



Sports News

Top riders set for King's Cup event

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THE Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (Breef) have finalised all arrangements ahead of the King's Cup Endurance Ride Championship tomorrow.

The most prestigious and eagerly-awaited endurance ride of the season is set to take place at Bahrain International Endurance Village in Sakhir and will be over 120 kms.

It will be divided into five stages, the first three will be over 30 kms each while the last two will be over 20 kms each.

There will also be a second race over 80 kms which will be a qualifying ride open to juniors. It comprises three stages, with the first two over 30 kms and the third over 20 kms.

The veterinary examination is scheduled for today from 3.30pm to 5pm at the veterinary area inside the village.

Examination will be conducted by a team of experienced veterinary commission, headed by Yassine Motemri of Tunisia. Foreign veterinary delegate is Mohammed Al Hammad of Saudi Arabia.

Other veterinarians include Jean Marc of Belgium, Piotr Szpotanski and Wojciech Piekalkiewicz of Poland, Oman's Hadi Al Lawati and Khalid Al Ruziaiqi, India's C V Niranjan, Zahid Rafiq of Pakistan, Bahrain's Ebrahim Yousif, Sab ah Al Kabie, Abu Obaidah Yacoob, Abdulrahman Abu Shook and Saudi Arabia's Hassan Hashim.

'Treatment' veterinarians are Fareeda Abdulrazq of Bahrain and Caonabo Melo of Dominican Republic.

The organising committee, headed by Breef president Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, have formed a ground jury.

Denis Kevin Croke of Ireland was named president while Ghalib Al Alawi, Mahdi Al Kalati, Fahad Al Rumaihi and Ali Ghuloom are the members.

Delegate

Mohammed Dadulla is the foreign technical delegate, Haider Al Zubi is the chief steward and Abdulla Al Rumeihi the race steward. Sudip Sankar is the show secretary.

Meanwhile, riders from Bahrain and the UAE resumed preparations yesterday as they hope to pull off an outstanding win tomorrow.

To be led by Royal Team captain Shaikh Nasser, Bahraini riders are likely to face a stern challenge from their UAE counterparts.

Shaikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, the Dubai Crown Prince, will be leading a strong field of UAE riders who arrived yesterday and will be training at the endurance village today.

Breef endurance committee head Shaikh Daij bin Salman Al Khalifa said he believes the King's Cup ride will live up to the occasion.

On his part, Shaikh Ahmed bin Saqer Al Khalifa of Bahrain's Al Fateh Stable said the race promises to be a high-paced event and will unarguably produce one of the most exciting competitions among some of the region's prominent riders.

