

Almansoori claims BTCC double in action-packed round of National Race Day at BIC

● Saeed Al Sulaiti wins 1,000cc class and Mohamad Alzaidan triumphs amongst 600cc riders in Bahrain Motorcycle Championship

● Ahmed Bajnaid, Ahmed Algaidy, Yazeed Al Saheel, Fahad Almulhem, Andulaziz Alramih, Fares Almutairi, and Hamad Albaloooshi all take wins in Time Attack

Manama

Ali Almansoori continued his sensational winning run in the 2025-26 Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) by taking both races in the season's third round to headline an exciting National Race Day triple-header, held over the weekend at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir.

Almansoori secured an incredible double for the third straight meeting to remain undefeated in this BTCC campaign. Also taking victories on National Race Day were Saeed Al Sulaiti and Mohamad Alzaidan in their respective classes of the Bahrain Motorcycle Championship (BMC), along with Ahmed Bajnaid, Ahmed Algaidy, Yazeed Al Saheel, Fahad Almulhem, Andulaziz Alramih, Fares Almutairi, and Hamad Albaloooshi in their var-



ious categories in Time Attack. National Race Day was organised and run by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission, and the Bahrain Auto X and Drift Commission. Racing in each of the three national championships took place along BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Track. In BTCC, Almansoori won the

15-lap first race in a total time of 22mins 55.414secs. He dominated the sprint, finishing a commanding 27.297secs ahead of runner-up Isa Ebrahim, while Algaidy, who was also competing in the BTCC, came third 36.745s back. Each of the top three were driving Honda Civics. Almansoori then took the chequered flag in race two with an even bigger gap of 35.519s from Ebrahim, who was again sec-

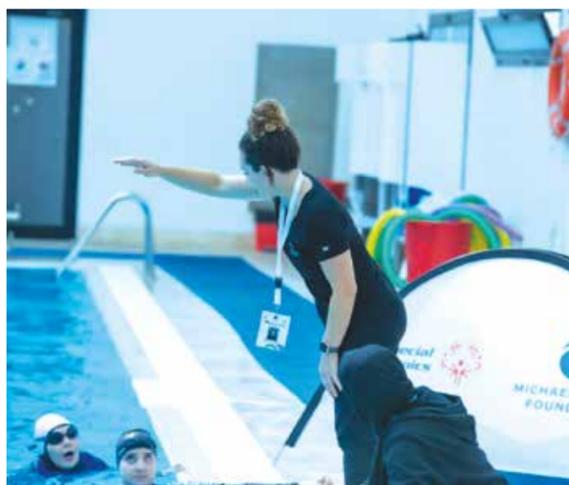


ond. Almansoori triumphed in 20:12.431, while he and Ebrahim were joined on the podium by James Taylor, driving an Acura RSX DC5. Taylor finished 48.610s from first place. In the BMC, Al Sulaiti claimed his victory in the series' 1,000cc category while Alzaidan took the win amongst the 600cc riders. Al Sulaiti powered his Yamaha R1 to first place overall and in class in 16:09.821 after 14 laps. Fahad Al Gharabally on a Suzuki GSXR came second, both overall and in the 1,000cc category, 8.628s behind, while third was Fahad Algaibani on a BMW 1000RR 10.406s back. Alzaidan completed the race fourth overall while taking

his 600cc win riding his Kawasaki ZX6. Joining him on the podium in class were Abdulrahman Ahmed on a Honda CBR600RR and Saif Al Buainain on a Yamaha R6. In Time Attack, Bajnaid was the winner in the ULA class. He registered a fastest time of 1:08.934 on the combined timesheet to take first place following the round's two heats. Algaidy triumphed in the SU category with a best mark of 1:09.430, while Al Saheel won the SA class at 1:11.596. Almulhem took first place in the MA category with a fastest time of 1:13.113, while Alramih triumphed in the ULB class with a best mark of 1:19.216.

