

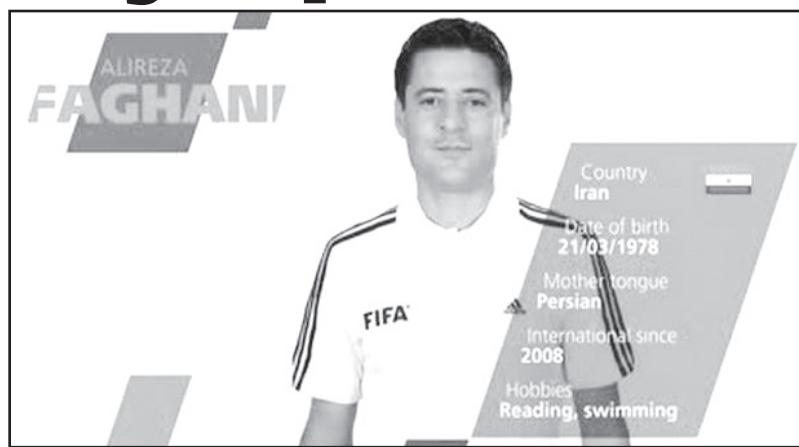
# Asian Refereeing Trios Get Olympics Nod

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFC) - Three men's and two women's referee trios from Asia have been selected to officiate at the Olympic Football Tournament Rio 2016.

They are among 88 match officials from 40 countries whose appointments have been confirmed by the FIFA Referees Committee.

The men's competition will see 18 referees and 32 assistant referees officiate and at the women's tournament, 14 referees and 24 assistant referees will be on duty.

AFC MEN'S REFEREE TRIOS: (Saudi Arabia) Referee: Fahad Al Mirdasi



Alireza Faghani

Assistant Referees: Abdulah

Al Shalwai, Mohammed Al Abakry (Saudi Arabia)

Referee: Alireza Faghani (Iran)

Assistant Referees: Reza Sokhandan, Mohammadreza Mansouri (Iran)

Referee: Ryuji Sato (Japan)

Assistant Referees: Toru Sagara, Hiroshi Yamauchi (Japan)

AFC WOMEN'S REFEREE TRIOS:

Referee: Rita Gani (Malaysia)

Assistant Referees: Allyson Flynn (Australia), Naomi Teshirogi (Japan)

Referee: Ri Hyang-ok (DPR Korea)

Assistant Referees: Hong Kum-nyo (DPR Korea), Cui Yongmei (China)

## Dodgers Pitcher Ravin Banned 80 MLB Games



Josh Ravin #71 of the Los Angeles Dodgers pitches in the ninth inning during a game against the Texas Rangers at Globe Life Park in Arlington, Texas.

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Josh Ravin was banned for 80 games on Monday after testing positive for growth hormones, the Major League Baseball team announced in a statement.

Ravin, 28, said supplements he had taken in order to accelerate his recovery from a bout of flu were to blame for the positive test.

"We are disappointed to hear that Josh has violated Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program," the Dodgers said.

"The Dodgers fully support MLB's policy toward eliminating performance enhancing substances from the sport."

Major League Baseball said Ravin had tested positive for growth hormone releasing peptide 2 (GHRP-2). Ravin's suspension is effective immediately.

In a statement released via the MLB Players Association, Ravin said he had taken the banned substance unwittingly.

"During 2016 Spring Training, I came down with a severe case of intestinal flu and strep throat," Ravin said.

"I was put on antibiotics and lost a total of 20 pounds (nine kilograms) in less than seven days. To try and speed up my recovery, I took some supplements that I thought would help. Unfortunately, I was not as careful as I should have been, and one of the supplements contained a banned substance.

"This has been a very painful lesson for me... I take full responsibility for the consequences

of my actions and my bad judgment," added Ravin, who said he had no plans to appeal the suspension.

Ravin's positive test comes just days after Miami Marlins batting champion Dee Gordon was banned for 80 games on Friday after testing positive for steroids.

## Junior Wrestlers Come 2nd at World Deaf C'ship

TEHRAN (MNA) - Iran Junior Greco-Roman team has finished runner-up at the 2016 World Deaf Wrestling Cadet and Junior Greco-Roman Championship in Tehran.

The 2nd edition of Cadet and Junior World Deaf Wrestling Championship convened in Shohadaye Haftom Tir Sports Hall with the Iranian team landing in the second best place after Russian rivals.

Alireza Daneshyar (60kg) was Iran's only gold medalist at the international event while five silver medals were bagged for the Iranian Junior outfit by Mojtaba Asad Bijavand (50kg), Mostafa Mirali (74kg), Alireza Sadeghinejad (84kg), Mohammad Reza Sadri (96kg) and Seyed Amir Hossein Razaghi (120kg).

Meanwhile, Iran's Mohammad Javad Yousefi (55kg) and Mojtaba Oladghobad (66kg) only managed to stand on the third

podium.

Overall, the Russian team finished first with 75 points followed by Iran and Turkey who finished second and third with 71 and 64 points, respectively.

Armenia (29 points), Ukraine (20 points) and Kazakhstan (14 points) were placed in 4th to 6th rankings.

The first edition of these competitions was held in Armenia, where the Iranian Cadet and Junior wrestlers ranked second and third respectively.

Immediately after the competitions, the 4th edition of World Deaf Wrestling Championship for adults will be held in the Iranian capital from 05 May 2016 to 09 May 2016.

