

Bahrain juniors clinch GCC golf title

Trio of Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea, Abdulrahman Ebrahim Alseedi and Abdulla Rashid Saeed win first place

● **Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea wins juniors individual bronze medal with a 24-over-par total of 240 score in 14th GCC Juniors U18 Golf Championship**

● **Bahrain's men, led by Ahmed Mohamed Al Zayed, stay in contention for medals in seniors' tournament**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's junior national golf team were yesterday crowned champions of the 14th GCC Juniors U18 Golf Championship, which came to a close at the Royal Golf Club.

The young Bahrainis clinched the coveted title after finishing the 54-hole competition with a total team score of 44 over par.

The team featured Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea, Abdulrahman Ebrahim Alseedi and Abdulla Rashid Saeed.

The nationals finished five



Bahrain's Khalifa Mohammed Khalifa in action yesterday

shots ahead of silver-medal winners Oman (+49), while 11 shots adrift were the UAE (+55), who completed the podium-placers in third.

Kuwait (+92) and Qatar (+105) were classified fourth and fifth, respectively.

Mehaizea was the top-ranked Bahraini on the individual rankings, going third overall and narrowly missing out on the juniors title. He came away with the bronze medal with a 24-over-par total of 240 after three rounds. Mehaizea finished four shots



Bahrain's junior national golf team members

behind champion and gold-medallist Salem Alabkal of Kuwait, who had a 20-over-par total of 236. Ahmed Khalil Alwahaibi of Oman was the silver-medallist one shot behind.

Bahrain's Alseedi came fourth on a 28-over-par 244 total, while Saeed was ninth overall at 32-over 248.

Meanwhile, Bahrain's senior men's national team stayed in contention for the teams and individual podiums in the 25th GCC Men Golf Championship, being played alongside the juniors event.

The seniors' tournament is taking place over 72 holes, with the final day set to be held today, to be followed by the awarding and closing ceremony.

Bahrain were third heading into the final round with a 40-over-par total—12 shots behind leaders Qatar (+28). The UAE (+39) followed in second, while Saudi Arabia (+71) and Oman (+93) were ranked behind Bahrain fourth and fifth, respectively.

On the individual classifi-

cation, Bahrain's Ahmed Mohamed Al Zayed was third with a four-over-par total gross of 220. He played a 70 in yesterday's third round.

Saleh Ali Alkaabi of Qatar stayed in first place with a two-under-par 214 total, while Ahmad Akram Skaik of the UAE was second on an even par 216 score.

Amongst the other Bahraini players, Khalifa Duaij Alkaabi was sixth on a 15-over-par 231 score, while Fahad Al Hakam (+24) and Khalifa Mohammed Khalifa (+25) were 11th and 12th, respectively, heading into today's final day of play.



Bahraini juniors finish five shots ahead of silver-medallists Oman and 11 strikes in front of bronze-medal winners the UAE on the podium

Manama return to top in Nasser bin Hamad football league

● **Mahdi Abduljabbar scores winning goal for Manama against Al Hala**

● **Al Shabab defeat Bahrain Club 3-2 in the other fixture last night**

TDI | Manama

Manama returned to the top of the table in the 2022/2023 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League after defeating Al Hala 1-0 last night in their week 16 match.

Football League after defeating Al Hala 1-0 last night in their week 16 match.

Mahdi Abduljabbar scored the winning goal in the 18th minute of the contest from close range off a rebound after the shot of Mohammed Yahya Al Hallak was kept out of the net



Manama's Mahdi Abduljabbar, left, is congratulated by teammates after scoring their winning goal in the first half against Al Hala

by the Hala defence.

Both teams tried to add to the score line over the remainder of the contest but neither could find the finishing touches.

Manama came away with their ninth win in 16 games and

went back to first place with 31 points. Hala were handed their sixth loss and stayed on 18.

