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## Sports News

# PERFECT RIDE

Posted on » Sunday, January 08, 2012



AL KHA- LIDIYA Stable were crowned overall champions in the Breef Endurance Horse Ride Team Championship yesterday.

The third endurance event of the season, held at the Bahrain International Endurance Village in Sakhir, was open for teams and was over 120km.

The ride was divided into five stages, with the first two stages covering 30km each. The third, fourth and fifth stages were over 20km each.

Competing with several stables from across the kingdom, Al Khaldiya team came on top with a combined total ride time of 16 hours, 45 minutes and 39 seconds.

Spearheading the victors were Abdulrahman Al Zayed, Ali Baqer, Salman Isa and Yaqoub Yousef.

Finishing second were Al Asayel team of Abdulla Al Qassmi, Fahad Sulaiman, Mohammed Saif and Khalifa Mubarak who completed the event in 18 hours, 58 minutes and 49 seconds.

In the individual ride, which was also over 120km, Royal Endurance Team riders lived up to many expectations, securing a 1-2 finish in style.

Riding Kintamani, Royal Endurance Team star Abdulrahman Al Saad raced to victory in five hours, two minutes and 34 seconds with a 23.796km per hour speed average.

Al Saad, who led the ride right from the start, was followed by teammate Abdulrahman Al Zayed (5:14:05) who came second on Zabubega, while Al Khaldiya Stable's Ali Baqer (5:40:02) rounded off the podium while riding Derrrom.

In the day's other ride, an 80km event which was open for new riders, Salem Mubarak Sabt of Al Asayel Stable clinched victory in five hours, 15 minutes and 30 seconds with a 15km per hour speed average.

Behind him was Karam Al Belooshi (5:15:31), also of Al Asayel, in second place with a similar speed average of 15km per hour.

The event was witnessed by Supreme Council for Youth and Sports chairman and president of the Bahrain Olympic Committee Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa who presented trophies to the top three in the team and individual rides.

Also attending the ride were Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation president Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Shaikh Sultan bin Hamad Al Khalifa and other federation officials.

Shaikh Nasser, the Royal Endurance Team captain, praised Al Khaldiya Stable's victory, which underlines the team's keenness to win podium.

Shaikh Nasser said the ride was excited and lived up to expectations.

He said the Royal Endurance Team were leading the team event in the early stages, but the elimination of some team members from the race proved vital.

Shaikh Nasser congratulated Royal Endurance Team member Al Saad on winning first place among individuals, and wished other team members progress.