

sporting stage

● Kamel in action



● Shaikh Nasser celebrates the endurance team's success



In beach soccer, Bahrain qualified for the World Cup after finishing runners-up in the Asian qualifying tournament.

But they failed to perform true to potential at the highest level and lost all their three matches in the group stage against Switzerland, Brazil and Nigeria.

The under-16 basketball team, on the other hand, had no difficulty in winning the GCC Championship in Doha.

They came first after topping the standings at the completion of this double round-robin event.

Another sportsman who created waves was Bahrain Team Pindar skipper Brian Thompson, who finished the Vendee Globe solo, non-stop,

round-the-world yacht race.

Thompson, who was aboard the King Hamad Yacht, finished the event in fifth place after having sailed 28,699.8 nautical miles and spent a total of 98 days, 20 hours, 29 minutes and 55 seconds at sea.

In other events, Bahrain's jiu jitsu martial arts team won the Saudi Arabian Jiu Jitsu Championship, at the King Fahad University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, in August.

The 17-member team clinched 15 medals, including five gold, six silver and four bronze.

They finished ahead of hosts Saudi Arabia who came second with seven medals while Kuwait were third with six medals.

Bahrain's gold medals were won by Abdulla Al Shaikh, Ali Monfaradi, Fahad Kazerooni, Muneer Al Nooh and Ahmed Shabib.

Silver medals went to Hisham Noor, Ali Ebrahimi, Hadi Ali, Isa Khalil, Abdulwahab Waheed and Hussain Sami, while bronze medal winners were Ammar Faridon, Ramzi Farzad, Yasser Abdulkarim and Hamad Al Ansari.

Bahrain's Hamed Abdulla Al Doseri won the youth triple jump event at the IX

Memorial E-Listosa meeting in Wroclaw, Poland, in July.

He overcame wet and rainy conditions to win the event with a best jump of 14.35 metres.

Meanwhile, Bahrain received the torch for the 44th International Children's Games, which it hosts next year.

The torch was presented to Bahrain delegation director Waheed Al Doy at the closing ceremony of the 43rd edition of the Games, in Athens, in June.

Mr Al Doy, the General Organisation for Youth and Sports president's office director, also received the Children's Games flag which will be raised in Bahrain next year.

In the Athens Games, Bahrain competed in two disciplines - athletics and soccer - where its athletes gained valuable experience, but not medals.

The soccer team finished third in Group 'A' with one win, one draw and two defeats as they failed to reach the semi-finals.

In athletics, Mohammed Faisal reached the 100m boys final where he took 10th place while the relay team missed out on a boys relay medal in the boys 4x100m event.

The Bahrain team was represented by Hussain Busafwan, Talal Eid, Ahmed Al Sairafi and Mohammed Faisal.

The five-day event, which was open to youngsters aged between 14 to 17 years, featured more than 1,500 athletes representing 96 cities



● Maryam celebrates her victory with the Bahrain flag



● Bahrain's Ayoob Mubarak battles for the ball in the Beach Soccer World Cup