

World Para Athletics Championships: Bajoulvand wins discus gold, takes Iran's medal haul to nine

Sports Desk

Iran's Hassan Bajoulvand won the ninth medal for the country at the World Para Athletics Championships on Friday, walking away with the ultimate prize in the men's discus throw F11 event in New Delhi.

A silver medalist in last year's Paralympics, Bajoulvand secured the gold with a season-best 41.7m effort, with Brazilian world-record holder Alessandro Rodrigo Silva (40.14m) and Spain's Alvaro del Amo Cano (39.28m) settling for silver and bronze respectively. This was Iran's fourth gold medal across seven days of action at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. On Thursday, two-time Paralympic champion Saeid Afrooz

claimed his third world title in the men's javelin throw F34 discipline.

The Iranian recorded a 41.52m throw with his fifth attempt, breaking his own world record from last year's Paris Paralympics by 36 centimeters.

Elham Salehi won the in the women's javelin throw F54 event on Wednesday, thanks to a successful 17.06m – the Iranian girl's second medal in New Delhi, following her bronze-winning campaign in the shot put F54 event on the preceding day.

Iran's second javelin medal in the women's competition on Wednesday came in the F56 class, where Zeinab Moradi finished with a bronze.

Hajar Safarzadeh has been the

only Iranian medalist in the track events, winning the silver in the women's 400m T12 contest on Wednesday.

It was an all-Iranian one-two in the men's shot put F11 final on Tuesday, as reigning Paralympic champion Amirhossein Alipour defended his world title in style, shattering the championship record with a 14.59m throw.

Three-time Paralympic medalist Mahdi Olad, who won the silver of the category in Paris, again had to settle for a runner-up finish behind his fellow Iranian, courtesy of a season-best 14.23 throw.

Amanollah Papi got Iran off the mark in New Delhi on Sunday, winning a bronze in the men's javelin throw F57 event.



● paralympic.ir

AFC U23 Asian Cup: Iran to play Uzbekistan, South Korea, Lebanon in group stage

Sports Desk

Iran was drawn against Uzbekistan, South Korea, and Lebanon in Group C of the 2026 AFC U23 Asian Cup – starting January 6 in Saudi Arabia. The draw for the seventh edition of the competition took place at the AFC House in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday, where 16 teams were divided into four groups.

Iran will begin its campaign against 2020 champion South Korea in Riyadh's Al Shabab Club Stadium on January 7, before taking on Uzbekistan — champion in 2018 and run-

ner-up in the previous two editions — three days later at the Prince Faisal bin Fahd Sports City Stadium three days later.

The final round of the group fixtures will see Iran play Lebanon on January 13.

In other groups, host and 2022 champion Saudi Arabia will have 2018 runner-up Vietnam, Jordan and debutant Kyrgyz Republic for company in Group A.

Two-time and defending champion Japan will have to contend with Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Syria in Group B.

Group D top seed and 2013 champion Iraq will have to face the challenge of Australia, Thailand and China.

The top two teams in each group will progress to the last-eight round.

Iran will return to the finals for the first time since 2022, thanks to a top-spot finish in the qualification group — also featuring host UAE, Hong Kong, and Guam — in September.

Iran defeated Hong Kong (4-0) and Guam (6-0) before a 3-2 victory over the UAE secured a perfect qualification record for Omid Ravankhah's men.



● FFIRI

CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League: Iran sets final date with host Uzbekistan

Sports Desk

Iran progressed to the final showpiece of the CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League thanks to an emphatic 3-0 victory (25-15, 25-7, 25-7) over Tajikistan in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on Thursday.

This was Iranian girls' second straight-set victory – following their win against Kyrgyzstan the previous day – in the competition, securing a top-two finish in the league phase – featuring four Central Asian teams – and a place in Sunday's showdown against the host regardless of the result between the two sides on Friday. The two victories saw Iran collect

63.05 points to jump by nine spots and stand 53rd in the FIVB Women's World Ranking.

Uzbekistan also came out victorious in straight sets against Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, which will go head-to-head in the third-place contest on the final day.

"I had asked the players today to use the new formations we practiced in our training sessions. The opponent was weak, and although we couldn't play to our full potential, the players still did a good job to implement the new tactics, which is why I'm pleased with their performance," Iran's South Korean head coach Lee Do-hee said after the game.

Iranian captain Shabnam Alikhani, meanwhile, welcomed the tournament as decent preparation for the upcoming Islamic Solidarity Games, which will kick off on November 7 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

"The CAVA tournament is important for us due to its impact on the world ranking, and we will give our all to return home with the gold medal," said the Iranian captain.

"The level of competition here has been relatively modest, and Iran's top priority will be to deliver decent performances and results at the upcoming Islamic Countries Games."



● volleyball.ir

IHF Men's U-17 Handball World Championship: Iran handed Germany, Argentina, Puerto Rico tests in preliminary round

Sports Desk

Iranian boys were pitted against the Germany, Argentina, and Puerto Rico in Group C at the inaugural IHF Men's U-17 Handball World Championship – starting October 24 in Casablanca, Morocco.

The draw for the of the preliminary round of the competition was held on Thursday, with 12 teams split into three groups.

The winners of each group will be joined by the best second-placed side in the semifinals.

Morocco, as the host, had the prerogative to choose its group after three teams were already drawn and it chose Group A, where it will face Egypt, Brazil and the United States.

In Group B, Spain will meet Tunisia, South Korea and Qatar, with the other four teams.

Iran will head to Casablanca fresh off a sensational title-winning campaign at the 1st Asian Men's U-17 Handball Championship in September, thanks to 28-25

victory over South Korea in the final showpiece in Amman, Jordan.

The final triumph rounded off an emphatic run for the Iranian boys, who completed a clean sweep of eight wins in the Jordanian capital.

Iran began its campaign with a 65-4 hammering of Maldives, and went on to defeat Syria (44-22) and South Korea (31-25) to win

the group in the preliminary phase.

The first game in the main round saw Iran beat Kuwait 35-30, followed by a 42-22 rout of the host team, and a commanding 46-25 win against Qatar on for a top-spot finish in Group 2.

Iran then hammered Bahrain 37-19 in the semifinals to punch the ticket for Casablanca.



● IRIHF