In another match last night, Al Shabab defeated Bahrain Club 3-2 in a match between

Standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Manama	16	9	4	3	15	31
Al Khalidiya	16	9	3	4	14	30
Muharraq	15	7	6	2	11	27
Sitra	15	7	6	2	8	27
Riffa	16	7	5	4	7	26
Al Ahli	16	5	6	5	-3	21
Al Shabab	16	6	2	8	0	20
Hidd	16	5	4	7	-10	19
Al Hala	16	4	6	6	-3	18
East Riffa	15	4	6	5	-2	18
Bahrain Club	16	3	4	9	-8	13
Budaiya	15	1	2	12	-29	5

clubs in the bottom half of the standings.

Shabab claimed their sixth win to rise to 20 points, while Bahrain Club suffered their ninth loss and remained on 13 markers.

League action continues tonight with Muharraq facing Budaiya and Sitra taking on East Riffa.

'Nonsense' to suggest Man Utd gave up against Liverpool, says Rashford



Manchester United's Marcus Rashford (R) vies with Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk

AFP | London

Marcus Rashford defended Manchester United's effort in a historic 7-0 thrashing at the hands of Liverpool, with the Red Devils' top scorer putting a second half collapse down to a lack of organisation.

United equalled their heaviest ever defeat in a competitive game and worst since 1931 at Anfield after conceding six times in the second period.

"We didn't give up, that's nonsense," said Rashford at a pre-match press conference yesterday ahead of United's Europa League last 16, first leg against Real Betis.

"We were unorganised, yes, communication was bad, yes, that's why we conceded the goals.

"But it comes down to the fact that I believe everyone was trying to get back in the game that much we came away from the team's principles in and out of possession."

Bruno Fernandes has been singled out for criticism for his attitude while captaining the

"We were unorganised, yes, communication was bad, yes, that's why we conceded the goals. But it comes down to the fact that I believe everyone was trying to get back in the game that much we came away from the team's principles in and out of possession"

MARCUS RASHFORD

side at the weekend.

The Portuguese midfielder has regularly been appointed Ten Hag's skipper this season as club captain Harry Maguire has slipped down the pecking order.

Fernandes frequently chastised his teammates and even pushed one of the referee's assistants in his frustration.

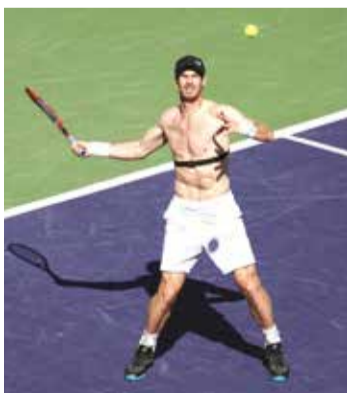
But Ten Hag confirmed he will remain captain when Maguire is not selected.

Murray 'won't go nuts' if Wimbledon scraps Russia ban

AFP | London

Andy Murray has said he will "not be going nuts" if Russian and Belarusian players are allowed to feature at this year's Wimbledon, even though the British tennis great would have mixed emotions regarding their return.

Murray, 35, received the ATP's Arthur Ashe Humanitarian Award for 2022 after donating more than £500,000 (\$592,000, 562,000 euros) in prize money to help children in Ukraine affected by Russia's invasion, but



Andy Murray of Great Britain in a practice session during the BNP Paribas Open

"My understanding is that they are going to be allowed to play and I'm not going to be going nuts if that is the case. But if Wimbledon went down another route, I would be understanding of that"

ANDY MURRAY

has previously said he was "not supportive" of last year's ban.

But British media reports last week suggested the ban was about to be lifted, with three-time major winner Murray telling the BBC: "It's a really difficult one and I do feel for the players who weren't able to play last year -- but I also understand the situation and why it's really hard for Wimbledon to make a call on it as well."

The Scot added: "My understanding is that they are going to be allowed to play and I'm not going to be going nuts if that is the case.