

Asian Athletics Championships:

Mobini etches name into history books as Iran grabs double golds



Reihaneh Mobini celebrates with the Iranian flag after winning a historic women's long jump gold medal at the Asian Athletics Championships in Gumi, South Korea, on May 29, 2025.

● iranathletics.ir

Sports Desk

Reihaneh Mobini made history by becoming the first Iranian girl to win a gold medal in the 26th edition of the Asian Athletics Championships, walking away with the ultimate prize of the long jump event in Gumi, South Korea, on Thursday.

There was further glory for the country on Day 3 of the continental showpiece, as Mohammadreza Tayyebi grabbed the gold in the men's shot put contest.

Having registered a second-best qualification effort of 6.33m on the preceding day, Mobini saved her best for the final showdown as she jumped 6.40m with her second attempt to clinch a historic medal for the country. Indian duo Ancy Sojan Edappilly (6.33m) and Shaili Singh (6.30m) settled for the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

Japan's Sumire Hata, who had set a championship record for the gold in the previous edition in 2023, missed out on the podium in Gumi, finishing fourth with 6.20m, despite a best qualification display with 6.35m.

In the men's shot put showdown, Tayyebi was the only contestant to exceed the 20m-mark at the Gumi Civic Stadium.

Ranked third in the 15-man table after three rounds, the Iranian unleashed a 20.27m throw on his fourth attempt and then registered 20.32m to beat China's Xing Jialiang (19.97m) to the gold medal.

Saudi Mohammed Tolu – a silver medalist in the latest Asian Games – took the bronze with a best effort of 19.92m.

Last-gasp winner seals Hazfi Cup glory for Esteghlal

Sports Desk

Rouzbah Cheshmi scored a 120th-minute winner as Esteghlal edged out Malavan FC 1-0 to win the Iranian Hazfi Cup title in Arak on Thursday.

There was little to separate the two sides at the Imam Khomeini Stadium, before Cheshmi's low drive from inside the box found the bottom corner right at the death to lead Esteghlal to a record eighth domestic cup trophy. Thursday's triumph put a lid on a dreadful season for the Tehran Blues, who had matched an all-time low in the Persian Gulf

Pro League table earlier in May, finishing ninth with seven wins and 10 defeats in 30 games.

The victory also secured continental action for Esteghlal, as the club will be part of the group stage at the AFC Champions League Two next season.

The cup glory was a fitting finale to interim head coach Mojtaba Jabbari's six-game spell on the Esteghlal bench, though club chairman Ali Nazari Jouybari stated after the match that the former Blues midfielder "is on the club's shortlist of candidates for the permanent role."

Meanwhile, Malavan, which

overcame several tough top-flight opponents to reach the final, was left feeling hard done by after a decisive refereeing decision went against the northern Iranian club.

Malavan striker Mohammad Omri, racing toward a one-on-one with Esteghlal keeper Hossein Hosseini, was brought down by Blues defender Armin Sohrabi-an on the edge of the box in first-half stoppage time. However, referee Mo'oud Bonyadifar and the VAR team did not deem the incident a foul, let alone a denial of a clear goalscoring opportunity.



Seyyed Hossein Hosseini lifts the trophy as Esteghlal players celebrate winning the Iranian Hazfi Cup title at the Imam Khomeini Stadium, Arak, Iran, on May 29, 2025.

● MOHAMMAD-HASSAN ZARIFMANEH/FARS

UWW Ranking Series:

Iran's Sohrabi wins Greco-Roman gold at Ulaanbaatar Open

Sports Desk

Greco-Roman wrestler gave Iran a flying start at the Ulaanbaatar Open, by grabbing the gold medal of the 72kg contests at the third UWW Ranking Series event of the season in the Mongolian capital.

The reigning Asian champion, who will be in the Iranian squad for September's World Championships in Zagreb, defeated the host's Zandambat Batsaikhan by technical superiority (8-0) before outclassing Yrskeldi Khamzaev of Kyrgyzstan 10-1.

The Iranian continued his

emphatic run with a fall victory over Indian Ankit Gulia and then capped off the round-robin contests with a 3-1 win against Turkey's Mehmet Mustafa Sahin. Meanwhile, Iranian Mohammad Keshtkar missed out on the podium in the 63kg weight class.

Keshtkar, who won an Asian silver in March, beat Aref Mohammadi of Qatar, and India's Chetan Chetan to reach the semifinals. A last-four 2-1 loss to South Korean Hanjae Chung sent Keshtkar into the third-place bout, where he was beaten 6-1 in a rematch against Iranian-born Mohammadi.



● IAWFIR

WTT Youth Contender:

Faraji beats Lorestani in all-Iranian U17 final

Sports Desk

Table tennis prodigy Benjamin Faraji defeated Arshia Lorestani to win the boys' under-17 trophy at the latest WTT Youth Contender event in

Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Having beaten opponents from Saudi Arabia, Kazakhstan, and the host country to reach Thursday's final, Faraji came out on top against his fellow-Iranian 3-1 (11-4, 12-14, 11-9,

11-5) to walk away with the ultimate prize. There was further glory for Iran in the girls' competitions at the Humo Arena, as Setayesh Il-loukhani settled for the runner-up trophy in the under-17 class.

The Iranian girl overcame players from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and India en route to the final showpiece, before falling to a loss to the host's Aruja Kamalova in straight games (12-10, 11-7, 11-9).

