

Wrestling U15 Asian Championships:

Iran pips Uzbekistan to Greco-Roman crown

Sports Desk

A total of seven medals, including triple golds, saw the Iranian 10-man squad edge out Uzbekistan for the Greco-Roman trophy at the U15 Asian Championships in Sriracha, Thailand.

Iranians also collected double silver and bronze medals apiece to stand atop the team table with 170 points, followed by Uzbekistan, which tallied 169 points – courtesy of three golds, one silver, and a couple of bronzes – with Kazakhstan in third on 154 points.

Amir Kazemi defeated Indian Dhanraj Jamnik 8-7 in a thrilling final showpiece to walk away with the ultimate prize of the 48kg contests, while Mahdi Gholamian came out victorious 5-2 against Uzbekistan's Aziz Khasanov for the 62kg gold.

A third gold medal for the Iranians came in the 68kg event, where Esmail Nabavi outmuscled Alinur

Toleugali of Kazakhstan 9-4 in the final.

Meanwhile, Abolfazl Zahiri had to settle for the runner-up spot in the 57kg contests after a 7-4 defeat against Tajikistan's Amirjon Obidov, while Amirhossein Bakhtiarnejad finished behind Kazakh gold medalist Ali Bekengazy in the 85kg event, which was participated by five wrestlers in a round-robin format.

Elsewhere, Benyamin Rastgar and Amirhossein Alvani bagged consolation bronzes of the 44kg and 75kg classes respectively.

Mohammad Pour-Ebrahimi (38kg), Mohammad-Amin Azarpira (41kg) and Amir-Ali Majazi (52kg) were the three Iranians to leave Thailand empty-handed.

The Asian Championships continue with the freestyle under-15 competitions today before Iran puts double team titles on the line at the under-20 contests, starting Saturday.



IAWF

Tractor continues spending spree with Beiranvand signing



FFIRI

Sports Desk

The latest episode of Tractor's massive summer spending saw the Persian Gulf Pro League club sign Iranian international goalkeeper Alireza Beiranvand.

Meanwhile, Iraqi striker Mohanad Ali also joined the Tabriz-based side on Saturday to become Tractor's fifth marquee signing of the transfer window as the club is eager to mount a serious title charge under new manager Dragan Skocic in the upcoming Iranian top-flight season.

The 24-year-old forward, who has 19 strikes in 43 caps for the national team, bagged 16 goals in 30 games for Al Shorta last season, helping the club lift the Iraq Stars League trophy.

Beiranvand brawl

Widely regarded as the finest keeper of his generation, Beiranvand, 31, who registered 112 clean sheets in 199 appearances for Persepolis – conceding 124 goals – won six league trophies and two domestic cup titles during six seasons with the Tehran Reds, while playing a pivotal part in his team reaching a first AFC Champions League final in 2018.

His move comes following weeks of speculation about his future, after he unilaterally terminated his Persepolis contract in June over a financial dispute with the

Reds – a decision deemed as “unlawful and unjustified” by the club, which lodged a complaint to the Players Status Committee of the Iranian Football Federation.

Beiranvand's new deal could also lead to a row between Tractor and Persepolis in the coming days after the Capital Reds said in a statement late on Friday that they will take legal action against the keeper's new employers, describing their negotiators with the player as “effectively enticing him to terminate his Persepolis contract.”

Beiranvand is the third player to leave the Tehran Reds for Tabriz in the ongoing transfer window, following instrumental winger Mahdi Torabi and fullback Danial Esmailifard, who joined Tractor as free agents last week.

There were, however, relieving news for Persepolis fans on Friday after the club announced the signing of Moroccan right-back Ayoub El Amloud from Wydad AC. Capped once for the national team, Amloud reunites with his former Spanish manager in Wydad, Juan Carlos Garrido, who was unveiled as the new head coach of the Iranian champion in late June.

Former Persepolis striker Ali Alipour, who is the Reds' all-time top scorer in the Iranian Pro League, is also believed to be on his way back in the Reds shirt after four years with Marítimo and Gil Vicente in the Portuguese Primeira Liga.

Asian Handball Men's Junior Championship: Iran beats Kuwait, heads into last-eight group

Sports Desk

Iran progressed into the last-eight group phase of the Asian Handball Men's Junior (U21) Championship after a massive 25-23 victory over Kuwait in Jordan on Friday.

Saber Heidari and Amirmohammad Pour-Qassemeh contributed with five and four goals respectively, while goalkeeper Amir-Abbas Zarei delivered a Man-of-the-Match performance as Iran came out victorious against the five-time champion to finish atop Group B with two wins. Sharif Mo'men Hejazi's boys had beaten China 30-26 in their opening game in the 18th edition of the competition at the Princess Sumaya Sport Hall.

In the first round of the quarterfinal fixtures, Iran will take on Oman today, before facing Saudi Arabia on Friday and then playing Japan on Sunday.



irihf.ir

Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, and South Korea complete the lineup in the other last-eight group.

The top two of each group will punch their tickets for next year's World Junior Championship in Poland.

Chelsea start disciplinary action against Fernández over chants



AFP

THE GUARDIAN – Chelsea have “instigated an internal disciplinary procedure” against Enzo Fernández over his involvement in chants that included racist and homophobic slurs about members of the France team. Fernández posted a video on Instagram that showed him and Argentina teammates as they celebrated their

victory over Colombia in the final of the Copa América.

The midfielder later apologised, saying the video did not “reflect my beliefs or my character”. Fernández's Chelsea teammate Wesley Fofana criticised the “uninhibited racism” and the French Football Federation said it would file a legal

complaint. It has challenged the Fifa president, Gianni Infantino, and the Argentina Football Association president, Claudio Fabián Tapia, to respond. Chelsea said: “Chelsea Football Club finds all forms of discriminatory behaviour completely unacceptable. We are proud to be a diverse, inclusive club where people from all cultures, communities and identities feel welcome. We acknowledge and appreciate our player's public apology and will use this as an opportunity to educate. The club has instigated an internal disciplinary procedure.”

Fernández used Instagram to “apologise sincerely” for the video. “The song includes highly offensive language and there is absolutely no excuse for these words,” he wrote.

“I stand against discrimination in all forms and apologise for getting caught up in the euphoria of our Copa América celebrations. That video, that moment, those words, do not reflect my character or beliefs. I am truly sorry.”