Rounding off the Time Attack winners in the meeting were Almutairi in the MB category with a mark of 1:19.156, and Albaloooshi in the SB class with a fastest time of 1:24.335. Following all the action, the winners in the BTCC, BMC, and Time Attack were presented their respective trophies during their respective podium ceremonies. BIC's 2025/2026 racing calendar features seven rounds of National Race Day. The campaign resumes next 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.

Bahrain hosts regional Special Olympics swimming training course



TDT | Manama

A Regional Swimming Champions Training Course, organized by Special Olympics Bahrain in partnership with the Michael Phelps Foundation, has concluded in the kingdom. The program brought together coaches from across the Middle East and North Africa to enhance skills for training athletes with intellectual disabilities.

The curriculum combined

theoretical sessions on the foundations of Special Olympics and World Aquatics rules with practical workshops on buoyancy, stroke technique, and pool safety. Bahraini Special Olympics athletes participated in the practical demonstrations, allowing coaches to apply new methodologies directly.

The initiative aims to systematically raise coaching standards and improve athlete readiness for international competition.

Muthusamy, Jansen put South Africa on top in second India Test

AFP | Guwahati

Senuran Muthusamy struck his first Test century and Marco Jansen hammered 93 to guide South Africa to a commanding 489 all out on day two of the second match against India on Sunday.

The left-handed Muthusamy made 109 and put on 97 runs for the eighth wicket with Jansen, who was the last wicket to fall in the final session in Guwahati.

Jansen struck six fours and seven sixes in his 91-ball blitz before he dragged a delivery from Kuldeep Yadav on to his stumps and the innings ended after 151.1 overs.

The hosts reached nine for no loss in 6.1 overs at stumps, trailing South Africa by 480 runs on a pitch still looking good to bat at India's newest Test venue.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, on seven, and KL Rahul, on two were at the crease when bad light stopped play for the day in the north-eastern city where sunsets are early.

The 6ft 8in (2.03m) Jansen frustrated the Indian attack

as he hung on with number nine and 10 after he reached his fourth Test half-century and surpassed his previous best of 84 not out in the longer format.

Jansen's seven hits over the fence are the joint-most in a Test innings against India. Pakistan's Shahid Afridi hit as many during his 103 in Lahore in 2006.

Muthusamy reached his hundred in 192 balls off pace bowler Mohammed Siraj, as he punched the air and raised his bat to a standing ova-

tion from the crowd and the dressing room.

He fell soon after the second break but

Jansen, a right-hand batter and left-arm quick, kept up the charge with Simon Harmer (5) and Keshav Maharaaj, unbeaten on 12.

Left-arm spinner

Raviindra Jadeja

ended a

88-run sev-

enth-wicket stand

after a

wicketless

first session

when

Kyle Ver-

reynne

was

Scorecard

India 9 for 0 (Jaiswal 7*, Rahul 2*) trail South Africa 489 (Muthusamy 109, Jansen 93, Kuldeep 4-115) by 480 runs

stumped for 45 by captain Rishabh Pant.

Kuldeep finished with four wickets with his left-arm wrist spin.

Pace bowlers Jasprit Bumrah, Siraj and left-arm spinner Jadeja took two each.

The tourists, who won the toss and elected to bat on Saturday, are in hunt for their first series victory in India in 25 years after they won the opener of the two-match series.

Earlier Muthusamy and Verreynne used their feet to tackle spinners in a sedate first hour of play when only 28 runs were scored, including two fours.

Muthusamy survived a scare on 48 when Jadeja had him given out lbw, but the batsman's review showed a murmur when the ball passed his glove and the decision was overturned.



Marco Jansen

Chairman & Managing Director **P Unnikrishnan** | Editor-in-Chief **Mahmood Al Mahmood**

Advertisement: Update Media W.L.L. | Tel: 38444692, Email: sales@newsfobahrain.com | Newsroom: Tel: 36458345, Email: mail@newsfobahrain.com

Subscription & circulation: Tel: 36458394 | Email: subscribe@newsfobahrain.com | Website: www.newsfobahrain.com | Printed and published by Al Ayam Publishing