

# Royal Rumble IV Inspires Hope Across Bahrain

Event Raises Funds For Orphans And Widows Nationwide

Hussain Almaskati  
TDT | Manama

Three months after the final bell rang on Royal Rumble IV, attention shifted from the ring to philanthropy. At yesterday's press conference at the Crowne Plaza Bahrain, organizers formally presented the event's charity proceeds of 50,000 BHD to the Royal Humanitarian Foundation, highlighting the broader impact of the series beyond boxing.

Opening the ceremony, Ammar Qambar, humanitarian advisor at the Foundation, expressed gratitude to the Royal Guard and event partners. "We truly value this partnership," he said, explaining that the donations directly benefit orphans and widows across Bahrain. He added that all administrative costs are covered by the government, ensuring every dinar reaches those in need. "We also provide healthcare, empowerment programs, and essential



Charity cheque handed over at yesterday's press conference at Crowne Plaza Bahrain

services such as insulin pumps and hearing aids," he said, highlighting the Foundation's work.

Expanding on this, Tony Davis, Director of Boxing at Bahrain's Royal Guard and former national coach, described the presentation as a milestone for the series. "It is fantastic to do

something like this for the first time. Today not only highlights what the Foundation does, but also shows how the Royal Rumble series can inspire underprivileged children, potentially encouraging them to pursue sports or other ambitions later in life," he told TDT. He noted

that the ceremony also offered a retrospective of the series from its first edition through the fourth and a glimpse toward Royal Rumble V.

Davis reflected on his transition from national coach to Director of Boxing at the Royal Guard. "Under HH Shaikh

Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa's leadership, I have moved permanently into the military to implement boxing programs and strengthen regional partnerships. We aim to continue initiatives such as the GCC Open Boxing, which will be held after Ramadan, and expand opportunities with the Federation to benefit everyone involved," he explained.

Adding a personal highlight, Prakash Limbu, Bahrain's sole national team representative at the press conference, told TDT that he will soon move from amateur to professional boxing, marking a new chapter in his career.

Looking back at last November's bout, Bahrain's Royal Guard lost 3-2 to the UK Armed Forces in a closely contested match-up. As preparations for Royal Rumble V begin, the series continues to grow, demonstrating that its legacy encompasses not only sporting excellence but also meaningful community impact.

Former US Open champion Raducanu in no hurry to find new coach



Emma Raducanu  
AFP | London

Emma Raducanu insists she is in no rush to find a new coach as the former US Open champion looks to revert to a "more aggressive style of play".

The British tennis player has got through several coaches in a relatively short career, with Francisco Roig the latest to leave the role after the Spaniard spent six months working with Raducanu.

The 23-year-old was outspoken after a second-round loss to Anastasia Potapova at the Australian Open, saying she wanted to be playing "in a way more similar to when I was younger".

In Raducanu's next tournament in Romania she reached her first final since the stunning US Open triumph in 2021 and she insisted she remains happy working with hitting partner Alexis Canter, a 27-year-old former British player who reached a career-high ranking of 779 last year.

## Brook ton fires England past Pakistan into semi-finals



England's captain Harry Brook takes a run  
TDT | Agencies

Harry Brook smashed a breathtaking century as England defeated Pakistan by two wickets in a tense Super Eights clash in Kandy yesterday to seal their place in the T20 World Cup semi-finals. Chasing 165, England recovered from 0 for 1 and 17 for 2 to reach 166 for 8 with five balls to spare, Brook anchoring the innings with a blistering 100 off 51 balls, hitting 10 fours and four sixes.

Brook held England together as wickets fell around him, adding crucial middle-overs runs with Will Jacks, who made 28 off 23, before falling with just 10 runs needed. Shaheen Shah Afridi rattled the top order with a four-wicket burst to finish with 4 for 30, while Mohammad Nawaz and Usman Tariq struck in the middle overs to keep Pakistan

in the contest until the closing stages.

Earlier, Pakistan posted 164 for nine after electing to bat, built around an impressive 63 from 45 balls by opener Sahibzada Farhan, who struck seven fours and two sixes. Fakhar Zaman added a brisk 25 off 16 and Shadab Khan thrashed 23 off 11, but regular strikes from Liam Dawson, who took 3 for 24, and Jofra Archer and Jamie Overton, with two wickets apiece, checked Pakistan's late surge.

England's nervy chase went down to the final over before Jofra Archer punched the winning boundary to complete a memorable night at Pallekele International Cricket Stadium. The result left Pakistan's hopes of progressing hanging by a thread, while an unbeaten Brook walked off to a standing ovation for one of the tournament's standout innings.

## Santer's New Zealand ready for Sri Lanka's spin challenge

AFP | Colombo

New Zealand skipper Mitchell Santner said yesterday adapting to slow-turning pitches in Colombo would be key for their crucial T20 World Cup clash against co-hosts Sri Lanka. The Black Caps need a win in their second Super Eights match in Group 2 on Wednesday at the R. Premadasa Stadium after their first match against Pakistan was washed out at the same venue.

Santner's team have been in the Sri Lankan capital for a week after finishing their group



South Africa's captain Aiden Markram (R) is congratulated by his New Zealand counterpart Mitchell Santner (file photo)

stage in India. "I guess that's the challenge when you play a tournament in two countries -- we played in Chennai and Ahmedabad on flat pitches and here we have to play a bit differently," Santner told reporters.

"But I think you pick a squad of 15, knowing that you could potentially be in both countries on slightly slower wickets, on some flat ones as well."

Sri Lanka come into the contest in a must-win situation after they suffered a huge loss to England in their Super Eights opener in Kandy.

## Bahrain National Team Looks To Regroup In Turkey

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The Bahrain national football team will hold a training camp in Turkey from March 22 to 31, including two friendlies against Kyrgyzstan on March 23 and Uganda on March 26. The camp comes as the squad looks to recover from a difficult international period.

Bahrain's Arab Cup campaign in 2025 saw mixed results. The team began with a 1-0 win over Djibouti in the first qualifying round on November 26, but fell 2-1 to Iraq in Group Stage Matchday 1 on December 3. A heavy 1-5 defeat to Algeria on Matchday 2 put the team in a



Bahrain's national football team

difficult position, and although Talajic's side bounced back with a 3-1 win over Sudan, they were already out of contention for the knockout stage.

Earlier last year, Bahrain's

2026 World Cup qualifying hopes ended after a 0-2 home loss to Saudi Arabia on June 5, followed by a 1-0 defeat to China on June 10. The team finished in the lower half of Group C, which

included Japan, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and China, failing to advance further.

Coach Dragan Talajic emphasized the importance of the Turkey camp for the squad to reset. "After the results we've had, it's important for the team to regroup and put things right," he said. "We want to get our act together and make sure the players are ready for the challenges ahead."

The camp concludes on March 31, when the squad returns to the Kingdom. With two friendlies and focused preparation, the team will aim to address recent setbacks and build momentum for a stronger 2026 campaign.