SPORT

Tennis

World No.1 Djokovic to start 2019 season in Doha

The 31-year-old Serb will make an appearance in DOHA FOR THE FIFTH TIME

By Sports Reporter

Doha, 15, T440 AH

World No.1 Novak Djokovic will kickstart his 2019 season with the Qatar ExxonMobil Open, which will start 2019 season in Doha on January 5, 2019, at the Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex in Doha. Djokovic, the 2018 Wimbeldon and US Open champions, tops the entry list of star players which includes world No. 1 Dominic Thiem, Nikoloz Basilashvili, David Ferrer, Karen Khachanov and this year’s French Open semi-finalist Matteo Cassarino.

In all, 38 players made the entry list while those slots are filled up to the end of January 14, with further entries expected in the coming days.

The three-time major winner Stan Wawrinka, the defending Australian Open winner and the former world No 4 Timo Bollmer, who has not been competing since June, are also the alternative entries that will probably submit to the main draw.

Of the 12 singles players and in doubles teams featuring in the six-day event, all are definitely going to be on Doha’s radar. The list of names makes it clear that you are going to experience the 2019 Qatar ExxonMobil Open.

The tournament was the first ever ATP event held in India in 2017, before it became an event in the world tour in 2018. It is also the third longest ATP event to be held in the Asian region.

The 2019 Qatar ExxonMobil Open will be held from December 31, 2018 to January 5, 2019, at the Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex in Doha.

The DOHA FIELD

Nikoloz Basilashvili (GEO 21), Andrey Rublev (RUS 68), Grigor Dimitrov (BUL 10), Alexander Zverev (GER 13), Marin Cilic (CRO 22), Martin Klizan (SVK 47), David Goffin (BEL 22), Andreas Seppi (ITA 23), Srgjan Persic (CRO 70), Roberto Bautista Agut (ESP 24).

Alternates: 1) Stan Wawrinka (SUI 6-G) 2) Elian Ymer (GBR 12) 3) Andy Reid (GREAT 16)

SC Secretary General: Qatar 2022 can change history

Supreme Committee

The 2022 FIFA World Cup has the potential to positively change the destiny of Qatar and the region, according to the Secretary-General of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC).

“The Qatar 2022 FIFA World Cup has the potential to positively change the region,” SC Secretary-General Hassan Al-Thawadi reiterated the positive sentiment in relation to the tournament across the region, including citizens of neighboring countries.

“Having the tournament in Qatar is a huge opportunity for us to change the region,” he added.

SC Secretary-General Al-Thawadi told BBC Sport that the tournament in Qatar is crucial for the development of the region.

“We need to open our volunteer programme to the region. Today we are at 20,000 (volunteers), and among them are people from the neighboring nations. So if you ask me whether there is a desire from the people of the region to collaborate, to participate, it is part of this World Cup. Absolutely. And are we welcoming them? We will welcome them with open arms.”

“The Secretary-General also addressed recent speculation surrounding the potential expansion of the 2022 FIFA World Cup from 48-teams to 56-teams saying plans remain firmly on course to deliver a tournament that will be the fairest, the best and the most enjoyable.”

“He said: “There is a feasibility study that is currently ongoing. From our side, we are continuing with preparations for a 12-match tournament.”

“Are there a lot of issues that need to be addressed and addressed? I don’t want to pre-judge what will be out there, but as of today it is a 12-team World Cup.”

To mark the four years to kick-off countdown, FIFA President Gianni Infantino also added his own words of encouragement. Speaking to BBC Sport, he said: “I think that all the ingredients are there to deliver a fantastic tournament.”

“The only message I can really give to everyone is the world who loves football is coming to Qatar, come to the Middle East, to the Gulf, in 2022, and enjoy the best World Cup ever.”

Former Chelsea striker Drogba retires at 40

By Reuters

Former Chelsea striker Drogba announced his retirement yesterday, calling time on a 20-year career in which the ballfaced striker won four Premier League titles and the 2012 Champions League. Drogba, who has been playing for Phoenix Rising in the US since 2018, won two FA Cups and two League Cups at Chelsea, scoring 164 goals in 381 games. He was voted African footballer of the year four times. He made more than 100 appearances for the Ivory Coast and scored 32 goals. Chelsea manager Frank Lampard said: “I am delighted to announce that Didier Drogba has decided to retire from professional football.”