In the previous edition in Bulgaria, the Iranian senior athletes ranked fourth and sixth in Freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling respectively.

## NBA, FIBA, NBL to Host First Basketball Without Borders Camp in Australia

MIES(FIBA) - The National Basketball Association (NBA), the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and Australia's National Basketball League (NBL) today announced that Basketball without Borders (BWB) Asia will be held June 23-26 at Dandenong Basketball Stadium in Melbourne, marking the first time that the NBA and FIBA's global basketball development and community outreach program will be held in Australia. BWB will celebrate its 15th anniversary this summer.

BWB Asia will bring together the top male players born in 1999 from around the Asia-Pacific region to learn directly from NBA and FIBA players, legends and coaches and to compete against the best young players from the region. BWB Asia will also include a girls camp for the top female players in Victoria and a Jr. NBA camp for local youth.

"We are pleased to partner with FIBA and the NBL to bring the first Basketball without Borders camp to Australia," said NBA Asia Managing Director Scott Levy. "The league has seen a surge of Australian talent in recent years, and we look forward to supporting the next generation by giving them a platform to showcase their skills alongside their peers from throughout the region."

"This historic, first-ever NBA and FIBA Basketball without Borders Asia Camp in Australia present an incomparable opportunity for players from many countries throughout Asia and Oceania," said Camp Director and President of the World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC) Patrick Hunt. "The players and coaches will work with the campers to enhance their skills, shape their



character, and teach values that lead to success in life and our wonderful, global game."

"Victorians love their basketball, and we've produced some of the world's great stars," said Victorian Government for Sport, Tourism and Major Events John Eren MP. "Australian NBA and national team players made their names in our local associations, and this is another great chance to uncover another star of the game. But it's not just about identifying talent. Basketball without Borders is a great chance to teach our kids important values and lessons that will stay with them for life."

"This camp will showcase the best young basketball talent Australasia has to offer in front of some of the world's best players and coaches from the NBA, and FIBA, along

with a very impressive selection of our own NBL coaches and players, past and present, many of whom played in the NBA themselves," said NBL General Manager Jeremy Loeliger. "It is a great opportunity to place Australian basketball and the NBL on the map internationally as the premier basketball destination in Australasia, and we are excited to see this event come to fruition thanks to the support of the NBA, FIBA, the Victorian Government, Basketball Victoria and Basketball Australia."

In addition to working with the campers on the court, NBA, FIBA and NBL players and coaches will lead extensive community outreach events through NBA Cares that will leave a lasting legacy in Melbourne and Geelong. These social responsibility efforts will

## Paykan Promoted to Iran Professional League

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Paykan football team promoted to the Iran Professional League (IPL) on Monday after beating Pas Hamedan.

With two weeks to go, Paykan edged past visiting team Pas Hamedan thanks to a late goal from Abbas Mohammad Rezaei.

Paykan was relegated from IPL last season.

Pas almost was relegated to the Iran's second division after suffering the defeat.

Three teams will win promotion to IPL.

Mashin Sazi Tabriz, Sanat Naft Abadan and Fajr Sepasi Shiraz will also have a chance to promote.

## Promising Aussie Goalkeeper Killed After Being Struck by Lightning



Stefan Petrovski

CANBERRA (Xinhua) -- An Australian goalkeeper who was killed after being struck by lightning in Malaysia has been remembered as a promising young player with the "world at his feet".

Stefan Petrovski, an up-and-coming Australian goalkeeper training with Malay club Melaka United, was rushed to hospital after being struck by lightning last month, but after spending a month in intensive care, he passed away in a coma overnight.

Football Federation Australia (FFA) said it was "saddened" to learn of Petrovski's death following the announcement from Melaka overnight.

"On behalf of the Australian football community, FFA sends

their deepest condolences to the Petrovski family, friends and team mates," the FFA said in a statement on Melbourne.

The promising 18-year-old was acquired by Melaka United on a three-year contact after spending a number of years at second-tier Australian side Sydney Olympic.

The club released a statement on Monday expressing its grief at the "tragic passing", and remembered Petrovski as a down-to-earth team player.

Petrovski and teammate Mohd Afiq Azuan were standing near goalposts while at training on April 5 when the lightning struck. Both players were taken to hospital following the accident, and Azuan was released last month.

focus on youth basketball development and teaching the values of the game on and off the court. Activities will include a Jr. NBA youth basketball clinic, an NBA Cares court dedication, a Jr. NBA wheelchair basketball exhibition game and clinic and life skills sessions stressing the importance of leadership, character and communication.

Nike, a BWB global partner since 2002, will outfit the campers and coaches with Nike apparel and footwear.

Since 2001, BWB has reached more than 2,500 participants from 130 countries and territories, with 37 campers drafted into the NBA. Twenty-one former BWB campers were on opening-night rosters for the 2015-16 NBA season.

The first-ever Basketball without Borders camp took place in Europe in July 2001. Vlade Divac (Serbia) and Toni Kukoc (Croatia), together with former teammates from the Yugoslav national team, reunited to work with 50 children from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia and Montenegro at La Ghirada in Treviso, Italy. Since then, the NBA and FIBA have staged 45 BWB camps in 26 cities across 22 countries on five continents. More than 210 current and former NBA, WNBA and FIBA players have joined nearly 160 NBA team personnel from all 30 NBA teams to support BWB across the world.

The full BWB 2016 summer schedule will be announced in the coming months. Campers and coaches will be announced prior to each camp.