



KUWAIT: A group photo of the winners in the men's and juniors' competitions with the tournament's organizers.



A group photo of the winners in the women's competitions with the tournament's organizers.

Saad grabs skeet gold in Crown Prince tourney as Olympian Rashidi finishes third

Iman Al-Shamma, Hussa Al-Zayed, Mariam Al-Kandari win gold in women's contests

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Olympic bronze medalist Abdullah Al-Rashidi finished third in the men's skeet competition of HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah shooting tournament which concluded on Saturday. Rashidi, who had won a bronze medal in the same category during the Tokyo 2020 Olympics in July, settled with a bronze too in Kuwait's top annual shooting tournament as fellow shooting club teammates Abdelaziz Al-Saad and Saud Al-Kandari grabbed the gold and silver respectively.

A large number of officials and fans attended the concluding ceremony of HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah shooting tournament, during which the winners were handed their medals and prizes. HH the Crown Prince was represented by Capital Governor Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Duajj Al-Otaibi welcomed the guests. "We are honored to organize the second HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah annual tournament, which was held at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Olympic Shooting Complex and Kuwait Shooting Sport Club in Jahra," he said. He added that the higher organizing committee, which he chaired, was keen to cooperate with state agencies to prepare the shooting complex for the local season with all safety and health precautions in place.

Otaibi said 300 shooters participated in the tournament, where qualified Kuwaiti referees officiated in all games. He reminded that HH the Crown Prince gave instructions to support Kuwaiti youth in general and Kuwait shooting in particular, adding his support resulted in the signing of a cooperation protocol between KSSC and the National Guard, which contributed to having outstanding shooters from the Guard whose levels were developed at the club.

He said Kuwait shooting was able to make significant achievements, most important of which is being the top in Asia in shotgun, besides winning several champi-

Final results of shooting tournament

- Skeet - men:** Abdelaziz Al-Saad, Saud Al-Kandari, Abdullah Al-Rashidi
- Trap - men:** Abdelrahman Al-Faihan, Nasser Al-Miqled, Dhafer Al-Aryani (UAE)
- Trap - special needs:** Faisal Al-Rashidi, Usama Kimshad, Bader Al-Munaifi
- Skeet - women:** Iman Al-Shamma, Afrah Adel, Sheikha Al-Rashidi
- Trap - juniors:** Yousuf Tami, Salah Al-Rashidi, Dhari Al-Mutairi
- Skeet - juniors:** Saud Al-Hamly
- Air pistol 10m - men:** Hamad Saad, Hassan Abdelmajid, Ali Al-Mutairi
- Air rifle 10m - men:** Khalid Mohammad, Ali Farhan, Abdullah Al-Harby
- Rifle 50m 3 positions - men:** Abdullah Al-Harby, Turkey Al-Shimmari, Majid Aboud
- Rapid pistol 25m - men:** Othman Al-Failakawi, Hassan Abdelmajid, Saud Funisan
- Air rifle 10m - women:** Hussa Al-Zayed, Mariam Irzouqi, Reem Al-Bughaili
- Air pistol 10m - women:** Mariam Al-Kandari, Shahah Al-Khaddah, Israa Bahman
- Air rifle 10m - juniors:** Abdullah Abdelhadi, Muath Abdelaziz, Turkey Al-Mutairi
- Air pistol 10m - juniors:** Faisal Munawekh, Bander Al-Ghazi, Fahad Al-Hussaini
- Olympic archery - men:** Abdullah Taha, Faisal Sindi, Abdullah Farraj
- Compound archery - men:** Abdullah Malallah, Ahmad Al-Shatti, Bader Saleh
- Archery - juniors:** Mohammad Al-Taisi, Mohammad Al-Mutairi, Abdelkareem Al-Saeed.

onships as well as the only Olympic medal at the Tokyo 2020 Games by shooter Abdullah Al-Rashidi. He said shooters Rashidi, Abdelrahman Al-Faihan and Talal Al-Rashidi were chosen among the best 10 shooters in the

world. Otaibi concluded his speech by saying that preparations for the Paris 2024 Olympics start from now, and a plan has been set and sent to the Public Authority for Sport.