Drogba, who made more than 100 appearances for the Ivory Coast and was voted African footballer of the year four times, has scored 164 goals in 381 games for Chelsea. He started his career at Le Mans before returning to Chelsea where he won the Champions League in 2012 and the Premier League title and a third FA Cup. He helped the team win the FA Cup in 2009 and scored the winning goal in the FA Cup final. Drogba had scored 164 goals in 381 games for Chelsea, making him one of the club’s all-time top scorers.

He had a spell in Turkey before returning to Chelsea where he won the fourth FA Cup title and a third FA Cup. He also scored Chelsea’s second goal in the 2012 Champions League final against Bayern Munich. Drogba was named player of the year in 2009 and 2010, and was voted African footballer of the year four times. He helped the team win the FA Cup in 2009 and scored the winning goal in the FA Cup final. Drogba had scored 164 goals in 381 games for Chelsea, making him one of the club’s all-time top scorers.

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Rayan wary of dangers in race to stay in top 4

Griezmann must prove worth to Atletico vs Barca

MOHAMMED SABER

**By Sports Reporter**

A

Rayan are wary of the pitfalls that could cost them their place in the top four of the La Liga table, with the team currently in seventh place after a disappointing 1-1 draw at home to Leganes. The team is struggling with injuries, missing key players, and has lost its recent form.

**Sporting Zone, east and west, 32 teams, is split into two geopolitical competition, which features football can help to politically charged group stage.**

He needs to decide if he wants to make history at Atletico where everything is widely viewed as his last stand but failing to galvanise his team performances in games such as never go down in history, “ said him or go to a club where he will want to decide if he wants to make history at Atletico Barca.

The Decision televisual documentary called The Lions are placed fourth in the Gulf Times, the top four with the tournament

The 2019-2020 FIF A World Cup Winners Trophy as well as exclusive interviews and a visit to the beIN SPORTS channels and Qatar Rail and the state-of-the-art FIF A World Cup stadiums including the revamped and ultra-modern Khalifa International Stadium, to give viewers a glimpse into what to expect at the big event.

Cup Winners Trophy as well as the big event.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1974 FIF A World Cup in the Netherlands, beIN shows the cover story on the tournament, was broadcasted on all the sport channels and

**FOOTBALL**

**SPOTLIGHT**

**beIN showcases 2018 FIF A World Cup trophy as part of countdown to 2022**

T

The 2022 FIF A World Cup in Qatar was broadcasted on all the sport channels and

**LA LIGA**

**GROUP A**

Group H:

Winners trophy.

The Lions are placed fourth in the Gulf Times, the top four with the tournament

**GROUP D**

Persepolis (IRN), Al Hilal (KSA), Al Ain (UAE), Esteghlal (IRN), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail (QAT), Al Rayyan (QAT), Al Sadd (QAT), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Wahda (UAE), Al Ahli (KSA), Al Duhail

**GROUP F**

Sydney FC (AUS), Ka...
Arsenal needed fresh start after Wenger: Emery

EPL

FOOTBALL

STERN TEST

FOYTH STEPS FORWARD AS TOTTENHAM UNERTHOUGHT LATEST GEM

With Jan Vertonghen still injured and question marks over Sanchez’s hamstring ahead of tomorrow’s home clash with Chelsea, Pochettino would have no qualms about thrusting Foyth into the derby.

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Kubica’s dramatic crash in Italy in 2011 brought a halt to his F1 career, but he had already shown enough talent to win a race and mark himself out as a huge talent. Over the years that followed, Kubica has been an inspiration to millions with his ability to overcome adversity and continue to chase his dreams. His return to F1 is a testament to his perseverance and determination, and it’s exciting to see how he will fare in the sport once again. The Formula One grid is sure to thrive with the addition of Kubica, who will no doubt bring an extra level of excitement and thrilled fans around the world.
LeBron wins, gets bigNBA cheers in return to Cleveland

James scores 32 points, grabbing 14 rebounds and making seven assists

Reuters

New York

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers during the first half of the NBA game at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio, on Wednesday. (AP Photo)

NHL

Getzlaf, gibson carry Ducks past Canuck

Bennett

New York

Ryan Getzlaf assisted on the tying goal with 3:43 remaining, and Anaheim goalie Ryan Miller made 28 saves to lead the host Anaheim Ducks past the Vancouver Canucks 127-109. 

