

# Queiroz World's 7th Best National Team Coach



Iran's head coach Carlos Queiroz

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran national football team's head coach Carlos Queiroz sits in seventh place at the world's best national team coach in 2017.

The Germany-based International Federation of Football

History & Statistics (IFFHS) has announced its annual World's Best National Team Coach ranking, and Joachim Low won it a second time after claiming the title in 2014.

The Germany boss, who guid-

ed a young team to the 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup title, received 299 points from experts in 91 countries, beating Brazil boss Tite to first place.

Low collected more than double Tite's points, with the Bra-

zilian finishing on 125 points, while Spain's Julen Lopetegui completed the podium with 62 points.

Carlos Queiroz, who guided Iran to its fifth World Cup qualification in history, was voted into seventh place after receiving 26 points.

Ranking 2017:

- 1 – Joaquim Löw (Germany) with 299 points
- 2 – Adenor Leonardo Bacchi « Tite » (Brazil) with 125 points
- 3 – Julen Lopetegui (Spain) with 62 points
- 4 – Fernando Santos (Portugal) with 50 points
- 5 – Didier Deschamps (France) with 28 points,
- 6 – Roberto Martinez (Belgium) with 28 points
- 7 – Carlos Queiroz (Iran) with 26 points
- 8 – Hector Cuper (Egypt) with 24 points
- 9 – Juan Antonio Pizzi (Chile) with 16 points
- 10- Hugo Broos (Cameroon) with 11 points.

## Tour de France Winner Froome Failed Drugs Test During Vuelta



Froome said the UCI was "absolutely right" to scrutinise the test results.

PARIS (AFP) - Four-time Tour de France winner Chris Froome failed a drugs test for asthma medication during the Vuelta race in September, cycling's governing body UCI said on Wednesday.

The British Team Sky rider had twice the permitted level of legal asthma drug Salbutamol in his body.

The UCI has asked Froome to provide more information but has not suspended him.

Team Sky said the 32-year-old rider had suffered from asthma since childhood and had been affected by symptoms during the Vuelta a Espana, the Tour of Spain, which he went on to win.

But the team said he had taken no more than the allowable amount of Salbutamol.

"During the final week of the Vuelta, Chris experienced acute asthma symptoms. On the advice of the Team Sky doctor, he used an increased dosage of Sal-

butamol (still within the permissible doses) in the run-up to the 7 September urine test," Team Sky said.

The team said Froome had declared his use of the medication, adding: "The notification of the test finding does not mean that any rule has been broken."

Froome said the UCI was "absolutely right" to scrutinize the test results.

He said that during the race he had "followed the team doctor's advice to increase my Salbutamol dosage".

Froome was notified of the test on September 20, the day he finished third in the world time-trial championship in Bergen, Norway.

The test will raise new questions about British cycling following the scandal surrounding the only previous British Tour de France winner, Bradley Wiggins, over his use of so-called therapeutic use exemptions (TUEs).

## Dortmund Down Mainz 2-0 in German Bundesliga

BERLIN (Xinhua) - Struggling Dortmund have returned to winning ways after beating Mainz on two second-half goals at the opener of the 16th round of Bundesliga action.

As the first game of new head coach Peter Stoeger, Borussia Dortmund were able to snap their eight-game winless run as goals from Sokratis and Shinji Kagawa were enough to edge Mainz on the road.

Mainz grabbed a promising start going into the game as Suat Serdar came close with six minutes played after rattling the crossbar from 18 meters. The midfielder remained in the thick of things as he had another

chance to open the scoring, but he pulled the assist from Emil Berggreen over the target at 13 minutes of play.

As the match progressed, Dortmund assumed control of the ball but were unable to produce clear-cut opportunities. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang wasted Dortmund's best chance before the break as he missed the target from inside the box.

After the restart, the "BVB" increased the pressure and their efforts were eventually rewarded 55 minutes into the match as Mainz were unable to clear a free kick cross, allowing Sokratis to drill the ball past Mainz goalkeeper Robin Zentner.

## German Players Offered 350,000 Euro Bonus to Win World Cup

BERLIN (AP) -- Germany's players will each receive a 350,000 euro (\$410,000) bonus if the team defends its World Cup title next year in Russia.

The German soccer federation says it has agreed to a performance-related bonus system for the team, as it did for the successful 2014 World Cup campaign and the last two European Championships.

Bonuses will only be paid upon reaching the quarterfinals, when each player would receive 75,000 euros (\$90,000). That will increase to 125,000 euros (\$150,000) for reaching the semifinals, 150,000 euros (\$175,000) for third place and 200,000 euros (\$235,000) for reaching the final.

Only Italy (1934 and 1938) and Brazil (1958 and 1962) have won back-to-back World Cup titles.

## Chelsea Cruise to 3-1 Victory at Huddersfield

HUDDERSFIELD, England (Reuters) – Third-placed Chelsea have put in a determined performance as they returned to winning ways with a comfortable 3-1 win at Huddersfield Town in the Premier League.

Goals from Tiemoune Bakayoko, Willian and Pedro put Chelsea 3-0 ahead after 50 minutes before Huddersfield got a late consolation through substitute Laurent Depoitre.

The win put Chelsea level on 35 points with second-placed Manchester United and 11 points behind leaders Manchester City, with both Manchester clubs playing on



Wednesday.

After losing to West Ham United on Saturday, Chelsea needed to quickly get back on

track and David Wagner's promoted Huddersfield side provided little resistance.

Chelsea manager Antonio

Conte left regular skipper Gary Cahill on the bench and in the absence of the injured Alvaro Morata played with Eden Hazard as the central striker with Willian and Pedro providing the attacking width.

Huddersfield had beaten Manchester United at the John Smith's Stadium but Wagner's gameplan, from the outset, was for his team to defend deep and try to frustrate the champions.

That gave Chelsea space and time on the ball in midfield which they accepted gleefully and took a firm grip on the game.

## Horn Wins WBO Welterweight Title Defense Against Corcoran



Jeff Horn (left) could next fight American Terence Crawford, while Britain's Amir Khan has also expressed an interest in facing him

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) - Jeff Horn followed up his contentious WBO welterweight title win over Manny Pacquiao with a successful first defense on Wednesday against Gary Corcoran.

The former school teacher from Australia won by technical knockout in the 11th round when Corcoran's corner threw in the towel with the England-based boxer bleeding from a deep cut above his left eye.

It was Horn's first fight since his unanimous decision upset over eight-division champion Pacquiao in front of more than 51,000 fans in an outdoor afternoon fight at nearby Suncorp Stadium in July in the "Battle of Brisbane - a victory that some critics dismissed as a hometown decision.

Horn, now unbeaten in 19 bouts, is hoping the win at the Brisbane Convention Centre sets him up for a fight against Terence Crawford in Las Vegas next year.

## Azarenka Given Wildcard for Australian Open

MELBOURNE (Reuters) – Twice champion Victoria Azarenka has been given a wildcard for next month's Australian Open, organizers said on Wednesday.

Azarenka, who won the Melbourne Park title in 2012 and 2013, returned to the WTA Tour in June after having a baby, but has been involved in a custody battle that has prevented her from playing since Wimbledon.

She withdrew from the U.S. Open and the Fed Cup final, which Belarus lost to the United States. She is currently ranked 210 in the world.

"Vika's current situation is obviously very difficult for her and we have reached out to offer any support we can," Australian Open tournament director Craig Tiley said in a statement.

"As a two-time Australian Open champion we've awarded her a wildcard and look forward to seeing her back on court in Melbourne in January."

Azarenka said she was thankful for the opportunity to return to Melbourne Park and hoped it would kick-start the year for her.