

Breaking new ground

Rally Jameel 2025 kicks off in Jordan



TDT | Petra, Jordan

Rally Jameel, the first women-only navigational rally in the Middle East, kicked off its fourth edition in the historic city of Petra, marking its first-ever cross-border expansion beyond Saudi Arabia. The opening ceremony welcomed key Jordanian figures, including Dr. Fares Braizat, Chief Commissioner of PDTRA; EYazan Mahadin, PDTRA Tourism Commissioner; Emad Ali Al Helalat, PDTRA Tourism Director; Mr. Muayyad Abu Rumman, CEO of JHRC; and Mr. Zaid Balqez, CEO of Jordan Motorsport. Spanning five days and 1,600 kilometres, the rally charts a course from Petra through Tabuk, AlUla, Hail, and ends in Qassim. The route highlights the natural beauty and cultural heritage of both Jordan and Saudi Arabia, echoing the ancient Nabataean trade routes that once linked Petra and AlUla. This year, 41 teams representing 37 countries are taking part, with four teams unable to con-



firm participation due to minor logistical issues. Rally Jameel continues to grow as a global platform for women in motorsport, promoting empowerment, inclusion, and regional tourism. Munir Khoja, Managing Director at Abdul Latif Jameel Motors, said: "Launching Rally Jameel in Petra is a pivotal step toward elevating women's motorsport while expanding Saudi Arabia's global sporting presence." Zaid Balqez of Jordan Motorsport added: "This partnership reflects our shared vision to position the Middle East as a destination for inclusive, world-class motorsport experiences." Rally Jameel 2025 is the most ambitious edition yet—combining adventure, cultural exchange, and sporting excellence. It strengthens the region's role in the global motorsport scene while celebrating the resilience, talent, and leadership of women drivers.



Bahrain shine brightly as *World Boccia Challenger* wraps up

● Isa bin Rashid Sports Hall hosts five days of elite competition in para-sport event

TDT | Manama



The Bahrain 2025 World Boccia Challenger Series came to a close in Manama this week, after five days of inspiring competition that brought together 64 athletes from 14 nations.



Held at the Isa bin Rashid Sports Hall from April 19 to 23, the event saw standout performances across all classifications. Thailand proved a dominant force in the BC2 category, claiming gold in both the men's and women's events, as well as the team BC1/2 competition. South Korea also left its mark with

wins in the BC3 men's and BC4 men's categories, while Saudi Arabia and Malaysia shared the spotlight in the women's competitions. Sweden impressed in the BC3 pairs, while Malaysia rounded out an exceptional campaign by clinching gold in the BC4 doubles and BC1 women's events. The closing ceremony, attended by dignitaries and sports leaders, capped off a successful tournament with reflections on the high level of organisation and competitive spirit.

Shaikh Mohammed bin Duaij Al Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Paralympic Committee, praised the event's impact on the development of para-sports in the Kingdom. "This tournament reflects our ongoing commitment to empowering athletes and creating spaces where their talent can shine," he said. Executive Director Mahmoud Mohammed echoed those sentiments, highlighting the logistical milestones achieved and the im-

portance of the tournament in driving visibility for Boccia and Paralympic sport. **Looking Ahead** A special tribute was paid to the International Boccia Federation, and a commemorative shield was presented in appreciation of its continued support. The final honours ceremony recognised the champions of each category — closing out an edition that was not only competitive but transformative.