



Sports News

Showjumping team return from Riyadh

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BAHRAIN'S national showjumping team returned from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, with a respectable fourth-place finish in the GCC Championship, part of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Showjumping Festival 2013.

The nationals completed the three-day event behind champions Saudi Arabia, runners-up Qatar and third-placers the UAE, with four faults which denied them a place on the podium.

Khalid Al Khatry, riding Bashayer, led Bahrain's hopes in the championship. Others spearheading the Bahrain team were Muslim Ali on Pascal, Adnan Al Alawi on Mikla and Salman Faraj on Bahrain BDF.

The festival was hosted at the exclusive Nofa Equestrian Resort - a location befitting an event of this stature.

Despite their failure to finish in the top three, the Bahraini quartet's result was praised by Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation's Showjumping Committee head Ghalib Al Alawi.

Al Alawi said the team had an honourable participation in Riyadh, where some of the region's top riders were in the fray.

He lauded the performance of the Bahraini riders in the championship, which has noticeably improved compared to previous events, and given them experience and confidence for future competitions.

The event provided the opportunity for riders from the Gulf and the rest of the world to develop their talents and exhibit their skills in three separate tournaments.

The Festival did not only feature equestrianism, one of the world's most prestigious sports, but also provided a wide range of other activities for visitors.

The Festival had been organised by the Higher Organising Committee headed by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Miteb Bin Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz.

Many events and activities were held along with the festival, including a village exclusively designated for families, special market for the productive families in order to promote and sell traditional Saudi crafts-work and home-made food and many others to revive the ancient Arabic heritage.