Sports Athletics

# Taremi to stay on at Porto as Milan move collapses



### Sports Desk

Mehdi Taremi's summer-long transfer saga ended in despair for the Porto striker as his eagerly-awaited move to Serie A giant Milan fell through right at the death.

With the news suggesting earlier in the week that the Iranian had made his desire of a switch to the Italian league known to the Proto hierarchy, football fans in Iran were hoping to see the prolific forward unveiled with a the Rossoneri kit on Thursday as the two clubs had reportedly agreed on a  $\in$ 15 million fee plus add-ons. However, with one day left until Friday's transfer deadline, all the efforts made by both parties to secure the deal ended to no avail after Milan walked away from negotiations for what is believed a disagreement on the agents' fee. "Negotiations between AC Milan and Porto have officially collapsed," high-profile Italian journalist Fabrizio Romano wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter, late on Thursday, citing a Porto Canal report.

"Following a meeting between [Porto president] Jorge Nuno Pinto da Costa and Mehdi Taremi on Thursday, it was decided that the Iranian striker will stay at Porto for the 2023/24 season," the Portuguese TV channel's website wrote of the player, who has bagged 80 goals and 49 assists in 151 appearances, helping the Dragons win five major domestic trophies, since joining the club in 2020.

Yet to get off the mark for the new campaign, Taremi netted 22 strikes to finish as the leading marksman in the Portuguese top flight last season, while his fivegoal contribution saw Porto win the Champions League group before being knocked out by Inter in the round of 16.

Having parted ways with key midfielder Otavio, who joined Saudi side Al Nassr last week, Porto manager Sergio Conceicao will be thrilled to have the Iranian talisman at his disposal for the newly-started campaign, despite the club facing the prospect of losing him for free when the 31-year-old's contract ends next summer.

Beaten to the title by Benfica in May, Porto will be looking to lift a 16th league trophy, while fancying its chances of progressing beyond the group stage of the Champions League for a fifth time since the 2016/17 campaign.

Thursday's draw pitted Porto against La Liga champion Barcelona, Shakhtar Donetsk of Ukraine, and Belgian side Royal Antwerp in Group H of the European elite clubs competition. Iranian fans, meanwhile, will have to settle for watching another fellow countryman in Sardar Azmoun, who joined AS Roma from Leverkusen on a season-long loan deal, in Serie A this season, though the striker will face tough competition from newly-signed Belgian Romelu Lukaku, as well

as Andrea Belotti, Tammy Abraham, and Stephan El Shaarawy for a place in the starting XI.



### Iranian girls crowned world taekwondo cadet champions

#### Sports Desk

Iran bagged three gold and silver medals apiece to claim the girls' title at the World Taekwondo Cadet Championships in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Hana Zarrinkamar brought the curtain down on a glorious campaign for the Iranian girls in the Bosnian capital on Thursday, coming out on top against Australian Akon Baak in emphatic fashion in the final showpiece of the +176cm class.

The Iranian eased to a first-round victory with 30 seconds left on the clock and then landed two consecutive head kicks in the first 10 seconds of the second period and went on to win by a point gap.

Ayla Jalil, meanwhile, had to settle for a silver in the girls' -176cm event after suffering a final defeat against Serbian Vanja Rankov. Thursday's results came after Rojan Soufi (-168cm) and Seyyedeh Kimia Mohammadi (-172cm) had walked away with the ultimate prize of their respective classes earlier in Sarajevo, with Helia Ebrahimian (-164cm) and Kowsar Ojaqlou (-156cm) adding a couple of silvers to Iran's medal haul.

Iran was followed in the girls standing by South Korea and Kazakhstan, while there was further glory for the country as Niloufar Saffarian was named the Best Female Coach in the fifth edition of the competitions.

Elsewhere on Thursday, Mohammad-Hossein Taqipour outclassed Russian Nikita Gubanov, representing the Individual Neutral Athletes, in straight rounds (12-5, 11-3) in the +180cm final, capturing a first gold for Iran in the boys' contests.

Seyyed Mir-Abbas Hosseinifar (-172cm) and Yasan Ja'fari (-160cm) had finished their campaigns with double bronzes as Iran finished fifth in the boys table.

Kazakhstan won the boys' title, with Uzbekistan, Italy, and South Korea in the following spots respectively.

**First Announcement** 

## TENDER NO.: 08-21-0140005

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

items	Material Description	Quantity
01	TUBING 4-1/2", API 5CT, GRADE L-80, SMLS "VAM", "N.VAM", , PSL:2 , 13.5 PPF, DRIFT: 3.795 IN.	20,000LE
02	PUP JOINT4-1/2 IN., 13.5 PPF, 10 FT, PIN & BOX	15 NO
03	PUP JOINT 4-1/2 IN., 13.5 PPF, 7 FT, PIN & BOX	15 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their" Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: <u>www.nisoc.ir</u>, not later than14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 239,358/79 EURO or 97,328,549,642 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms

management tab.		
ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S		
WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D.,		
SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.		
FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT		
Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex,		
Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran		
Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644		
Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37		
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can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material procurement





 Iranian gold medalist Hana Zarrinkamar (red) lands a head kick on Australian Akon Baak in the final bout of the girls' +176cm class at the World Taekwondo Cadet Championships in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on August 31, 2023...
WORLD TAEKWONDO