confederation (OFC), currently 121st in the world.

Among the tournaments the Bahrainis are preparing for is the FIFA Arab Cup 2021.

The event will be held in Doha, with the participation of 16 national teams. It will kick off on November 30 and continue until December 18.

Bahrain are in Group A, which also features hosts Qatar, Iraq and Oman.

# Muharraq squad named for AFC Cup clash

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Muharraq have named a 22-player squad for their match against Lebanon's Al Ahed FC in the West Asia Zonal Semi-finals of this year's AFC Cup.

The game is scheduled to be played tomorrow at the Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Stadium in Arad. It will kick off at 6.15pm.

The winner will move on to the Zonal Final, set for October 20, against the winner of the other final-four contest between Kuwait SC of Kuwait and Al Salt of Jordan.

The Muharraq roster, coached by Bahraini tactician Isa Al Saadoon, includes national team regulars such as goalkeeper Sayed Mohammed Jaafar, defenders Waleed Al



Muharraq's Abdulwahab Al Malood during training

Hayam and Rashed Al Hooti and midfielders Abdulwahab Ali and Abdulwahab Al Malood.

It also features Nigerian professional Moses Atede and Brazilian Flavio Cheveresan.

The rest of the team comprises goalkeepers Ashraf Waheed and Omar Salem; defenders Husain Jameel, Amine Binedi, Hasan Alkarani, Hamza Ahmed and Mohammed Albanaa; midfielders Abdulrahman Ahmedi, Mahmoud Almardi, Noor Alrawabdeh, Ahmed Sanad, Abdulla Al Hayki and Ahmed Al Sherooqi; and forwards Ali Meftah and Khalifa Alkoos.

Muharraq booked their tickets to the West Asia Zonal Semi-finals after finishing atop their group in the previous stage.

The winners of the West Asia Zonal Final will play in the AFC Cup 2021 Final, which is set for November 5, 2021.