

# Royal Endurance Team crowned at Montalcino endurance championship

HH Shaikh Nasser wins 160 km race, Royal Endurance Team win 120 km and 100 km races

● **HH Shaikh Nasser applauds the results**

TDI | Manama

The Organising Committee of Montalcino International Endurance Championship held an honouring ceremony of the winners of the races held in the Championship, which witnessed His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, and Captain of the Royal Endurance Team, winning the 160 km race amidst the participation of a number of European riders, while the winning riders from the Royal Endurance Team in the 120 km race for the general public and the 100 km race for juniors were also honoured.

On this occasion, HH Shaikh Nasser asserted that these good results achieved by the Royal



Royal Endurance Team celebrate with the trophies

Endurance Team embody the support enjoyed by equestrian sports in general and endurance sports in particular from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and the care and support of His Royal Highness

Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

His Highness expressed delight in achieving first place in the 160 km race and winning the 120 km and 100 km races by the Royal Endurance Team,

confirming the high potential of the Team and the outstanding efforts made by the riders in the Championship.

HH Shaikh Nasser said: "The Championship witnessed strong completion and daring challenges, which distinguish it from the

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HH SHAIKH NASSER BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

previous edition. It required the ability to ride horses in tough terrains. There were great challenges, but we were able to successfully overcome them, and this confirms what the riders enjoy and their successful leadership of the horses throughout the stages. These good results will motivate the Royal Endurance Team for the next stage, as the Team is preparing for its upcoming participations, most notably the World Champion-

ship, and we will continue making efforts to be fully prepared."

His Highness applauded the exceptional performance shown by the Team's riders in the Championship and the sincere efforts exerted by all members.

Dr. Khaled Ahmed Hassan, Director of the Royal Endurance Team, received the first place award for the 160 km race, and the Royal Team's 120 km race riders were honoured. The honoured riders were Mohammed Abdulsamad, who won the first place, Youssef Al Jubouri, second place winner, and Khalifa Jamal Al Sanadi, who won the third place. Abdulrahman Al Khateri also received the first-place trophy in the 100 km race for juniors.

The closing ceremony witnessed the honouring of the Royal Team with the award for the best horse condition after the end of the race, for the horse Dahess Del Falot, which was led by HH Shaikh Nasser to achieve first place in the Championship.

## Riffa, East Riffa victorious in AFC Cup games

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Bahrain clubs Riffa and East Riffa were both victorious in their second matches of the AFC Cup 2022 group stage.

Riffa edged past Dhofar FC of Oman 3-2 in their Group B clash to bounce back from an opening-game loss. East Riffa, on the other hand, were reduced to nine men but were still able to come away with a 2-0 triumph against Tishreen SC of Syria.

With those results, both Bahraini sides stayed in contention to advance to the tournament's next stage.

In Riffa's victory, Komail Al Aswad fired in a late winning goal in the first minute of second-half stoppage time.

They had also previously lost a 2-0 advantage in the contest, as Al Aswad scored in the very first minute of the game and then Hashim Sayed Isa doubled their lead just eight minutes later.

Dhofar were quick to reply, however, and Omar Al Malki got one back in the 13th minute. Yazed Al Maashani then equalised for the Omanis in the 60th minute, setting the stage for the exciting finish.

Riffa took their first three points of their group and are second on the table, tied with Dhofar. Al Arabi of Kuwait are in first place with a full six points, while Shabab Al Khalil of Palestine are fourth with zero.

Riffa play their final game against Shabab Al



Riffa's star playmaker Komail Al Aswad celebrates after scoring against Dhofar

Khalil tomorrow at 10pm. Riffa must win to have any chance of advancing to the next round, with only the top team from each of the three West Asian groups going through along with the best second-placed squad.

Meanwhile, East Riffa were on target on either side of the break. Sami Al Hussaini was the first to strike with a goal in the second minute of first-half stoppage time. Nigerian professional Obus Prince Aggreh then supplied the finishing touch, scoring in the 91st minute of play.

East Riffa improved to four points on the Group C table, tied with Nejme of Lebanon. Tishreen and Hilal Alquds of Palestine follow with a point apiece.

East Riffa's last match is tomorrow against Hilal Alquds.

