



Garcia departure leaves Belgium facing 'generational change'



Belgium's French head coach Rudi Garcia reacts after a match (file photo)

AFP | Paris

Rudi Garcia has left his role as Belgium coach after his side were knocked out of the World Cup quarter-finals, the Belgian football federation (RBFA) said yesterday.

Garcia, 62, took over the Red Devils in January 2025 before guiding them to a last-eight loss to eventual tournament winners Spain.

The Frenchman replaced Domenico Tedesco and also helped Belgium secure their place in Nations League A with an ageing generation of big names players such as midfielder Kevin De Bruyne, forward Romelu Lukaku and goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois.

"We sincerely thank Rudi Garcia and his staff for their dedication, professionalism and commitment over the past 18 months," the RBFA said.

"And wish them every success in the future," it added.

Bahrain beat Oman to reach Asian youth handball quarter-finals



Ahmed Eid

TDT | Manama

Bahrain powered into the quarter-finals of the 19th Asian Men's Junior Handball Championship after brushing aside Oman 33-23 in China yesterday, turning a close first half into a one-sided win.

The Bahrainis held a 15-13 lead at the break before taking charge after the restart, winning the second half 18-10 to seal their third victory in four matches.

Ahmed Eid hit eight goals from eight shots to lead the scoring. Mohammed Adam, Ahmed Abdulla and Ahmed Al Samahiji each added four, while Abbas

Ali and Abather Yateem scored three apiece.

Bahrain finished with a 70pc shooting rate and struck nine goals on the counter, while Oman managed three.

The win lifted Bahrain to six points in Group A after earlier victories over Chinese Taipei, 39-27, and Hong Kong, 43-15. Their only defeat came against Saudi Arabia, who won 30-26.

Bahrain will meet hosts China on Wednesday, with the result deciding second and third place in the group.

The tournament runs until July 27, with the top four sides earning places at the 2027 Men's Junior World Championship in North Macedonia.



Abbas Ali

The Football Fanzone at La Med Wraps Up an Unforgettable World Cup Experience



Manama

The Football Fanzone at La Med, The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, concluded with the highly anticipated World Cup Final, welcoming a sold-out crowd for a memorable evening as Spain secured the title with a 1-0 victory over Argentina.

The Football Fanzone transformed La Med into a dedicated indoor destination for World Cup viewing, where guests enjoyed every match on a 3-metre screen in an energetic and welcoming atmosphere. Combined with thoughtfully curated dining options and The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain's renowned hospitality, the experience offered

football fans the ideal setting to come together throughout the tournament.

Delivering an unmatched viewing experience, La Med served as the perfect venue for the tournament's grand final between Spain and Argentina. Fans remained on the edge of their seats throughout the match, cheering through every

intense moment while enjoying a selection of Spanish and Argentine-inspired dishes crafted especially for the occasion. Because no match day is complete without delicious bites, guests were treated to a memorable culinary experience that complemented the excitement of the final. The night concluded with a remarkable champion-

ship victory for Spain, bringing the Football Fanzone experience to a high-energy and celebratory close.

The Football Fanzone at La Med highlighted The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain's commitment to creating meaningful guest moments by bringing together exceptional hospitality, outstanding dining, and the excitement

of world-class sporting events in one destination. While the final whistle marked the close of this event, it doesn't end there, it is only one of the many experiences we are proud to offer, and we look forward to welcoming you all again on our next line-up of memorable moments at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain.

