

World Para Taekwondo Grand Prix Final: Iranians bag four golds, secure Paralympic berths

Sports Desk

Iranians stole the show on Day 1 of the World Para Taekwondo Grand Prix Final in Manchester, Britain, walking away with four gold medals to seal their spots in next year's Paralympic Games in Paris.

Representing the country in the women's -49kg contests on Friday, Maryam Abdollahpour marched to a 24-3 victory over her familiar foe Ziyodakhon Isakova of Uzbekistan in the semifinals and then stunned Puerto Rican Leonor Espinoza - the reigning Paralympic champion - by a 15-5 scoreline for the ultimate prize.

Mahdi Pour-Rahnama needed to win the gold in Manchester to secure the Paralympic quota, and he achieved it thanks to a 17-10 win against Uzbekistan's Javokhir Alikulov in a thrilling men's -70kg final.

A three-time world champion, Pour-Rahnama will be looking to improve on his previous Paralympic campaign in Tokyo - where he settled for

the 75kg silver - when heading to the French capital next summer.

Alireza Bakht also booked his Paris ticket, courtesy of a 29-18 triumph over high-profile South Korean Jeong-hun Joo - No. 2 in the World Rankings - in the men's -80kg final showdown.

Hamed Haqshenas built on his gold-winning run in October's Asian Para Games to defeat world number one Croatian Ivan Mikulic - beaten by Iranian Asghar Aziziaqdam in the Tokyo final - 17-2 in the +80kg showdown.

Iranians denied visas

Meanwhile, three Iranians suffered major blows to their quest for a place in the Paris Olympics after being denied UK entry visas by the British Embassy in Ankara and missing out on the final series of the World Grand Prix.

Mahdi Hajmousaei and Abolfazl Zandi, the men's 58kg top two in the GP Series 2 event, as well as Mehran Barkhordari, an 80kg gold

medalist in September's competition in Paris, are in a tight race in the Olympic ranking of their respective weight classes and the absence in Manchester could cost them dearly on the road to the Games.

The trio will still have a final opportunity to win a quota when participating at the two-day Champions Series of the World Taekwondo Grand Slam - starting December 13 in Wuxi, China.

Controversial visa denials have kept the Iranian athletes from taking part at several international events over the past months - most recently in mid-November's World Wushu Championships in Fort Worth, Texas.

The country also had to send a depleted squad to Anaheim, California, for the final week of the preliminary round in the Volleyball Nations League in July, while the Iranian freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling teams were ruled out of October's U23 World Championships in Tirana, Albania.



Maryam Abdollahpour celebrates with the Iranian flag after winning the women's -49kg gold medal at the World Para Taekwondo Grand Prix Final in Manchester, Britain, on December 1, 2023.

WORLD TAEKWONDO

Al Ittihad's Benzema ruled out of Sepahan clash with injury

Sports Desk

Al Ittihad is set to be without skipper Karim Benzema for up to 10 days after the striker suffered an injury during a Saudi Pro League game on Thursday, Riyadh-based newspaper Arriyadiyah reported.

The French talisman found the net from the spot on the half-hour mark but was replaced by Marwan Al-Sahafi eight minutes later in a 4-2 victory over Al Khaleej at the King Abdul Aziz Stadium.

The injury means the Frenchman will miss Tuesday's AFC Champions League encounter with Iranian top-flight side Sepahan at home. Al Ittihad sits atop the table in Group C with 12 points - two clear of Sepahan - before this week's final round of group stage fixtures, and has already secured a place in the last-16 round.

Having joined from Real Madrid in the summer, Benzema - Ballon d'Or winner



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in 2021 - has bagged 10 goals in 16 appearances for Al Ittihad across all competitions this season, though he is yet to get off the mark in the Asian elite clubs' competition.

Suns' Durant moves into NBA all-time scoring top 10

BBC - Kevin Durant moved to 10th on the NBA all-time scoring list but his Phoenix Suns were beaten by the Denver Nuggets. The 35-year-old went into the game needing 17 points to move past Moses Malone and scored 30 to give him a career total of 27,423 points.

However, it was not enough to stop his side falling to a 119-111 defeat.

Nikola Jokic starred for Denver, scoring 21 points and having 16 assists, while all five starters scored at least 15 points.

Elsewhere, the Orlando Magic beat the Washington Wizards 130-125 to equal a franchise record of nine straight wins.

German forward Franz Wagner scored 31 points, while Paolo Banchero added 28 points for Orlando.

The Dallas Mavericks were missing Luka Doncic following the birth of a daughter as they fell to a 108-94 loss at home to the Memphis Grizzlies, for whom Desmond Bane scored 30 points.

Reigning NBA Most Valuable Player Joel Embiid was also absent as the Philadelphia 76ers were beaten 125-119 by the Boston Celtics, who had Jayson Tatum ejected in the third quarter for a second technical foul.

USA TODAY SPORTS



NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

First Announcement

TENDER NO.: 08-38-9540004

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

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	SLICKLINE, SPOOLED ON IRON REEL SIZE 0.082 IN. X 18,000 FEET	22 RL

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: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 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 30,510/04 EURO or 12,480,133,162 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment

Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-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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NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

First Announcement

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0040001

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

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	TUBING, API GRADE L-80, SEAMLESS "VAM", "N.VAM", "SEC" OR APPROVED THREAD RANGE 3 (MAX LEN: 40.5 FT) AS PER API 5CT/ISO 11960, PLS:2 MARKING: COLD DIE STAMPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH API 5CT SIZE(OD), WEIGHT(PPF), AS SPECIFIED NOTE: LEVEL OF INSPECTION: 1(L.O.I:1) "QCP/ MPS DOCUMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO REVIEW & CONFIRM" "ITP DOCUMENTS IS ESSENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION" 4-1/2 IN., 13.5 PPF DRIFT: 3.795 IN.	11000LE

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The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 115,759/76 EURO or 47,900,000,000 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment

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