Preparations for Paris 2024 Olympics start now

Meanwhile, Abdelrahman Al-Faihan, who had participated in last summer's Olympics, won gold in the men's trap competition, after finishing ahead of Nasser Al-Miqled and Dhafer Al-Aryani. In women's competitions, Iman Al-Shamma won gold in skeet, while Hussa Al-Zayed claimed the gold medal in air rifle 10m and Mariam Al-Kandari grabbed the gold medal in the air pistol 10m contest.

Alvarez knocks out Plant to make super middleweight history

LAS VEGAS: Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez made history Saturday, knocking out Caleb Plant in the 11th round to become the first undisputed world super middleweight champion, unifying all four major belts in less than 12 months.

The 31-year-old added the IBF belt to his WBC, WBA and WBO straps in a winner-takes-all showdown at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas to join an exclusive club. Mexico's Alvarez knocked Plant down twice in the 11th; the first time with a stinging left hook, followed up by a thundering right uppercut. Plant got up but the American was still wobbly and in a fog as Alvarez chased him around the ring.

Alvarez pummeled Plant with rights and lefts to drop him for good at 1:05 of the round. The Mexican had seized the WBA and WBC titles by defeating Callum Smith in December 2020. He defended them successfully by overpowering Avni Yildirim in February and then clobbered Billy Joe Saunders six months ago to grab the WBO belt.

Alvarez came into the bout as a heavy favorite to become the first Mexican four-belt champion. With a complete collection of 168-pound titles, he becomes just the sixth fighter since the WBO began sanctioning world title fights in 1988 to hold all four belts from



LAS VEGAS: Canelo Alvarez of Mexico (right) lands a punch on Caleb Plant of the United States (left) during their super-middleweight unification boxing match at MGM Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada on Saturday. — AFP

the separate governing bodies at the same time. Only five other boxers — Oleksandr Usyk (cruiserweight), Bernard Hopkins (middleweight), Jermain Taylor (middleweight), Terence Crawford (super-lightweight) and Josh Taylor (super-lightweight) — have held all four belts. "It hasn't been easy to get to this point," Alvarez said. "With my team I have gone really far. This is for everybody, especially for Mexico. We did it tonight. We

are only six. It keeps me happy and motivated to be one of the six undisputed fighters in the world."

Alvarez improved to 57-1-2 with 39 knockouts in handing Plant the first defeat of his career. Plant is now 21-1 with 12 KOs. Even though Plant was fighting in his home country, he was booed during the introductions as the majority of the Las Vegas crowd was cheering for Alvarez throughout the fight.

Alvarez won just about every round leading up to the 11th but still Plant proved to be an awkward opponent. Alvarez needed a spectacular KO to put a stamp on what up until then had been a mediocre performance. Both fighters used the first round to feel each other out. They stuck to their game plans in the second round with Alvarez landing left hooks to the head and Plant sneaking in a few jabs.

Plant lost all but one round in the first half of the fight but he did a good job of staying out of trouble, slipping punches and weathering the coming storm. By the sixth round Plant's jab had lost some of its snap as his lack of power started to show.

Alvarez was warned for a low blow in the fifth but he also landed one of his best left hooks in the round right on the button that hurt Plant. He grew more confident as he started to realize that Plant couldn't hurt him with his now pawing punches.

In the 10th round, Plant got more careless and his jab completely disappeared. He tried to fight in close but couldn't get through Alvarez's stingy defense. Halfway through the 11th Alvarez caught Plant with a vicious left hook and then followed it up right away with a right uppercut as Plant was going down.

Plant rose but it was clear the end was near. After a brief conversation with the referee the fight continued and Alvarez could smell blood. He went on the attack, charging forward and swarming Plant with a flurry of rights and lefts, finally putting on the finishing touches with a straight right to the head. Alvarez said Plant, 29, wanted to keep going but he told him he should stop. "He wanted to continue. I told him there is no shame. Of course I came out on top," said Alvarez. — AFP

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