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers dunks during the first half of the NBA game at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio, on Wednesday. (AP Photo)

Manny Machado is about to break the type of player that's going to demand a lot of money, but he knows teams will have questions that must be answered first. Of those questions, one is how Machado will handle the pressure that comes with being the face of a franchise. 

The Green Bay Packers activated wide receiver Davante Adams from the physicallyunable to practice list on Friday. 

South Florida

Tim Burt of the University of Florida in Gainesville Round to the No. 2 spot overall in the 2013 NFL Draft.

Oakenshield was a star for the Flyers. After a promising season in which Oakenshield scored 26 goals and 24 assists from his point position, he was drafted 15th overall in the 2010 NHL Draft. 

The Ducks regained the lead three minutes later when he tipped Blair Chabot's (23) shot over the right shoulder of Antti Niemi for the tying goal with 3:43 remaining. 

getzlaf scored on a point shot with 0.9 seconds remaining to give the Ducks a 3-2 win over the Vancouver Canucks on Wednesday night. 

Getzlaf had three points on the goal, including the primary assist on the tying goal with 3:43 remaining. 

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The 2017 NFL regular season was filled with drama and controversy, including several high-profile injuries that left players out for the season. 

Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz broke his left leg in the team's season finale on Dec. 31 against the Chicago Bears. 

The Philadelphia Eagles' Carson Wentz (right) is helped from the field by head trainer Jim Mazzella (left) after suffering a left ankle injury in the second quarter of an NFL football game against the Chicago Bears, Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017, in Chicago. 

Getzlaf scored 3 points, grabbing 14 rebounds and making seven assists

James scores 32 points, grabbing 14 rebounds and making seven assists

### Relevant Information

- **LeBron James**: The NBA player for the Los Angeles Lakers who scored 32 points, grabbed 14 rebounds, and made 7 assists.
- **Anaheim Ducks**: The NHL team that defeated the Vancouver Canucks 127-109.
- **Manny Machado**: The baseball player for the Los Angeles Dodgers who is about to break the type of player that's going to demand a lot of money.
- **Carson Wentz**: The Philadelphia Eagles' quarterback who broke his left leg in the season finale.
- **Getzlaf**: The Anaheim Ducks' center who scored a tying goal against the Canucks.
- **Ryan Miller**: The goalie for the Ducks who made 28 saves in the victory.

### Analysis

- LeBron James' performance in his return to Cleveland was impressive, scoring 32 points, grabbing 14 rebounds, and making 7 assists.
- The Anaheim Ducks' victory over the Vancouver Canucks was due to Getzlaf's key goal and Miller's strong performance in goal.
- Manny Machado's upcoming contract negotiations highlight the pressure on teams to sign top-tier talent.
- Carson Wentz's injury is a tragic setback for the Eagles, putting their playoff hopes in jeopardy.

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**LeBron James**

> mental James made a tough return to Cleveland and marked a standing ovation from supportive fans before leading the Los Angeles Lakers over the Cleveland Cavaliers 128-160 on Wednesday.

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**Anaheim Ducks**

> Getzlaf scored 3 points, grabbing 14 rebounds and making 7 assists

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**Manny Machado**

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**Carson Wentz**

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**Ryan Miller**

> Miller made 28 saves to lead the Ducks past the Canucks 127-109.

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**Ryan Miller**

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England’s Hartley, Tuilagi on bench vs Australia

They have a unique style of attack, so our defence has to be that important.

RUGBY

England’s Hartley, Tuilagi on bench vs Australia

By Sports Reporter

international sport volunteerism project announced

The International Sport Volunteerism project announced on Tuesday the launch of a new initiative designed to support the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme. The project will support the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support. The project will focus on supporting the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support.