## India finish with 23 medals at Bahrain Para Badminton



Indian athletes after the event

PTI | Manama

The Indian para badminton team finished with a rich haul of 23 medals, including seven golds, at the 1st Bahrain Para Badminton International Championships in Manama.

Promising doubles shuttler Manisha Ramdass shot into limelight with her twin gold medal show, while Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan (WS SH6) and Dhinakaran Pandurangan and Sivarajan Solaimalai (Doubles SH6) also claimed the other top honours for India.

Top para shuttlers Pramod

Bhagat and Tarun Dhillon also clinched a couple of gold medals each.

Pairing up with Bhagat, Manisha got the better of Thailand's Siripong Teamarrom and Nipada Saensupa 21-14, 21-11 to take the gold in mixed doubles.

Manisha also produced a strong show combining with Mandeep Kaur to win the gold in women's doubles SL3-SU5 finals. They took just 23 minutes to defeat the Paralympian pair of Palak Kohli and Parul Dalsukhbhai Parmar 21-11, 21-11.

## Verstappen takes F1 lead with win in Spain, agony for Leclerc



Verstappen crosses the line

Reuters | Madrid

Formula One world champion Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix in a Red Bull one-two on Sunday tattle over at the top from Ferrari's luckless Charles Leclerc, who retired with an engine failure while leading.

Mexican Sergio Perez finished a dutiful second, 13 seconds behind but with the consolation of a bonus point for fastest lap, after being told to let his team mate pass for a third victory in a row after Imola and Miami.

The 24-year-old Dutch driver is now six points clear of Leclerc after winning four of six races -- all those he has finished.

Britain's George Russell came third for a revived Mercedes and after going wheel-to-wheel with Verstappen early on in a thrilling display of defensive driving as they battled for second place behind Leclerc.

Ferrari's Carlos Sainz was fourth, after fighting back from a slow start and a spin into the gravel, but it was scant reward for a team who had brought upgrades to try and turn the tables on Red Bull.

## BIC bolsters SUV line-up with addition of Ford Bronco Big Bend for YK Off-Road Experience

TDI | Manama

The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East is celebrating the arrival of its latest SUV, the all-new Ford Bronco Big Bend, which is set to thrill drivers and passengers as part of Bahrain's unique Y.K. Off-Road Experience this summer.

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), in partnership with Y.K. Almoayed and Sons has added the ultra-powerful Ford Bronco Big Bend to its exceptional line-up of 4x4 vehicles available in the Y.K. Off-Road Experience.

The Bronco is a legend amongst high-end SUVs built with the extreme adventure seeker in mind. This makes it



A Ford Bronco Big Bend is seen ahead of Y.K. Off-Road Experience at BIC

perfect for the only off-road experience of its kind available in the region at BIC in Sakhr.

The Y.K. Off-Road Experience is open all year round, including throughout the summer months,

Both driver and passenger will be able to immerse themselves in an exciting adventure through 32 natural and man-made obstacles

with bookings available every day as either a driving or passenger experience.

The Bronco Big Bend boasts a 2.3-litre EcoBoost engine that can generate 275 horsepower and it features a 10-speed automatic transmission. It has four-wheel power disc brakes with a four-sensor, four-channel antilock braking system and electronic stability control,

giving the driver complete manoeuvring ability in the most challenging conditions.

The Bronco Big Bend joins the three other top-of-their-line SUVs already available in the Y.K. Off-Road Experience at BIC, namely the Nissan Super Safari, the Nissan Patrol LE V8 D Spec-2019, and the Nissan Patrol SE T2 V6-2019.

The capabilities of these superb vehicles can be enjoyed either as a driver or passenger in this unique off-roading activity, available only at BIC.

As a driver, participants will be able to harness the power and dynamism of their select 4x4 vehicle like never before, and explore the different terrains

of sand, rock, hill, and water landscapes.

Both driver and passenger will be able to immerse themselves in an exciting adventure through 32 natural and man-made obstacles.

All participants will be guided by BIC's expert team of instructors, who will assist with the technologies that make SUVs such as the Bronco Big Bend and Patrol such incredible vehicles.

The Y.K. Off-Road Experience is available at BD71,500 for drivers and BD13,500 for passengers.

For more information and bookings, visit BIC's official website on [www.bahraingp.com](http://www.bahraingp.com) or call the circuit's Hotline on +973-17450000.