

Sports News

Stage set for Shaikh Nasser International Endurance Race

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THE organising committee of the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (Breef) has completed all preparations ahead of the Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad International Endurance Race tomorrow.

With 24 hours remaining for one of the season's most anticipated events, race officials have already taken the necessary steps and arrangements at the Bahrain International Endurance Village in Sakhir.

Ground Jury head Fahad Al Rumaihi said the race route and stages have been prepared and finalised.

The main race of the day, which is over 120km, is divided into five stages. It starts with 30km for the first stage, to be followed by an identical 30km distance for the second. Each of the remaining three stages will be over 20km.

An additional international 80km qualifying ride will take place. It consists of three stages. The first and second will each cover 30km, while concluding with 20km for the third.

The ground jury managing the races are Ghalib Al Alawi, Mahdi Al Klaiti, Ali Ghuloom and Fahad Al Rumaihi. Haider Al Zubi is the chief steward of the championship while Sudip Sankar is the show secretary.

Al Zubi affirmed that everyone at the federation have been working as a team in order to achieve their aspirations and make this event special.

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

The organising committee, headed by Breef president Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, has approved the total weight for both races. Participants' weight in the 120km event should not exceed 75kg with the saddle, while a maximum weight of 70kg for each riders is allowed in the 80km race.

This weekend ride will be held under the patronage of Supreme Council for Youth and Sports chairman and Bahrain Olympic Committee president Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, who directed the organisers to begin their preparations for the event.

Prominent riders from all over Bahrain are set to compete in one of the most challenging endurance rides of the season.

Royal Endurance Team will again head into tomorrow's ride as one of the leading favourites for podium.

Team coach Abdulhaq Qadoori said the Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad International Endurance Race promises to be exciting and features gruelling battle among the participants from different stables across the kingdom.

Qadoori said the Royal Team have been training on a daily basis near the village premises in Sakhir and are in high spirits while hoping to achieve remarkable results in the race.