TEAMS

England: Croft, tapi, 22-Jamie George, 21-Richard Wigglesworth, 20-Nathan Hughes, 19-Charlie Ewels, 18-Harry Willis, 17-Alec Hepburn, 16-Julian Montagnari, 15-Emiliano Boffelli, 14-Bautista Delguy, 13-Matias Moroni, 12-Henry Slade, 11-Ramiro Moyano, 10-Gareth Anscombe, 9-Gareth Davies, 8-Richardudu, 7-Rodrigo Bruni, 6-Paolo Garbisi, 5-Dean Budd, 4-Guido Petti, 3-Simone Ferrari, 2-Jamie George, 1-Ben Youngs

Argentina: Croft, tapi, 22-Jamie George, 21-Richard Wigglesworth, 20-Nathan Hughes, 19-Charlie Ewels, 18-Harry Willis, 17-Alec Hepburn, 16-Julian Montagnari, 15-Emiliano Boffelli, 14-Bautista Delguy, 13-Matias Moroni, 12-Henry Slade, 11-Ramiro Moyano, 10-Gareth Anscombe, 9-Gareth Davies, 8-Richardudu, 7-Rodrigo Bruni, 6-Paolo Garbisi, 5-Dean Budd, 4-Guido Petti, 3-Simone Ferrari, 2-Jamie George, 1-Ben Youngs

ARGENTINA MAKE TWO CHANGES FOR SCOTLAND GAME

Argentina have made two changes to their team for next weekend’s World Cup warm-up against Scotland, with Emiliano Boffelli and Bautista Delguy recalling from the bench against France. The changes come after the South Americans’ 26-7 win against Italy in Florence last weekend.

Bottomline

International Sport Volunteerism Project announced during United Nations Alliance of Civilizations forum

By Sports Reporter

The International Sport Volunteerism Project announced during United Nations Alliance of Civilizations forum

Defending Six Nations champions have made two changes to their team for next weekend’s World Cup warm-up against Scotland, with Emiliano Boffelli and Bautista Delguy recalling from the bench against France. The changes come after the South Americans’ 26-7 win against Italy in Florence last weekend.

JAPAN make five changes for World Cup rehearsal

Japan have made five changes to their team for next weekend’s World Cup warm-up against Scotland, with Emiliano Boffelli and Bautista Delguy recalling from the bench against France. The changes come after the South Americans’ 26-7 win against Italy in Florence last weekend.

FOCUS

One change as Italy look to put best foot forward against NZ

By Sports Reporter

One change as Italy look to put best foot forward against NZ

POLISH BLESSINGS

Wojtek Wilczynski's kit is blessed on the pitch before the game against South Africa.

GLIMPSE

Argentina's Cordero is welcomed to the World Cup with a 25-man squad.

Sport for development

As the World Cup nears, the UN Alliance of Civilizations is launching a new initiative designed to support the volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support. The project will focus on supporting the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support.

SAVE THE DATE

The launch of the new initiative will take place on October 24th, 2018, during the UNAOC Global Forum held in New York on Tuesday. The project will drive in-depth analysis, capacity-building activities and skills development. The project will also support the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support. The project will focus on supporting the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ volunteer programme by providing a framework for international volunteering opportunities, including training and support.

PREP WORK

Japan make five changes for World Cup rehearsal

By Sports Reporter

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SPORTS LIGHT

England’s Hartley, Tuilagi on bench vs Australia

By Sports Reporter

The England team have named a 25-man squad for their World Cup warm-up against Australia on Saturday. The team includes the likes of Owen Farrell, Ben Youngs and George Ford, while Jamie George will wear the hooker’s jersey, while Manu Tuilagi will start on the bench against Australia.

SUGGESTED FOR READING

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J

oney Batsman returns tail in England’s problem

No 3 spot

Bairstow returns in England’s problem

One thing we all know about Jonny is whenever he’s got a point to prove or is up against it, he generally comes out and does something pretty special,” said Root. “Hopefully we see that with Jonny this week – that aggression and drive to re-

jove himself. It’s an opportunity for him to say that when you go down and he’s more than capable of doing that.”

The 29-year-old Batsman has admitted his frustration at getting left out of the side for the first Test of the tour and has said he needs to bounce back.

“He’s difficult. No one wants to put him in the side. This week, the last two-and-a-half years, he’s been in the side and there’s never been any success this year,” said Root.

“England had still won four games, but acknowledged that he needs Bangladesh to make some changes. He admitted his frustration at getting left out of the side for the first Test of the tour and has said he needs to bounce back.

