

# Bahrain gearing up for Manama Masters

Kingdom to make highly anticipated debut on this year's FIBA 3x3 World Tour

● **HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa makes inspection visit to competition site**

● **Bahrain to be represented by two teams with Al-Riffa men's side, Al-Manama women's team**

TDI | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain continues to step up its preparations for the inaugural edition of the Manama Masters, part of this year's FIBA 3x3 World Tour.

The prestigious basketball event is scheduled to take place November 16 and 17 at a specially constructed venue at Bahrain Financial Harbour (BFH) amidst significant participation from various countries around the world.

Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) vice-president and supreme organising committee chairman His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa



A view of the playing court at Bahrain Financial Harbour

yesterday paid an inspection visit to the competition's site.

Dedicated 3x3 basketball courts have been put up along with grandstands and a series of facilities and tents that provide all logistical services, sales booths, and amenities.

HH Shaikh Isa was accompanied by General Sports Authority (GSA) CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar, BOC secretary general Faris Al Kooheji, Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) president Captain Waleed Al Alawi,

and a number of representatives and officials from FIBA, basketball's international governing body, the BBA, sponsoring companies and media.

The Manama Masters will be an entertaining celebration of basketball that will strengthen Bahrain's status as a leading regional tourist destination.

It will be the Kingdom of Bahrain's first-ever appearance on the FIBA 3x3 World Tour, and it is taking place under the patronage of Supreme Council for



This year's inaugural Manama Masters will be the first for the next three years for the Kingdom of Bahrain on the FIBA 3x3 World Tour

Youth and Sports first deputy chairman, GSA president and BOC chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

This inaugural event will be the first for the next three years for the Kingdom on the FIBA 3x3 World Tour. The series' 2023 calendar got underway in April in Japan, with other destinations all over the world throughout the year. Bahrain is the world tour's fourth destination in the GCC, joining Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar.

Bahrain will be represented by two teams in the event, includ-



HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa inspects the competition venue alongside other officials

ing a men's side named "Al-Riffa" and a women's team named "Al-Manama".

Al-Riffa men's team consists of national team star Mustafa Hussain and three professionals, namely Nemanja Draskovic, Milan Skundric, and Anže Srebovt. Al-Manama women's team will be composed of players Hessa Al Jaber and Marian Samir, along with two professional players, Julia Jorritsma and Loyce Bettonvil.

Both teams will be coached by

experienced coach Abdul Kareem Al-Anzoor, who has previously led our national teams in various international events of this nature.

The event is open to all citizens, residents, and communities to attend.

In September of last year, the BOC signed its agreement with FIBA to host the FIBA 3x3 World Tour. HH Shaikh Isa penned the agreement with Ignacio Soriano, FIBA's Events and Partnership 3x3 president.

## Al Alawi and Al Salehi crown winners of Al Fursan Dressage Qualifier Show



Winners celebrate after the event

TDI | Manama

Under the patronage and support of Shaikha Noora bint Hamad Al Khalifa, Captain of Al Fursan team, the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF) organised the first dressage championship in the current equestrian season in the BDF Equestrian Arena at the Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club.

Al Fursan Dressage Qualifier Show witnessed qualifiers in different levels, featuring wide

participation and a good fan turnout.

Ghalib Al Alawi, Secretary of BREEF and Tawfiq Al Salehi, Director of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Media Office and Information Centre and Head of the Public Relations, Media and Marketing Committee in BREEF crowned the winners of all levels in the event.

In the Intro competition, first place went to Albane Lecat with the horse Maahir after scoring 51 points. In second place was Reema Aljahromi with the horse

Capri Color (49 points), while third place was occupied by Yasmeen Alkhali with the horse Ruby (48 points).

In the same category for seniors, Waleed Alansari finished first on Lamona More (54 points), followed by Shatha Al Qassim (52 points) on Catalina, and Salah Majeed on Madrid VII (52 points) respectively.

In the preliminary competition for juniors, rider Reema Aljahromi came in first place with the horse Capri Color with a score of 49 points, and in second



Action from the event



A winner is awarded

place was Tegan Harrison with the horse Ruby (47 points).

In the same category for seniors, rider Carlijn Lee-flang achieved first place with the horse Jairo (61 points), while Camille Lecat came second with the horse Alfie Moon (60 points), and in third place was Abdullah Al Sakran with the horse Happy Call (59 points).

The latter went on to win the Novice level, scoring 58 points on the horse Mandor. Carlijn Lee-flang on the horse Jairo and Faisal Moosa on the horse Os-

borne came second and third respectively.

In the Intermediate category, rider Mohammed Alamiri finished in first place on the horse Puma cen, while second place was taken by Mohammed Saeed on the horse Mananero noble. First-place winner Alamiri bagged third place too on the horse Osborne cen.

Megan Black triumphed in the Medium category on the horse Cajou, while Mohammed Almeabad came first in the advanced medium class on the horse Mariscador cen.

## Rematch of the year set! Jose Torres vs Nkosi Ndebele 2 to headline BRAVE CF 80

TDI | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation's final fight of 2023 will be a huge one. Bantamweight world champion Jose Torres will defend his title against Nkosi Ndebele in a rematch of both men's last fight, when Torres won a razor-thin split decision over Ndebele in Colombia. Now, they will rematch in Bahrain as the fight will serve as the main event of BRAVE CF 80, the organization's last event of the year, set for December 15.

BRAVE CF 80 serves as the last event of the historic BRAVE International

Combat Week, with the biggest combat sports festival in the world also hosting BRAVE CF 77 and BRAVE CF 79, as well as the IMMAF Asian Championships - all in a period of 10 days.

"Shorty" Torres is one of BRAVE CF's biggest names, with the American finally realizing his full potential with the first professional world title of his career, following belts in Titan FC and also two amateur championships under IMMAF.

He comes in against Nkosi Ndebele, who was left frustrated after two of three judges in Colombia gave their initial vacant title fight to Torres. What

was initially a friendly rivalry between Jose and Nkosi developed into a bitter conflict, with Ndebele claiming Torres is "a fake champion".

However, the fight was close enough to warrant a rematch with both men exchanging momentum throughout an amazing 25 minutes. Nkosi scored early on with several front kicks and straight lefts, but as the fight progressed, Shorty used his judo techniques to take the bout to the ground and almost finished Ndebele on a couple of occasions.

In the end, it was a split decision in favor of Torres, who will now have the opportunity to shut his rival up for

good. As for Ndebele, he will attempt to become the first full-grown BRAVE CF world champion, as "The Future" has spent his entire professional career under the BRAVE CF banner following a huge amateur career that saw him leave the IMMAF ranks as the best African amateur fighter pound-for-pound.

The co-main event will feature the much-anticipated return of a BRAVE CF legend. Former Super Welterweight world champion Jarrah Al-Silawi will face Nenad Avramovic at Middleweight, as the best Arab fighter of all time returns home for a special feature bout.

