

# Bahrain football team set for Asiad

Twenty-two players named on Kingdom's squad for men's football tournament at Hangzhou Asian Games

● **Under-23s to be led by Mubarak Mohammed, Abdulla Al Khalasi, Sayed Jawad Alawi, Hussain Abdulkarim**

● **Two designated veteran players of more senior age named in Sayed Mohammed Adnan, Ali Dhaif**

● **Bahrain in Group E of tournament's preliminary stage along with South Korea, Thailand and Kuwait**



The men's football tournament is one of the competitions at this year's Asian Games that is scheduled to kick off before the official opening ceremony. The grand inauguration is only scheduled for 23 September, but action on the pitch begins from Tuesday next week

Ahmed, Hasan Isa Juma, Ali Mohamed Redha, Ahmed Abdhameed Hasan, Hussain Ali Aleker, Hassan Abdalnabi Ali, Sayed Jawad Alawi, Hani Taha Alharobi, Mahmood Mohamed Ali, Hussain Abdulkarim, Hussain Jaafar Haroona, Abdulla Nemer Almesaeed, Ahmed Dheyaa Ali, Abdulla Ali Alahmed, Abdulla Ali Alsubaie, Mubarak Mohammed, Abdulla Al Khalasi, Salman Abdulla Qadhaib, Mohammed Abdulqayoom and Salman Adel Al Isa.

Football is one of 18 sports the Kingdom will be participating in at this year's Asiad.

The men's tournament is scheduled to begin from Tuesday, a few days before the official opening ceremony of the Asian Games. The grand inauguration is only scheduled for 23 September, but Bahrain get their campaign underway in Group E beforehand.

The nationals are in the same group as South Korea, Thailand and Kuwait. They play their first game on opening

night against the Thais, and then face Kuwait two days later on Thursday. They wrap up the preliminary phase against the South Koreans on 24 September.

There are 23 nations in all competing in men's football, divided into six groups for the preliminaries. Group A features hosts China, Bangladesh, Myanmar and India; Group B comprises Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Mongolia; Group C includes Uzbekistan, Syria, Hong Kong and Afghanistan; Group D consists of Japan, Palestine and Qatar; and Group F features North Korea, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan and Chinese-Taipei.

At the end of a single round-robin, the top two teams from each group along with four best third-placers advance to the round of 16.

Bahrain will be sending its largest-ever contingent to

the Hangzhou Asiad, with 248 male and female athletes flying the Kingdom's flag in the multi-sport event.

Aside from football, the nationals will also be competing in athletics, handball, boxing, judo, weightlifting, wrestling, jiu-jitsu, rowing, shooting, cycling, table tennis, taekwondo, sailing,

basketball, volleyball, E-sports and cricket.

This year's Asiad will mark the 13th Asian Games Bahrain is taking part in. The BOC is hopeful for a record-breaking campaign in Hangzhou and for exceeding their medal tallies from the last two editions of the Asian Games.



Basic...ready for challenge



Bahrain's Mubarak Mohammed competes during the just-concluded AFC U23 Asian Cup qualifiers

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's 22-player squad that will be competing in the men's football tournament at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, starting next week has been named.

The Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) announced yesterday the team list ahead of their highly anticipated participation.

A majority of the roster features names that represented the Kingdom's under-23 Olympic team at the just-concluded qualifiers for the AFC U23 Asian Cup 2024. According to competition

rules, Asian Games football participants must be of that age-group, although teams are allowed to have up to three players older.

The Bahrainis, coached by Dario Basic from Croatia, only features two veterans, namely Sayed Mohammed Adnan and Ali Adnan Dhaif. The rest of the list includes Khalil Ebrahim

## BREEF approves 2023/2024 endurance season programme

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Royal Equestrian Endurance Federation (BREEF), under the presidency of HH Shaikh Isa bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, has approved the racing and championship programme for the new endurance season 2023/2024.

The Federation has begun its preparations for the new season, always striving to implement the directives of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs and Honourary President of BREEF, in order to achieve the utmost success for all the races of the upcoming season.

The new season will commence with the international and local qualifying races on October 13 and 14, 2023, featuring an international race of 100 km and local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km will be held.

The second International qualifying race and local qualifying races will take place on November 2 and 4, 2023.