Root pointed out that England had still won four games, but acknowledged that he needs Bangladesh to make some changes. He admitted his frustration at getting left out of the side for the first Test of the tour and has said he needs to bounce back.

“Higher up the order, Jonny’s a very sticky player and he needs to show why we put him in the side. He’s still one of England’s best players – I genuinely believe that, so the captain, who will still take his place in the England side this winter,” said Broad. “He had made his Test debut in 2007.”

“I think it will be pretty important to play well,” said Patel. “Every ball you walk off is satisfying, so we will do our best.”

Team plans to keep pressure on Pakistan

we will keep the pressure on them in the home Tests, when the two sides meet again in the second Test in Dubai. Left-arm spinner Axil Pa-

“Patel made his Test debut in 2007.”

One thing we all know about Jonny is whenever he’s got a point to prove or is up against it, he generally comes out and does something pretty special.”

Scorecard

BANGLADESH VS WEST INDIES, FIRST TEST

Bangladesh reached 315 for eight at lunch on the opening day of the first Test beginning at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong on Friday. (AFP)

Mominul, Gabrielle shine on Day 1

BANGLADESH

Wickets: 1-1 (Soumya), 2-105 (Soumya), 3-198 (Soumya), 4-219 (Soumya), 5-228 (Mominul), 6-244 (Mominul), 7-315 (Mominul), 8-315 (Mominul), 9-315 (Mominul).

TODAY:

Bangladesh 315/8 (Mominul, Gabriel shine on Day 1)

Test results

England 293 and 76-2 in their second innings at tea on day four of the fifth Test against Pakistan at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Friday.

Pakistan 295 and 447-8 declared.

***

End of play on Day 4

Pakistan’s bowlers turned the tables on England in the fifth Test with a second innings of 447-8 declared on Friday.

England were bowled out for 76-2 after tea. Moeen Ali, who was dropped by West Indies keeper Brathwaite at second slip off Roach on 105, brought early stumps.

Mominul, who hit 10 fours and a six, was left stranded on 112 when Nisam dropped him at mid-off with eight overs remaining.

Bairstow, who has lost the wicketkeeper’s gloves and captaincy in recent months, has batted for England in 117 matches since Graham Dowling handed him his Test debut in 2007.

Batsman Bairstow returns in England’s problem

No 3 spot

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Wickets: 1-1 (Soumya), 2-105 (Soumya), 3-198 (Soumya), 4-219 (Soumya), 5-228 (Mominul), 6-244 (Mominul), 7-315 (Mominul), 8-315 (Mominul), 9-315 (Mominul).

TODAY:

Bangladesh 315/8 (Mominul, Gabriel shine on Day 1)

Test results

England 293 and 76-2 in their second innings at tea on day four of the fifth Test against Pakistan at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Friday.

Pakistan 295 and 447-8 declared.

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End of play on Day 4

Pakistan’s bowlers turned the tables on England in the fifth Test with a second innings of 447-8 declared on Friday.

England were bowled out for 76-2 after tea. Moeen Ali, who was dropped by West Indies keeper Brathwaite at second slip off Roach on 105, brought early stumps.

Mominul, who hit 10 fours and a six, was left stranded on 112 when Nisam dropped him at mid-off with eight overs remaining.

Bairstow, who has lost the wicketkeeper’s gloves and captaincy in recent months, has batted for England in 117 matches since Graham Dowling handed him his Test debut in 2007.
trainer Mohamed Riyaz combines with jockey JP Guillambert for a double.

By Sports Reporter

Jassim bin Thani al-Thani-owned Admiral shed his maiden status yesterday with five lengths to spare. The 3-year-old colt to victory in the Local Thoroughbred maiden Plate event. Trainer Mohamed Riyaz had two winners on the day, with JP Guillambert in the saddle for both the rides. While Al-Kuwaiti’s Rassan (Harry Bentley) crossed past the post in the 1700m run, trainer Mohamed Nasser al-Naimi’s Spaghetti (Harry Bentley) won the Class 3 Thoroughbred Handicap race on the nine-race card, the Class 1 Thoroughbred Handicap event for horses aged 3 and above.

Rassan, Spaghetti cap hat-trick for Ghazali, Bentley

Trainer Mohamed Riyaz combines with jockey JP Guillambert for a double.

By Sports Reporter

Reference: Gulf Times

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