

BIC set to host Neon Run

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) is set to host on Friday the much-anticipated BIC Neon Run, held as part of the promotional campaign for the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2019.

The event is scheduled to be held from 3pm to 10pm at the BIC premises in Sakhir. There will be an adults' race starting at 7pm and a kids' run from 6pm. Participants are free to go at their own pace as the event will not be timed.

Bahrain Grand Prix ticket-holders will be able to participate free of charge, while others must pay an entry fee. Access to the circuit's vending area where there is a local market and family entertainment will be free.



Action from a previous Neon Run held at BIC

The adults' race is set to cover a distance of 3.6 kilometres while the kids' event will be held over one kilometre.

The BIC Neon Run promises to be a fun-filled and colourful occasion for all, with both adults and children of all ages and abilities taking part.

Runners will be literally glowing in the dark as they enjoy the challenges of BIC's Grand Prix track. Everyone will be having a delightful time as they are pelted with bright colours while they groove to the music and engage with others in laughter.



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Athletics Association received the Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs Ayman Tawfiq Al Moayyed yesterday. During the meeting, HH Shaikh Khalid stressed that Bahrain has made unique strides in the field of youth and sports at local and international levels and that the government has been prioritising in its work plan the continuity of supporting this field to ensure it maintains its development and progress

Bahrain Olympic Committee to launch Al Firjan playgrounds initiative

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The Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) has unveiled a plan to set up playgrounds equipped with integrated sport and entertainment facilities.

The initiative, known as 'Al Firjan Playgrounds', is part of the BOC's efforts to provide people in different age groups with multiple sport facilities and entertainment services across the country.

Football, the most practiced sport in the world, will be the first to be included in this project, while other sports will be added such as volleyball and basketball.

A committee has been formed and includes representatives from inside and outside the committee, headed by Supreme Council for Youth and Sports assistant secretary general and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) secretary general Abdulrahman Askar.

This committee held a series of preparatory meetings, which resulted in many decisions that focused on the initiative, such as field trips to several Al Firjan stadiums in the four governorates.

Nadal relentlessly marches on

● Nadal puts Tsitsipas in crosshairs after slaying giantkiller Tiafoe

● Emotional Kvitova makes Australian Open semi

AFP | Melbourne

Rafael Nadal continued his relentless march towards an 18th major title yesterday as an emotional Petra Kvitova swept into her first Grand Slam semi-final since a terrifying knife attack almost ended her career.

On day nine of the Australian Open, the fairytale runs of Stefanos Tsitsipas and Danielle Collins were also extended as they too swept into the last four.

Second seed Nadal inched closer to winning an event he has only claimed once before when he trounced unseeded American Frances Tiafoe 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 in another ruthless display from a man who has not dropped a set so far.

Tiafoe had announced himself by beating fifth seed Kevin Anderson, but was no match for a player at the peak of his powers as he attempts to become only the third man to win all four Slams twice and the first to do so in the Open era.

"I had some trouble at this



Spain's Rafael Nadal plays a backhand return Frances Tiafoe of the US

event all my career, so I'm very happy with the way I played tonight," said the Spaniard, who faces another young gun Tsitsipas in the semi-finals.

"I feel lucky to be where I am." Greek sensation Tsitsipas powered into the last four with a measured 7-5, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/2) win over Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut.

The 20-year-old, who end-

ed Swiss great Roger Federer's tournament, became the youngest man to reach the semis at Melbourne Park since Andy Roddick in 2003 and the first player from Greece -- man or woman -- to get so far at Grand Slam.

"I'm just living the dream, living what I've been working hard for," said the 14th seed, who lives in Cyprus but trains at the acad-

emy of Serena Williams' coach Patrick Mouratoglou in France. "I feel a bit emotional but not too much -- I know I really worked hard to get here, playing in semis of a Grand Slam."

Czech Kvitova had not gone past the last eight at a major since a burglar slashed her left hand in December 2016, forcing her out of the game for six months and leaving her with lasting nerve damage in the fingers of her racquet hand.

But the eighth seed has bounced back and is on a sensational 10-match unbeaten streak after claiming the Sydney International warm-up title.

She proved too much for Ashleigh Barty, crushing the local hope 6-1, 6-4, and was in tears afterwards as she reflected on her long journey back to the top.

"Really, I didn't imagine to be back on this great stadium and play with the best," the two-time

Wimbledon champion said.

"I'm calling it as my second career. So it's the first semi-final of the second career. I'm really enjoying it."

Kvitova will face unseeded American Collins in the semi-final on Thursday and she desperately wants to reach Saturday's decider.

"I want it bad, that's right," she said.

Collins, the world number 35, had never won a Grand Slam match before entering this year's tournament but she stunned three-time major champion and second seed Angelique Kerber in round four.

And the 25-year-old from Florida continued her Cinderella run by bouncing back spectacularly to down Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 2-6, 7-5, 6-1 in the quarter-finals.

Collins, who has spent long stretches of her career playing small tournaments to build up her ranking points, was in big trouble after losing the first set to the world number 44.

But she fearlessly battled back into the match to again stamp her mark on the tournament.

"This has all been a really incredible experience," she said.

"This time last year I was playing a challenger (tournament) in Newport Beach. But, yeah, I think I'm really embracing it. It makes it a lot easier when you play in front of great fans and really good energy.

“Stefanos is one of the best players of the world. To have the chance to be in that final, I need to play my best, and that's what I am looking for

RAFAEL NADAL

Indian School lifts CBA-BOC under 16 cricket title

TDT | Manama

The Indian School defeated Pakistan School by 70 runs in the final to lift the CBA-BOC Under 16 cricket championship on Saturday at the National Stadium ground.

Batted first the Indian School had scored a reasonable total of 149 runs for the loss of 6 wickets in 20 overs. Once again Captain Govind Bingly (18) and Anirudh S Nair (45 not out) gave a solid start for the Indian School and added 68 runs for the opening wicket. Zulfiqar Hussain Shah was the most successful bowler for Pakistan School who took 2-24 in 3 overs.

In reply, Pakistan School were



ISB under 16 team with their trophy after the victory

bowled out for just 79 runs. Captain Irfan Ullah (25) was the only batsman could score some runs against the superb bowling attack of the Indian

School. Karan Rawal was the most successful bowler once again with 3-14runs and he was well supported by the young Aryan Pande with 2-15runs. Ten

teams participated in this tournament and the Indian School was unbeatable in the whole tournament.

Pakistan Urdu School beat

Rest of School by 2 wickets in Loser's final to win third Position. (Rest of the School - 87 for 9 wickets and Pakistan Urdu School 88 for 7 wickets).

Arsenal defender Bellerin out for up to 9 months with knee injury

AFP | London

Arsenal announced yesterday that defender Hector Bellerin will be out of action for up to nine months after rupturing knee ligaments in his team's win against Chelsea.

Bellerin, 23, went down unchallenged during the second half of Arsenal's 2-0 victory at the Emirates on Saturday and was carried off on a stretcher.