They will include international

BREEF ENDURANCE CALENDAR 2023-2024			
Event	Date	Km	
1. BREEF Endurance Qualifier's 1	13-14 Oct. 2023	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 80 KM + CEI 40 KM - Restricted Speed 16KM/H
2. BREEF Endurance Qualifier's 2	03-04 Nov. 2023	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 100 KM
3. National Day Endurance Ride Championship	08-09 Dec. 2023	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 120 KM
4. H.H. Sh. Khalid Bin Hamad Al Khalifa Endurance Cup	05-06 Jan. 2024	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 100 KM
5. H.H. The King's Cup Equestrian Festival Endurance Ride Championship for Seniors & Juniors & GCC Private Stables	16-17 Feb. 2024	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 120 + CEI YG 2* 120 KM
6. H.H. Sh. Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa Endurance Cup	08-09 Mar. 2024	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 100 KM
7. BREEF Ramadan Endurance Qualifier/s	29-30 Mar. 2024	CEI 1* 100 KM	CEI 2* 100 KM

al races of 100 km and 120 km, as well as local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km.

In December, specifically on December 8 and 9, the National Day Endurance Championship will take place. It will include international races, covering 100 km, 120 km, and 160 km, in addition to local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km.

The HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Endurance Cup is scheduled for January 5 and 6, 2024.

This prestigious cup will

showcase an international race covering a distance of 100 km, an international race of 120 km, open to both international and local participants, and a challenging race of 160 km.

There will also be local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km, providing opportunities for local riders to showcase their skills and compete at various levels.

The eagerly awaited His Majesty the King's Endurance Cup Festival is set to take place on February 16 and 17, 2024.

This prestigious event will bring together passionate equestrian enthusiasts to witness an extraordinary showcase of skill and determination.

The Festival will feature a series of races, including a local race of 120 km for GCC private stables, an international race of 120 km for youth and juniors, an international race of 120 km for the general category, an international race of 160 km, and an international race of 100 km.

HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Endurance Cup will be held on March 8 and 9, 2024.

This eagerly anticipated event will feature an international race of 100 km, an international/local (locals only) race of 120 km, an international race of 160 km, and local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km.

The season will conclude with the organisation of the International Ramadan Qualifying Race and local qualifying races on March 29 and 30, 2024.

It will include international races of 100 km and 120 km, a 160 km race, and local qualifying races of 40 km and 80 km.

## Sri Lanka stun Pakistan to earn Asia Cup final match against India



Sri Lanka's Kusal Mendis (L) celebrates after scoring a half-century (50 runs) with Sri Lanka's Sadeera Samarawickrama

AFP | Colombo

Kusal Mendis' 91 and an unbeaten 49 by Charith Asalanka helped Sri Lanka edged out Pakistan by two wickets in a last-ball thriller of the Asia Cup to set up a final clash with India.

Chasing a DLS revised target of 252 in the 42-overs-a-side contest in Colombo, Sri Lanka needed eight from the final over and achieved the target with Asalanka's winning hit on the last ball at 1.07 am local time.

A raucous home crowd rejoiced but the result broke the heart of millions of fans awaiting an India-Pakistan final in the 50-over tournament, a prelude to the upcoming ODI World Cup.

The left-handed Asalanka held his nerve despite Shaheen Shah Afridi's two wickets in two balls in the penultimate over and the first four balls from Zaman Khan giving away just two runs and a wicket in the 42nd over.

Mendis set up victory with a 100-run third-wicket stand with Sadeera Samarawickrama, who made 48, but Asalanka took it on himself after their departure.

Off-spinner Iftikhar Ahmed took three key wickets including Mendis and Samarawickrama to keep the game in the balance till the last.

Earlier Mohammad Rizwan hit an unbeaten 86 to steer Pakistan to 252-7 after they elected to bat first in the rain delayed start to the match.

## Bonucci confirms legal action against Juve after 'humiliating' treatment

AFP | Rome

Leonardo Bonucci has confirmed that he is taking legal action against Juventus, claiming that the Serie A club has not told the truth about their treatment of him after he

was frozen out and eventually sold over the summer.

Veteran defender Bonucci, who has won a host of trophies with club and country over his long career, was shunted aside by Juve in pre-season, missing out on July's tour in the USA

and training away from the first team.

And the 36-year-old said he had made the "hard decision" to sue the club for which he played over 500 times and won eight league titles for what he considers "humiliating" treatment.



Leonardo Bonucci