

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa inaugurates 2022 BRAVE International Combat Week in glittering opening ceremony at Khalifa Sports City arena

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa attends opening ceremony along with a host of ministers and high-ranking officials

Mixed Martial Arts extravaganza to continue until Saturday, and it will feature worldclass events including **BRAVE CF 57 and the MMA Super Cup**

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mony held at the Khalifa Sports Prince and Prime Minister. City arena in Isa Town.

Council for Youth and Sports has now become the centre of HH Shaikh Khalid said. first deputy chairman, General Sports Authority president and Bahrain Olympic Committee chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

BRAVE International Combat Week is being held under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid and has been organised by the

Bahrain Mixed Martial Arts Federation (BMMAF), in cooperation with the International Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF) and Khalid bin Hamad Sports Organisation (KHK Sports).

The MMA extravaganza will continue until Saturday, and it will be headlined world-class events, including BRAVE CF 57 and the MMA Super Cup.

Yesterday's inauguration was attended by a host of ministers and high-ranking officials.

On this occasion, HH Shaikh Khalid affirmed that Bahrain has become an ideal destination for major sports events at the continental and international levels, thanks to the sponsorship and care extended to sports by His he 2022 edition of BRAVE Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al International Combat Khalifa, and the interest of His Week kicked off last night Royal Highness Prince Salman with a glittering opening cere- bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown

"We have sketched our vision In attendance was Supreme to support the MMA sport which attention from across the world,"



Athletes take part in the parade of nations during last night's inauguration

BRAVE CF 57 is set to feature world-class fighters from

17 nations, including Bahrain, Canada, Lebanon, Algeria,

Kyrgyzstan, France, Uzbekistan, Brazil, England, Russia,

Switzerland, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, India,

Egypt, and Afghanistan.

"Bahrain has accomplished this sport, foremost of which topping the IMMAF rank as well tremendous achievements in

as the introduction of BRAVE CF. "The Kingdom is the favourite destination for the IMMAF after earning the trust and the confidence of the federation, following the organisation of three tremendously successful world championships.

"As a result, we have been such great events.

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- HH SHAIKH KHALID BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

MMA Super Cup." Moreover, HH Shaikh Khalid stated that BRAVE CF 57 repre-

sents a great opportunity for professional fighters to encounter one another. "The event will feature three

important fights, the main of which is Hamza Kooheji's fight against Brad Katona," HH Shaikh Khalid added.

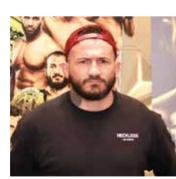
нн Shaikh Khalid also lauded the hugely successful opening ceremony, stressing that it confirms the high capabilities and abilities of Bahrain to organise

Mohammad Fakhreddine's fan bets

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loyal fan of Mohammad **A**Fakhreddine in Orange County, California is expected to have an expensive night on Friday, March 11 as he opted to put big money on BRAVE CF Middleweight World Cham-

Fakhreddine is set to battle arch-nemesis Mohamed "L'Ambiance" Said Maalem in a much-awaited rematch for the BRAVE CF 57, which takes place same time. at the Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town, Bahrain.



\$100K on him to win at BRAVE CF 57

Mohammad Fakhreddine

vacant BRAVE CF Light Heavy- der the promotion's umbrella weight World Championship at to hold two World Titles at the Champion.

\$100,000 that Fakhreddine will August 2021 ended in contro- wager if the Lebanese hard-hithistory as the first fighter un- turned by the Italian Federation draped on his shoulder.

of Grappling and Mixed Martial Arts following a thorough investigation of the match.

It was found that there were illegal strikes made by Said Maalem on Fakhreddine in the final sequence, something that contributed to the stoppage.

Now, Fakhreddine and Said Maalem will have to settle the score with a chance to have a much more definitive ending and crown the new BRAVE CF Light Heavyweight World

It's not clear what odds The first encounter between Fakhreddine's fan will get for Fakhreddine and Said Maalem the said amount of his bet, but The unnamed fan is betting at BRAVE CF 52: Bad Blood in he will surely earn more than his beat Said Maalem and make versy as the result was over- ter walks out with another belt

Said Maalem seeks to silence Fakhreddine once and for all

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ohamed "L'Ambiance" Said Maalem made it clear that he plans to humble BRAVE CF Middleweight World Champion Mohammad "The Latest" Fakhreddine when they meet inside the cage once again.

Both men are set to face each other for the vacant BRAVE CF Light Heavyweight Championship in a rematch at the Bahrain on Friday, March 11.

The bad blood between the ensued soon afterwards. two stemmed from their canceled fight at BRAVE CF 50 in dine had the opportunity to contest.



Mohamed Said Maalem

highly-anticipated BRAVE CF April 2011 when Fakhreddine 57, which takes place at Khalifa opted to pull out of the contest were illegal strikes made by Sports City Arena in Isa Town, due to illness. The war of words Said Maalem to the back of on social media and in person Fakhreddine's head in the fi-

settle the score at BRAVE CF 52: Bad Blood four months later, but to compound the misery, it ended in controversy.

The result of the fight originally had Said Maalem winning by stoppage in the first round, but the Italian Federation of Grappling and Mixed Martial Arts—the authorized governing body that sanctioned the fight—overturned the outcome following a thorough investigation.

It was found that there nal sequence, prompting the Said Maalem and Fakhred- commission to call for a no