

Al Dossary claims endurance win

AL RU'OOD Stables rider Ghazy Al Dossary won the Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Endurance Horseride Championship yesterday.

The event was organised by the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (Breef) and was successfully held in the Bahrain International Endurance Village in Sakhir.

Al Dossary clinched first place after finishing the race in four hours 49 minutes and four seconds. He competed with an average speed of 24km/h.

Al Zaeem Stables riders Shaikh Ebrahim bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and Ali Al Ka'aby placed second and third, respectively.

The winners were awarded their respective trophies by Supreme Council for Youth and Sports chairman, Bahrain Olympic Committee president and Bahrain Royal Endurance Team captain Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa; along with Supreme Council for Youth and Sports first deputy chairman, Bahrain Athletics Association president, and Al Khalidiya Stables captain Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Shaikh Nasser and Shaikh Khalid were accompanied by



■ Shaikh Nasser and Shaikh Khalid with some of the winners from yesterday's race



■ Shaikh Nasser and Shaikh Khalid speak with Sheikh Mohammed

Breef president Shaikh Faisal bin Rashid Al Khalifa.

Shaikh Nasser also praised UAE Vice-President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid

Al Maktoum for attending the event, assuring that his presence had a positive impact on all the riders' performances.

He also hailed the directives of His Majesty King Hamad

and Sheikh Mohammed, stating that their support formed a major motivation for endurance sports in Bahrain and the UAE, especially in gaining numerous regional and international accomplishments.

Shaikh Nasser also appreciated the high technical level of the participants despite the rainy weather. He added: "The championship was a success due to the great efforts paid by the organising committees and the strong competition between the participants, especially local stables riders who bagged the top positions."

On his part, Shaikh Khalid valued the attendance of the Dubai Ruler, saying: "Sheikh



■ Al Dossary celebrates on way to the finish line

Mohammed's attendance encouraged the participating riders to give their best, which resulted in a great championship."

He continued: "The participating riders' performances today and in the previous races were honorable; it indicates that the upcoming races of the season will witness higher levels of competency."

Shaikh Faisal also stated that the race was a success, owing it to the continuous support and directives of Shaikh Nasser.

Meanwhile, amongst the different stables' race results, Al Asayel Stables rider Khamis

Jamal won first position, finishing in 05:05:45. He was followed by Mohammed Abdulsamad in second place and Raed Mahmood in third.

N13 Stables rider Ali Al Ka'aby showed a great performance by achieving first position in three stages of the race, achieving 01:13:59 in the first stage and finishing the second and third stages in 01:12:55 and 01:00:08.

The remaining two stages were bagged by winner Al Dossary, who went on to triumph following legs of 00:47:46 and 00:32:26.

BIC bags prestigious award from CIK

BAHRAIN International Circuit (BIC) bagged the prestigious 2013 Best Organisation Award from the Commission International de Karting (CIK).

BIC chairman Zayed R Alzayani received the prominent honour at a glittering prize-giving ceremony that took place in Milan, Italy.

BIC received the award in recognition of its exemplary hosting of the CIK-FIA World KF and KF Junior Karting World Championship at the Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC) in Sakhir last November.

"Receiving international recognition and prized awards is nothing new for the Kingdom of Bahrain and for BIC," said Alzayani.

"The circuit has successfully hosted a raft of prestigious national and international tournaments, forums and community and sporting events, such as Formula One and the World Endurance Championship (WEC).

"As it gears up to celebrate its 10th anniversary

of hosting the Formula One Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, BIC and the BIKC, their supporters including the Bahrain Motor Federation (BMF), the Bahrain Karting Club and the Bahrain Marshalls Club, will continue to work as an integrated unit and soar to even greater heights."

During his acceptance speech, Alzayani also applauded CIK-FIA president and BMF chief Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, the BIKC and all those who played a part in making the championship a success.

Importance

Further, he underlined the importance of the involved parties in giving motorsport, especially karting, a sturdy footing in the kingdom, and for giving karting enthusiasts a platform on which to compete in national and international events and to celebrate their love for karting and other divisions of motorsport with like-minded individuals from around the world.

Alzayani went on to congratulate the various winners of the championship and commended the participants, organisers and officials in conducting a season and an international sporting event that was competitive, engaging for fans to watch and a great overall success.

He also congratulated BIC chief executive Shaikh Salman Bin Isa Al Khalifa for his efforts that led to the circuit's receipt of the prestigious award.

"BIKC is proud to accept such a treasured award, and exceedingly so, as it builds on its reputation as one of the global karting fraternity's newest world-class international karting facilities," said Shaikh Salman.

"The contribution of every team member has led to the circuit's ongoing success, and played a part in the receipt of this wonderful international award."

BIC's hosting of the CIK-FIA World KF and KF Junior Karting Championship last November



■ Alzayani receives the award at the ceremony in Milan

was widely lauded by various levels of the international motorsport community for adhering to the highest levels of professionalism and for presenting yet another unforgettable international motorsport event in the kingdom.

■ The Bahrain Football Association (BFA) opened yesterday a level 'B' training course for coaches. The programme has been organised by the BFA in cooperation with the Asian Football Confederation. Twenty-five local coaches are taking part in the course, which got underway with an inauguration ceremony at the BFA headquarters in Riffa. In attendance were BFA board member Hafez Al Dosari and technical committee chairman and secretary-general Hassan Ismail, among others. Left, the participating coaches with officials at the opening yesterday.

