

# Bahraini, Saudi boost sports cooperation

Bahraini and Saudi Olympic Committees sign joint cooperation agreement

● **HH Shaikh Khalid hails Bahraini-Saudi relations, says the agreement will move sports cooperation to a new stage of development and growth**

TDI | Manama

The Bahrain Olympic Committee has signed a cooperation agreement with its counterpart, the Saudi Olympic Committee, based on the mutual desire between the two parties to develop cooperation in various fields of the Olympic and sports movement and to develop close relations between both brotherly countries.

The agreement was signed by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of the General Sports Authority and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, and HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal Al Saud, Minister of Sports and President of the Saudi Olympic Committee, in the presence of the Secretary-General of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, Mohammed Hassan Al Nisf and HRH Prince Fahd bin Jalawi bin



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal Al Saud sign the agreement

Abdulaziz Al Saud, Vice Chairman and Secretary-General of the Board of Directors of the Saudi Olympic Committee.

The signing of this agreement came on the sidelines of the General Assembly of the National Olympic Committees which is taking place in Crete.

The terms of the agreement include developing a cooperative programme to help athletes in the two countries to participate successfully in the Olympic Games, cooperate in developing the organisational structure and administrative effectiveness of the two Olympic Committees, organising mutual visits between athletes and coaches

of the two brotherly countries, and discussing the possibility of cooperation with the Olympic Solidarity Committee in order to provide Olympic grants for the players of the two countries.

The agreement also includes exchanging information on the qualification and development of trainers through specialised programmes such as the International Coaching Training Enrichment Certificate Programme (ICECP), sports medicine programmes, technical and sports administrators programmes, benefiting from the best applications in the field of sports facilities, especially Olympic training centres, and benefiting



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal Al Saud exchange gifts after signing the agreement

from the best applications and methods with regard to training the staff members working in the two committees, with a focus on the areas of leadership, management, and organisational development, researching cooperation in developing sports activities that are under the umbrella of the two committees or concerned federations, cooperation in the fields of sports medicine, anti-doping programmes and activities, managing sports events, and many others.

It was agreed that the two Olympic committees would cooperate in developing the international Olympic movement,

coordinating and consulting on the most important topics and issues of common interest.

On this occasion, HH Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa expressed his great happiness at signing this agreement with the Saudi Olympic Committee, stating that it embodies the close ties and the strong relations that bind the two brotherly countries' leaderships and peoples.

His Highness praised the important role being played by the Saudi Olympic Committee in developing the Olympic movement, which resulted in the achievement of many accomplishments and successes

in light of the support and care received by Saudi sports from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, the Saudi Crown Prince.

Moreover, HH Shaikh Khalid stressed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's victory in hosting the 2034 Asian Games is the greatest evidence of international confidence in its position and its active role in advancing the Olympic movement, expressing his great pride in signing this agreement, which will ensure bilateral cooperation between the two parties towards further development.



The two Olympic committees would cooperate in developing the international Olympic movement, coordinating and consulting on the most important topics and issues of common interest

## Tennis Challenger organisers follow up preparations

TDI | Manama

The Organising Committee of the Ministry of Interior Tennis Challenger Championship held its first meeting to discuss the workflow of the committees ahead of the event.

The tournament is organised by the Ministry of Interior from November 20 to 28 with players from around the globe are expected to take part.

Headed by the President of Public Security Sports Association and Chairman of the Organising Committee Colonel Khaled Abdulaziz Al Khayyat, the meeting also reviewed all matters related to bringing this international competition that, to be held for the second time in the Kingdom of Bahrain at the Public Security Officers Club tennis courts in Al Qudaihiya.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Director of the Public Security Officers



Mohammed Al Sayed

Club and the Vice President of the Tournament, Lt. Col. Jassem Hassan Jassim, the committees discussed plans to implement them and complete all the necessary requirements for the tournament.

The organising committee is working in full swing to complete all preparations within the next few weeks, while preparing an integrated program

for the tournament in an effort to make this international sporting event a success.

On his part, tournament director Captain Mohammed Al Sayed has affirmed that registration is open to participate in the Ministry of Interior Tennis Challenger, where so far 52 of the most prominent players in the ATP Challenger international rounds have submitted their entries.

