

National Race Day returns to BIC

Bahrain Touring Car Challenge and Bahrain Motorcycle Championship headline this weekend’s racing action

● Racing from daylight into floodlit night

● Almansoori, Isa Ebrahim headline BTCC grid

● 19 riders in Motorcycle Championship opener

Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), ‘The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East’, hosts tomorrow the second round of National Race Day this 2025/2026 season.

The event is set to feature two of the Kingdom’s most exciting local championships, including the Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) and the Bahrain Motorcycle Championship (BMC).

The meeting is being organised and run by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, and the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission.

Daylight into floodlit night

Racing will take place along BIC’s 2.55-kilometre Inner Track from 3pm to 10pm, making for varying conditions for participants, who will be battling wheel-to-wheel both in daylight conditions and under BIC’s bright state-of-the-art flood-



lights at night.

All are welcome to attend. Tickets are BD2 for adults and BD1 for children. They can be purchased online at bahraingp.com, through the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000, or at the gate.

Race-goers will get to watch from BIC’s Beyon Grandstand, offering fantastic views of the key parts of the circuit, including the Inner Straight where the start and finish lines are located.

The BTCC is one of the region’s longest-running national racing championships and it continues its legacy in its current format after being formerly known as the BIC, 2,000cc Challenge.

An 11-car grid is set to feature in this meeting, led by Ali Almansoori, who claimed a sensational double in the season-opening round held at the beginning of this month, and defending champion Isa Ebrahim, both of whom are driving Honda Civics.

Amongst the rest of the field, also competing in Honda Civics are Ahmed Algaidy, Ahmed Bajnaid, Hamad Khamis, Moaaz Elzahravi, Andreas Buelow, and Abdulaziz Al Sayed. Completing the entry list are Jamal Ebrahim in a Nissan Skyline, James Taylor in an Acura RSX DC5, and Carina Abdulrahman in a Volkswagen

Scirocco.

Packed grid in BMC

Meanwhile, a packed grid of 19 riders will be hitting the tarmac in the BMC’s season-opening event. The field includes eight competitors in the 1,000cc class, and 11 in the 600cc.

The participants in the 1,000cc category are Hassan Al Awadhi and Abdulaziz Al Sulaiti in Yamaha R1 bikes, Bander Bahlul in a BMW 10004R, Fahed Al Hashash in a Suzuki GSXR, Saud Al Toura and Abdulrahman Al Tayeb in BMW S 1000 RR bikes, Fahad Algosaibi in a BMW 1000 RR, and Abdulaziz Alkhazan in a



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The Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) grid features 11 cars, including defending champion Isa Ebrahim and season-opener double-winner Ali Almansoori, both driving Honda Civics

KTM Superduke.

In the 600cc class, competing are Shaikh Khalid Al Khalifa in a Triumph Daytona; Nasser Al Khadra, Saif Albuainain, and Hamed Al Tamimi in Yamaha R6 bikes; Ali Bu Shahri and Ab-

dulrahman Ahmed in Honda CBR600RR bikes; Achraf Hamoud in a Suzuki GSXR600; Faisal Al Jelaibi in a Honda CBR600; and Mohamad Alzaidan, Ali Adiby, and Essa Almutawa in Kawasaki ZX6 bikes.

Seven rounds

BIC’s 2025/2026 racing calendar is set to feature seven rounds of National Race Day. Following this weekend’s action, round three will be held on 21 November, and then the campaign resumes next calendar year with round four on 10 January. Round five will be held on 6 February, and then the sixth and penultimate meeting will take place on 13 March. That will set the stage for the grand finale on 24 April.

For more information on National Race Day or other events and activities at BIC, visit bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline.

Historic training camp prepares young jockeys for camel racing’s Asian Youth Games debut

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A historic training camp for 27 young jockeys is being held in the UAE ahead of camel racing’s debut at the Asian Youth Games 2025 in Bahrain.

