



KUWAIT: China's Maimaiti Aihemaiti (left) and Kuwait's Abdelrahman Al-Enezi compete in the men's super heavyweight (+92kg) boxing final bout during the Kuwait International Boxing Championship in the Sabah Al-Salem district on July 25, 2022. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## Uzbekistan secures first position in International Boxing Championship

Kuwait (fifth) wins one silver and two bronze



KUWAIT: Gold medalist Uzbekistan's Dilshodbek Ruzmetov celebrates on the podium following the men's light heavyweight (80kg) boxing final bout during the Kuwait International Boxing Championship on July 25, 2022.



KUWAIT: Thailand's Sarawut Suthet (right) and Iran's Sajid Mohammad compete during the Kuwait International Boxing Championship at the Boxing Hall in the Sabah Al-Salem district.

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: With five gold medals and a bronze, Uzbekistan's team took the first position in Kuwait's first International Boxing Championship that was concluded on Monday. Thailand was second - with a gold and two silver medals while China took third with one gold and a silver medal. Fourth place went to Iran with two silver and two bronze. Kuwait secured fifth with one silver and two bronze as Kyrgyzstan (sixth) grabbed one silver and a bronze. Ukraine (seventh) took one silver while Iraq (eighth) won two bronze. Morocco and Hong Kong (ninth) won a bronze medal each.

The bout between Kuwait's champion Abdelrahman Al-Enezi and China's Maimaiti Aihemaiti (92kg+) was highly competitive. The Chinese has a height advantage

and was able to deliver straight punches while keeping his distance as Al-Enezi focused on short hook punches.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Boxing Federation Chairman Mohammad Mansi lauded the friendly spirit that dominated the championship and the cooperation of all delegations during his speech at the conclusion of the boxing tournament. "We were honored and pleased to host you all. Your active participation and fruitful cooperation contributed to the success of the event," he said, adding that the Championship saw exciting bouts and was filled with good spirits among the fighters.

Mansi thanked the Interior, Information and Health ministries as well as Kuwait Olympic Committee Public Authority for sport for their cooperation and support. Kuwait's silver medalist in the 92kg+ Abdelrahman Al-

Enezi said he gave his best in his final bout of a career that spanned 22 years, adding that the fight was tough but close in all rounds. Al-Enezi thanked Kuwait Boxing Federation for the support he and other boxers received.

Results of the final bouts were as follows: In the 51kg: Abdumajid Mannopov (UZB) defeated Mostafa Rigi (IRI). In the 57kg: Abdumalikhalokov (UZB) beat SarawutSukthet (THA); In the 63kg: Khunatip Pidnuch (THA) outpunched Bagher Faraji (IRI); In the 71kg: Javlonbek Yuldoshev (UZB) defeated Sitthisak Yuldoshev (THA); In the 80kg: Dilshodbek Ruzmetov (UZB) overpowered UuluErkin Adylbek (KGZ); In the 92kg: DiyorbekUralov (UZB) beat MykytaGorbatenko (UKR) while in 92kg+: Maimaiti Aihemaiti (CHN) defeated Abdelrahman Al-Enezi (KWT).

up to \$7,000 a night. It is a favored weekend destination for rich families in the Gulf state that has one of the world's highest per capita incomes.

England are in the Souq Al Wakra hotel, where authorities plan to close off a section of the nearby public beach for Harry Kane and the rest of the squad. There is no alcohol, as in most of Qatar, but the hotel facilities are being modified to bring in extra gym equipment and video games and other entertainment for the players. The bulk of the teams are in hotels "within a 10km (six mile) radius of each other, further ensuring that the event's thrilling atmosphere is concentrated in and around Doha", FIFA said.

Brazil have chosen the city centre Westin near a main road, while the United States will be in the main district for expatriate residents. Lionel Messi's Argentina and former champions Spain have opted for "luxury" lodgings at Qatar University from where they can walk to their training ground. More than one million fans are expected to visit Qatar for the tournament that finishes on December 18. Some will be in \$2,000 a night hotels but many are expected to stay in cheaper portable cabins and desert camps. —AFP

### Arab Boxing Federation picks sports reporters

KUWAIT: International Federation Of Arab Boxing has selected six sports reporters from the GCC countries to carry out media duties of the federation that has 72 countries as members. The federation's board approved the selection of Mazen Al-Buraiki from Oman (chairman) and Abdelaziz Al-Hamar from Qatar (deputy chairman). Other members include Fahad Al-Enezi from Kuwait; Hanan Al-Beloushi from UAE; Iman Al-Turki from KSA and Fatima Al-Najim from Bahrain. Federation President Dr Al-Hadi Al-Sudairi welcomed the new sports media reporters. Chairman of the media committee Mazen Al-Buraiki said the selection reflects the development of the sports media in GCC countries and its role in covering international and domestic events.



Fahad Al-Enezi

### Premier League names 1st female chair Britain

LONDON: The Premier League on Tuesday announced Alison Brittain as its first female chair after clubs "voted unanimously in favor" of her appointment. The CEO of hospitality business Whitbread will take over from interim chairman Peter McCormick early next year. "I have been a football fan since I was a child and so am absolutely delighted to be appointed chair of the Premier League," she said in a statement. "The game is of enormous national importance, is loved by so many people around the world and can have a tremendous positive impact on communities. "It will be a real privilege to be able to help to develop plans for the future and work with all the key stakeholders in the game to ensure its long-term sustainability and success." Premier League chief executive Richard Masters welcomed the appointment of Brittain. "She has a tremendous track record in business, gets things done with a down-to-earth style and is well-respected and liked in all the industries she has worked," he said. "She also has a keen interest in the game and how it can develop further and I am very much looking forward to working with her." —AFP



Alison Brittain

### WCup teams pick 'palaces', wellness resorts, uni digs

DOHA: The 32 football teams taking part in this year's World Cup will be based in copies of Arabian palaces, in wellness resorts and luxury hotels where alcohol is banned, FIFA said Tuesday. According to a list released by the sport's world governing body, 24 of the teams will be in bases - hotels but also university lodgings - concentrated around the capital. All teams have chosen to stay in the tiny Gulf state for the tournament which starts on November 18. Defending champions France will be at the Al Messila, a resort near Doha that boasts of its "private palace setting". Villas can cost more than \$2,500 a night - not including champagne.

Germany will be in the Zula overlooking the Gulf that

#### World Cup solitude

He added that security would also be easier as there is only one entrance. "There will be no fans coming here bothering the guests or team to ask for photographs and autographs. So I think here they can really be isolated. "But at the same time if they have one day that they look for distractions, they can drive to Doha."

Fans will get easier access to the Al Shamal Stadium nearby, the German training ground, which is styled on a fortress. Belgium have chosen the Hilton Salwa on the opposite coast with its own private beach, a private water theme park, with slides and cliff jumps, and villas costing