

Bahrain add to medal haul in GCC swimming

Bahrain national team capture four more medals, including two gold, in morning session of GCC Aquatics Championships

● **Gold medals claimed by Saud Salah in youth 200m Breaststroke and Ahmed Abdulnabi in youth 50m Backstroke**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain added four medals yesterday, including two gold, during the morning session of the second day in the 28th GCC Aquatics Championships, being held in Doha.

All four medals were in swimming, with the two titles being captured by Saud Salah in the youth (aged 15 to 17) 200 metres Breaststroke and by Ahmed Abdulnabi in the youth 50m Backstroke.

There are three age-categories at the meeting in swimming. The two others are seniors (18 and above) and boys (13 and 14).

The GCC championships also features the sports of diving and water polo.

Also yesterday, Bahrain's Faris Abdulrahman won a silver medal in the boys' 100m Freestyle, and Ali Alalawi claimed a bronze



Bahrain's Saud Salah celebrates with the Kingdom's flag and his gold medal on the youth 200m Breaststroke podium

in the youth 100m Freestyle.

All four medals came in the day's morning session, with more competition following in the evening.

In the 200m Breaststroke, Salah clocked a time of two min-

utes 29.20 seconds to capture the gold, while in the 50m Backstroke, Abdulnabi had a mark of 28.96 seconds for first place.

Faris had a time of 58.44s in his 100m Freestyle race in second place, while Ali swam 54.94s



For Salah, Abdulnabi and Faris, their morning session successes yesterday earned them their second medals of the championships, while Ali came away with his third medal

in third in his age group's 100m Freestyle.

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On the previous day, Faris had also claimed a silver medal in the boys' 50m Freestyle, while Ali won a bronze in the youth 50m Freestyle. Ali, Salah and Abdulnabi were then part of the team, alongside Ahmed Alalawi,



Bahraini swimmer Ahmed Abdulnabi reacts after taking first place in the youth 50m Backstroke yesterday

that won bronze in the youth 4x200m Freestyle.

Action is scheduled to continue today.

The national team's delegation at the Qatari capital is being led by Bahrain Swimming Associa-

tion board member Wissam Al Tayeb.

Bahrain are looking to emulate their success at the 27th GCC championship, where they won 36 medals and achieved new records.

Bahrain women's football team leave for Turkey camp

● **Bahrainis gearing up for AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022 qualifiers, scheduled for next month**

● **Istanbul camp to include four friendly matches against clubs from Turkey's Women's Football League**

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Bahrain's senior women's national football team departed for Istanbul yesterday for a training camp ahead of their qualifiers for the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022.

The delegation is led by head coach Khaled Al Harban, and it includes his technical staff.

The team will be in the Turkish capital until September 4.

Al Harban has named a 23-player squad for the camp. The list includes Alia Jumaa Al Mudhaki, Yasmine Fayeze, Manar Ebrahim, Marwa Mohammed Mubarak, Hoda Ali Salman, Khuloud Saleh Abdullah, Hessa Riyadh Al Essa, Rose Fayeze, Amira Bader Siwar,



Bahrain's women's national team in the Kingdom prior to their departure for Turkey

Iman Rashid Al Khatal, Fatima Hamad Al Nusuf, Fatima Abdulhameed Issa, Rawan Nabeel Alali, Wesal Ahmed Al Yasi, Dana Bassem, Farah Jihad Khaled, Lilia Javed Sabkar, Zahra Nizar Ali, Maryam Abdulla Issa, Sara Mohammed Aliwi, Hana Ahmed Hafez, Sama Amjad Qassem and Munayer Ahmed.

The camp will feature an intensive programme of daily practice sessions, along with four friendly matches against

clubs from Turkey's Women's Football League.

Bahrain are in a tough Group A for the qualification competition of the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022. The other teams in their pool are Chinese-Taipei, Turkmenistan and Laos.

The qualifying matches are scheduled to be held between September 13 and 25 at centralised locations for each group. Bahrain's matches are set to take place in Chinese-Taipei.

A total of 28 teams separated into four groups of four, and another four groups of three, are in the qualifiers. The winners of each group clinch their place in the Women's Asian Cup, which is scheduled to take place in India from January 20 to February 6 next year.

There will be 12 nations in all in the tournament. Four teams have already secured their berth, namely defending champions Japan, along with runners-up Australia and

third-placers China from the previous competition in 2018, as well as hosts India.



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Solskjaer tells Pogba to back up lavish praise



Manchester United's manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer (R) speaks with Paul Pogba (L) as they leave after a match (file photo)

AFP | London

Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer warned his side not to get carried away with a 5-1 win over Leeds United to start their Premier League season as he challenged Paul Pogba to perform consistently at his best.

The Frenchman provided four assists in the rout of Marcelo Bielsa's men in front of a near-capacity crowd at Old Trafford for the first time in 17 months last weekend.

Pogba's future is a source of speculation as he enters the final year of his contract at United with Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid linked with picking up the midfielder for free at the end of the season.

"That's negotiations with Paul's representatives and the club," Solskjaer said yesterday, when quizzed over the possibility Pogba will extend his stay in Manchester.

"For me and Paul, we work together every day here and

It's about bringing more energy to the next one and being even better so one swallow never makes a summer

OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER

we keep on trying to improve the team and to enjoy ourselves.

"When you win games you enjoy yourselves more and we've just got to make sure that we don't make this one game and everyone flies off. You know we get big headlines and all the praise we get."

"It's about bringing more energy to the next one and being even better so one swallow never makes a summer."

The flying start bolstered hopes that Solskjaer's men can finally compete for the Premier League title for the first time since Alex Ferguson retired as manager in 2013.

AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022 Qualifiers

(*H indicates centralised venue host for group games)

Group A: Chinese Taipei (H), Bahrain, Turkmenistan, Laos.

Group B: Vietnam, Tajikistan (H), Maldives, Afghanistan.

Group C: DPR Korea, Singapore, Iraq, Indonesia (H).

Group D: Myanmar (H), United Arab Emirates, Guam, Lebanon.

Group E: Korea Republic, Uzbekistan (H), Mongolia.

Group F: Philippines, Hong Kong, Nepal (H).

Group G: Jordan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh (H).

Group H: Thailand, Palestine, Malaysia.