

National Race Day season flags off this Friday at BIC

Exciting double-header on the cards with Bahrain Touring Car Challenge and Time Attack hitting the track

● All are invited; tickets cost BD2 for adults and BD1 for children, with racing taking place from 3pm to after 10pm

Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', hosts the first round of National Race Day this 2025/2026 season on Friday in Sakhir.

The event is set to feature an exciting double-header with the Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) and Time Attack.

Action will be taking place along BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Track, and the meeting is being organised and will be run by BIC, in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, and the Auto X and Drift Commission.

Racing is scheduled to be held from 3.20pm under daylight



conditions and continue until after 10.30pm at night under BIC's bright, state-of-the-art floodlights – making for an extra challenge of varying conditions for the participants.

All are invited to attend and enjoy the heated racing action. Tickets cost BD2 for adults and BD1 for children. Race-goers will get to watch from BIC's Beyond Grandstand, offering fantastic views of the key parts of the circuit, including the Inner Straight where the start and finish lines are located. Tickets can be purchased online at

bahraingp.com, by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000, or at the gate.

BTCC: A Legacy Continues

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.

Last year's champion Isa Ebrahim is returning to defend his crown. He will be getting behind the wheel of his Honda Civic challenger, and will be



joined in round one by Moazz Elzahrawi, Ahmed Algaidy, Ahmed Bajnaid, Ali Almansoori, Hamad Khamis, Andreas Bue-low, and Rakan Al Favez, all of whom are also driving Honda Civics.

Completing the BTCC's entry list this season-opener are Jamal Ebrahim in a Nissan Skyline, James Taylor in an Acura RSX DC5, and Carina Abdulrahman in a Volkswagen Scirocco.

BTCC practice will be kicking off the series' programme at 4.35pm, and then qualifying will take place at 6pm. The

first of two 15-lap races is then scheduled to flag off at 7.40pm, followed by the second at 10pm.

Time Attack Format

Time Attack, meanwhile, is a race against the clock – with the final classification being determined by the times participants need to negotiate the track from start to finish. Entrants will be battling it out in six different classes based on their cars, including SU, UL, MA, SA, MB, and SB categories.

Time Attack practice for

all competitors is scheduled to kick off the day's action at 3.20pm, to be followed by heat one for SU, UL, and MA classes at 5.10pm, and then heat one for SA, MB, and SB categories at 6.35pm.

The second heat for all racers is then set for 8.15pm.

At the end of the day's schedule, the podium ceremonies for both BTCC and Time Attack will be held, starting at 10.45pm.

BIC's 2025/2026 racing calendar is set to feature seven rounds of National Race Day. Round two is slated for 24 October, while round three will be held on 21 November. The campaign resumes next calendar year with round four on 10 January, and then round five will be held on 6 February. The sixth and penultimate meeting will then take place on 13 March, setting 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.

Isa bin Ali: We have faith in Bahraini talent for a remarkable success at the Third Asian Youth Games

TDI | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Vice President of the Olympic Council of Asia for the Third Asian Youth Games and Vice President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, emphasized that the Kingdom is on the brink of hosting a unique Asian sports event. With just 24 days remaining until the opening of the Games, set to take place in Bahrain from October 22 to 31, 2025, the event will be held under the gracious patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

His Highness stated that the royal patronage of the Games reflects the unwavering commitment His Majesty has towards the sports movement in the Kingdom. It serves as a fundamental pillar for the event's success and a significant motivation for all involved to work with determination and enthusiasm to present the event in the best possible light, under the keen keenness and supervision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Vice Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sport, Chairman of the General Sports Authority, President of the Olympic Committee, and Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

Shaikh Isa bin Ali expressed his confidence in the capabilities of Bahraini talents, stating

that, in collaboration with the Olympic Council of Asia, they will achieve an unprecedented organizational success for this edition of the Games.

He added, "Bahrain has repeatedly proven to be a model for hosting and organizing continental and international events. We possess the advanced infrastructure and organizational expertise necessary to provide an exceptional experience for athletes and delegations from across the Asian continent."

His Highness pointed out that the organizational aspect is just as crucial as the competitive side, expressing his high hopes and confidence in the "Team Bahrain" of young athletes to achieve accomplishments across various sports.

He remarked, "Our youth represent the future of Bahraini sports, and they have worked diligently and passionately in preparation for this event. We expect them to give their best, embodying the fighting spirit and high will that characterize our athletes, and to raise the Bahraini flag high on the podiums."

Shaikh Isa bin Ali highlighted the significance of the Asian Youth Games, considering it a true gateway that paves the way for young athletes toward major global competitions such as the Olympics and the Asian Games.

Manama's preliminary round ends in defeat

Salman shines, but Kuwaitis pull away

● Manama loses third match

● Kuwait SC dominates 2nd half

● Ahmed Salman scores 22

Hussain Almaskati
TDI | Manama

Bahrain's Manama Club suffered their third defeat at the 37th Arab Basketball Championship for Men's Clubs, losing 76–65 to Kuwait SC yesterday in Dubai. After previous heavy losses to Lebanon's Antonine (79–73) and Libya's Al Ahly Tripoli (103–78), Manama entered the Group B match hoping to rebound.

Early Tight Battle

The first quarter ended tied at 20–20 after Kuwait SC briefly led by six points. Coach Salman Ramadan unusually started both foreign players, Daniel Hamilton and Carl Jones, together from the beginning. In the second quarter, Manama edged ahead 12–13, highlighted by Hassan Nowrooz's quick three-pointer, which prompted a timeout from Kuwait's coach. Mohamed Bualay added another three-pointer, temporarily extending the lead to four points. Kuwait quickly



Manama's topscorer, Ahmed Salman, in action

Quarter-by-Quarter Scores

- Q1: 20–20
- Q2: 12–13 (Manama)
- Q3: 28–16 (Kuwait SC)
- Q4: 16–16

responded, taking a two-point advantage, until Ahmed Salman

scored a decisive three-pointer to give Manama a one-point halftime lead, 33–32.

Kuwait Takes Control

The third quarter proved decisive as Kuwait SC dominated 28–16, capitalizing on Manama's mistakes and the lack of offensive impact from Daniel



Manama will face hosts Al-Nasr in the Round of 16, featuring former player Travin

Hamilton, who had been top scorer in the previous matches. Kuwait's fast breaks and offensive rebounds extended their lead up to 15 points. The fourth quarter ended 16–16, leaving the final deficit at 11 points, 76–65.

Standouts And Context

Ahmed Salman led Manama with 22 points, followed by Carl Jones with 12 and Hassan Nowrooz with 11. With this defeat, Manama finished at the bottom of Group B with three points from three losses.

Kuwait SC moved to second with five points, while Al Ahly Tripoli tops the group with six, and Antonine of Lebanon sits third with four points. Manama will now face the top team from Group A, the host Al Nasr Club, in the Round of 16, which includes former Manama player Travin.