Al Sayed said there are expectations for the number of participants to increase in the coming days before the registration door closes, on November 2.

The tournament director explained that the media committee held an online conference with the ATP to develop an appropriate plan to telecast the tournament's competitions live on the federation's website, where all the matches will be arranged.

## Bahrain swimmers bring medal haul to 13 in Arab championships

TDI | Manama

Bahrain won four more medals yesterday to bring their total haul to 13 after the morning session on the penultimate day of the Arab Swimming Championships 25M, being held in Abu Dhabi.

The Kingdom's national team captured two gold medals on day three of the four-day competition. They were highlighted by two gold medals won by Noor Yusuf Taha and Saud Salah.

Noor, who was one of Bahrain's two swimmers at the Tokyo Olympic Games earlier this year, captured her gold in the Women's 100m Backstroke for ages 16 to 18. It was her second



Bahrain's Noor Yusuf Taha reacts at the end of a race after winning one of her gold medals

gold of the competition after earlier clinching first place in the 50m Backstroke, and third medal overall having won the bronze in the 50m Butterfly.

Salah, meanwhile, claimed

his gold medal in the Men's 200m Breaststroke for ages 16 to 18. His gold added to his three other medals so far. He also won the silver medal in the Men's 100m Breaststroke, the silver as part of the 4x50m Individual Medley Relay team, and the bronze with Bahrain's 4x200m Freestyle Relay team.

Also yesterday, Omar Alruwella clinched the silver medal in the Men's 100m Backstroke for ages 16 to 18, and Sanad Abdullah captured the bronze in the Men's 100m Backstroke for ages 19-and-above.

With yesterday's medals, Bahrain's tally heading into today's last day of action features four gold, five silver and four bronze medals.

## South Africa thrash West Indies in T20 World Cup after De Kock refuses to take knee

AFP | Muscat

South Africa hammered holders West Indies by eight wickets in a game overshadowed by Proteas star Quinton de Kock's refusal to take the knee prior to yesterday's Twenty20 World Cup clash.

Aiden Markram smashed 51 to lead South Africa's chase of 144 in an unbeaten 83-run third-wicket stand with Rassie van der Dussen (43) to achieve their target with 10 balls to spare in the Super 12 contest.

South Africa bounced back from their opening loss to Aus-



South Africa's Quinton de Kock walks from the field

tralia, while two-time champions West Indies have lost both their matches.

Cricket South Africa ordered its players to kneel in Dubai and lend their support to the anti-racism movement but De Kock pulled out of the game

due to "personal reasons".

Temba Bavuma's team took the knee after opting to field first.

"When the news hit us it did kind of take us back as a team," Bavuma said of the decision by De Kock.

"A guy like Quinnie, he obviously plays an integral role within the team, not just with the bat but as a senior player.

"But with that, (Heinrich) Klaasen coming in there was an opportunity for him, it was another game of cricket that we had to play for our country and we had to live up to that."

## Rauf's 4-22 helps Pakistan to 5-wicket win over New Zealand

AFP | Dubai

Fast bowler Haris Rauf compiled a career-best 4-22 to help Pakistan rally for a five-wicket victory over injury-hit New Zealand yesterday at the T20 World Cup.

Rauf's variations kept New Zealand to 134-8 in its opening Group 1 game after Pakistan skipper Babar Azam won the toss and opted to field.

The experience of Shoaib Malik (27 not out) and power-hitting of Asif Ali (27 not out) then quashed New Zealand's hopes of a late comeback and carried Pakistan to 136-5 in 18.4 overs to earn the team its second victory in three days.

Asif smashed two late sixes in Tim Southee's one over and



Pakistan's Haris Rauf (R) celebrates a wicket

then hoisted Trent Boult over wide mid-on for a six before scampering for two runs at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

Pakistan beat India by 10 wickets on Sunday. The team has three more games to go

against Afghanistan, Namibia and Scotland.

New Zealand missed fast bowler Lockie Ferguson, who was ruled out of the tournament because of a torn calf before the game.