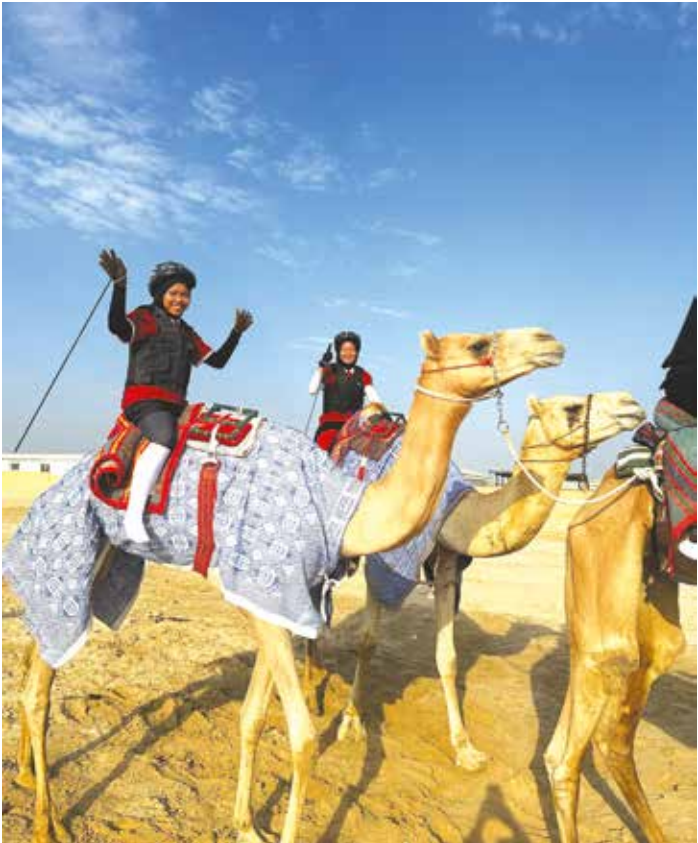
The intensive training camp, hosted by the Asian Camel Racing Federation with support from World Camelids Sport, brings together 16 male jockeys from nine countries and 11 female jockeys from seven countries, in addition to 13 new coaches.

Taking place between 10 and 24 October, athletes from India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, and Yemen are participating, with the vast majority of participants experiencing camel racing for the first time.

Transformative moment

Only athletes from Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, and Mongolia have prior exposure to the discipline, underscoring the camp as a transformative moment for the sports development, and in ensuring all competitors can safely participate in this historic debut.

The Asian Youth Games appearance follows camel racing’s official recognition by the Olympic Council of Asia earlier this year, marking significant progress in the sport’s international development, and comes ahead of its inclusion in the Islamic



Solidarity Games in Saudi Arabia in November.

World Camelids Sport COO Mousa Alkam said: “This training camp represents the future of camel racing. We are witnessing the next generation of camel racing athletes take their first steps in the sport, and their debut at the Asian Youth Games marks a pivotal moment. These young athletes will become ambassadors for the sport’s growth

across new territories and cultures.

“We extend our deepest gratitude to the Asian Camel Racing Federation for their unwavering commitment in hosting this camp and their continued collaboration in developing the sport across Asia and beyond.”

Expanding recognition

“This comes at an incredibly

exciting time as we also prepare for camel racing’s inclusion in the Islamic Solidarity Games in Riyadh this November, demonstrating the expanding recognition of camel racing on the international sporting stage.”

Pierre Nassar, one of the coaches attending the training camp, said: “First of all, the training was very structured in Abu Dhabi, and it was organized in a way that you start learning step by step. A lot of effort was put into it, the program was well arranged, and the work was 100%.”

Lebanese jockey Amir Yehya said: “It’s a really fun and enjoyable sport, and I recommend everyone to try it; it’s a new experience that gives you motivation to do new things in your life.”

Focus on essential skills

The training program focuses on essential skills including camel handling, racing techniques, safety protocols, and competition procedures. Upon completion of the camp on 24 October, participants will travel directly to Bahrain to join additional jockeys from other countries for the competition.

The separate 500-meter races for male and female competitors on 27 October will establish camel racing’s presence at multi-sport youth events, creating pathways for future generations.

Bahrain Golf prepares to host Asian Youth Games competition

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The Bahrain Golf Association (BGA) has finalized preparations for the golf competitions set to be held as part of the 3rd Asian Youth Games, which the Kingdom of Bahrain is hosting. The tournament will take place at the Royal Golf Club from October 23 to 25, featuring athletes from 25 Asian countries competing across male and female categories in both team and individual formats.

The three-day competition will narrow down the remaining players and teams to the final round on the concluding day. The BGA has established a dedicated technical committee to handle all organizational aspects, including coordinating training times, setting competition schedules, overseeing legal arbitration, and reviewing both local and international course rules that will be applied during the tournament.

Major General Ali bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, President of the Bahrain Golf Federation, praised the continuous guidance of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Organizing Committee, whose follow-up has significantly impacted the organizational

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A dedicated technical committee has been formed to manage the event, handling everything from training schedules to the application of international golf rules

success of the games. He also highlighted the efforts of the Supreme Organizing Committee in the medical field and emphasized the capability of Bahraini youth to manage the technical aspects of the international sporting championship.

Bahrain will be represented by a three-player junior team consisting of Abdulrahman Al-Muhaiza, Khalid Mohamed Siddiq, and Yaqoub Yousef Al-Majid. The BGA expressed its commitment to contributing to the overall success of the hosting and achieving the goals set by the Bahrain Olympic Committee.