

Tazhudinov crowned world champion!

Wrestler Akhmed Tazhudinov captures men's freestyle 97kg category gold medal at World Wrestling Championships 2023 in Belgrade, secures qualification for Paris Olympics

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Bahraini wrestler Akhmed Tazhudinov was crowned world champion in the men's freestyle 97kg category at the World Wrestling Championships 2023, held in Belgrade, Serbia.

In the process, Tazhudinov also secured his qualification for next year's Paris Olympic Games.

Tazhudinov captured the gold medal after defeating Magomedkhan Magomedov of Azerbaijan 8-1 in the final, held late on Tuesday night.

Earlier in the semi-finals,

Tazhudinov ousted two-time Olympic gold-medallist and five-time world champion Abdulrashid Sadulaev, who is nicknamed the "Russian Tank" and is Tazhudinov's mentor. Tazhudinov won their fight after Sadulaev retired.

In the quarter-finals, Tazhudinov took out four-time Olympic and world champion Kyle Snyder of the US 11-0. Earlier, Tazhudinov beat Maxwell Lacey of Costa Rica 10-0 in the round of 16 and Magomed Ibragimov of Uzbekistan 10-0 in the round of 32.

Joining Tazhudinov and Magomedov on the podium were

Snyder and Givi Matcharashvili, who came away with the shared bronze medals following a repechage.

On the occasion of Tazhudinov's achievement, General Sports Authority (GSA) vice-president and Bahrain Combat Sports Council chairman His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa extended his warmest congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad and to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

HH Shaikh Salman also congratulated His Majesty the

King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs and Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) chairman His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa; and SCYS first deputy chairman, GSA president and Bahrain Olympic Committee chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa. The World Wrestling Championships, which continue until Sunday, are organised by United World Wrestling for the wrestling styles of freestyle wrestling and Greco-Roman wrestling.

Tazhudinov celebrates on the podium with his gold medal



Manama tip off FIBA clubs challenge

Bahrainis eye title in highly competitive 33rd FIBA Intercontinental Cup in Singapore

● **Manama to face off with German outfit Telekom Baskets Bonn in opening game today at 10am, Bahrain time**

● **Bahraini roster reinforced by American trio of Sir Dominic Pointer, Travin Thibodeaux, Latavious Williams**

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Bahrain basketball champions Manama Club take on German outfit Telekom Baskets Bonn today in their opening game of the 33rd FIBA Intercontinental Cup, being held in Singapore.

The contest is scheduled for a 10am tip-off, Bahrain time, and it will be the first for both teams in Group B of the competition's preliminary

Head coach Pantelis Gavriel gives out instructions during training

round.

Manama are taking part in the prestigious six-team competition, which is also known as the FIBA Club World Cup, as the first-ever champions of the FIBA West Asia Super League (WASL). Also in their pool are Chinese Basketball Association representatives Zhejiang Golden Bulls.

Group A features Basketball Champions League Americas winners Sesi Franca from Brazil, Basketball Africa League champions Al Ahly from Egypt, and the NBA G League Ignite.

Coached by Greek-Cypriot tactician Pantelis Gavriel, Manama will be relying heavily on their Bahraini stars including Mustafa Hussain, Ali Hussain, Hasan Nowrooz, Mohammed Ameer, Ahmed Salman and veteran court general Hussain Shaker.

Their team has been reinforced by their three American players in Sir Dominic Pointer, Travin Thibodeaux and Latavious Williams. Pointer and Thibodeaux were instrumental in Manama's clinching both the national league title and their FIBA WASL crown.

Manama arrived in Singapore earlier this week and immediately conducted their final preparations for the event.

Manama's participation marks the debut of a Bahraini team in the tournament, which

is for professional basketball clubs.

Each side will play two games in the group stage. After this phase, a last day of competition will be held on September 24, with the top teams from their respective groups squaring off in the final.

There will also be a game for third place between the teams that were runners-up in the groups, while the teams that were ranked third will battle to determine fifth place on the event's final ranking.

Manama captured the gold medals in the inaugural edition of the FIBA WASL after defeating Kuwait SC 67-59 in the final of the FIBA WASL Final Eight, which was held in Dubai.

Hussain Shaker is guarded by Ali Hussain during a team practice in Singapore

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Manama's participation marks the debut of a Bahraini team in the FIBA Intercontinental Cup, also known as the FIBA Club World Cup. They gained qualification after becoming the first-ever champions of the FIBA West Asia Super League

Kingdom's spikers face tough test against Iran

Bahrain's Janahi gestures during training yesterday at the Asian Games

● **Bahrain's under-23 Olympic football team aim for first win when they play Kuwait**

● **Sailors Abdulla Janahi, Khalifa Al Doseri to begin medal bids in respective classes**

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Bahrain's senior men's national volleyball team and



Bahrain volleyball team players come together after scoring a point in their match against Nepal

under-23 Olympic football team are back in action today at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, while the pair of Abdulla Janahi and Khalifa Al Doseri get their medal bids underway in sailing.

The volleyball squad will

be looking to secure their second Pool B victory as they face a mammoth challenge against continental powerhouses Iran.

The game is scheduled for a 9.30am start, Bahrain time, at China Textile City Sports Centre Gymnasium.

The Kingdom's spikers had won their first game against Nepal in four sets on Tuesday, and after Iran's 3-0 (25-9, 25-15, 25-13) win over Nepal yesterday, the Bahrainis are already assured their place in the next round. Their game against the Iranians will decide if they go through as Pool B winners or runners-up.

Meanwhile, Bahrain's under-23 Olympic football team will be looking to post their maiden win in Group E of men's football today.

They take on their Kuwaiti counterparts at 11am, Bahrain time, at Jinhua Sports Centre Stadium.

The Bahrainis had drawn their opening game 1-1 against Thailand on Tuesday. It was a disheartening stalemate, as the nationals only conceded the equaliser in the game's dying

moments in the fifth minute of second-half stoppage time.

The under-23 nationals head into today's affair currently third in the Group E table, following South Korea's 9-0 drubbing of Kuwait in the other divisional fixture on opening day.

Also today, Janahi and Al Doseri will be taking to the water at Ningbo Xiangshan Sailing Centre.

Janahi will be competing in the men's dinghy category while Al Doseri will be contesting the boys' dinghy.

The sailing competitions at the Hangzhou Asiad consist of 10 races, to be held over five days. Each competitor competes in two races a day. Points are won to determine the positions in each stage, and at the end the sailor with the lowest points emerges the winner.

