

# Swimmer Izadyar Wins Fifth Gold at 2018 Asian Para Games



Iranian swimmer Shahin Izadyar

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian swimmer Shahin Izadyar has earned his fifth gold medal at the 2018 Asian Para Games on Wednesday.

Izadyar finished first at the Men's 50M Free Breaststroke S10 and defeated the rivals from India and Thailand to win his fifth gold medal at the Asian games.

Izadyar had finished first at the Men's 100M Breaststroke SB9 with a time of 01:14.71.

Kazakhstan's Sergey Kinakh won

the silver medal with a time of 01:23.06 and Japan's Daiki Kubo gained the bronze medal with 01:28.04.

Izadyar had already won three gold medals at the Men's 100M Butterfly S10, Men's 100M Freestyle S10 and Men's 200M Individual Medley SM10.

Mohammadreza Ahmadi's throw of 9.92m broke the record in Asia and earned him the men's Shot Put F33 gold medal at Games.

In men's shot put F33, Ahmadi broke the Asian record with a throw of 9.92m and won the gold medal. He claimed an Asian record which was previously set by Saudi Arabia's Hani Alnakhli with a 9.48m throw.

Also in the same category, Alnakhli from Saudi Arabia won the silver medal with a 9.37m record and Iran's Mehdi Alizadeh won the bronze medal of the category with a 9.34m throw.

The silver and bronze medals of this category went to Alnakhli and Iran's Mehdi Alizadeh with 9.37m and 9.34m respectively.

And in Judo, Iran's Vahid Nouri garnered the gold medal in the men's weight category of -90 kilogram at the third edition of the Asian Para Games underway in the Indonesian capital city of Jakarta.

Defeating opponents from the United Arab Emirate (UAE), Japan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan, Vahid Nouri, a visually-impaired judoka, grabbed the gold medal at the third edition of the Asian Para Games.

The 2018 Asian Para Games kicked off on Saturday in Jakarta and will continue through October 13. Some 2,831 athletes from 43 countries have participated in the event. A total of 209 athletes, consisting of 137 men and 73 women, represent Iran in the 2018 Asian Para Games in 13 sports.

Near 3,000 para-athletes from 43 countries of Asia are competing in the event. A total of 209 athletes, consisting of 137 men and 73 women, represent Iran in the 2018 Games in 13 sports.

The competitions feature 18 sports, including track and field, swimming, badminton, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair volleyball, and chess.

## Del Potro, Zverev Win at Shanghai Masters



Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina hits a return shot to Richard Gasquet of France during their men's singles match in the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament at Qizhong Forest Sports City Tennis Center in Shanghai, China, Oct 10, 2018. AP

SHANGHAI (China Daily) — Being sick didn't stop either Juan Martin del Potro or Alexander Zverev from winning at the Shanghai Masters.

The third-seeded del Potro trailed in the first set and in the tiebreaker but rebounded both times to beat Richard Gasquet 7-5, 7-6 (7) on Wednesday.

"It wasn't easy to play for me today," said del Potro, who

reached the China Open final last week. "I did what I can. I didn't run too much. But I think I played with all my strength in the important moment of the match.

"I would love to feel better," he added. "I have been talking with the doctors every day."

The fourth-seeded Zverev was also struggling with a cold, but he beat Nicoloz Basilashvili 7-5, 6-4.

## IOC Approves 3 Candidate Bids for 2026 Winter Olympics



International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach gives a press conference at the end of the 133rd IOC session in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct 9, 2018.

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (Dispatches) - The International Olympic Committee has three

official candidates to host the 2026 Winter Games and a new timetable to pick the winner.

Now the Olympic body needs

to overcome "bad faith" - of local people and activists who believe staging the games is too expensive - to ensure all three candidates stay on the ballot next June, IOC members were told.

"We have to make a huge effort in explaining ourselves better," IOC vice president Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr. said Tuesday. "It is not getting across with sufficient strength."

The 2026 Olympics contest is between Calgary, Canada; Stockholm, Sweden; and the combined Italian bid of Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo after IOC members formally backed the bids recommended last week by their executive board.

A fourth contender, Erzurum in

Turkey, was dropped by the board last week amid concern about high spending on essential projects.

Calgary, which also hosted in 1988, could yet drop out after a Nov 13 referendum. Full support of federal and local governments is also not guaranteed in Sweden or Italy.

These are the latest public tests of trust in Olympic hosting since Russia spent US\$51 billion to prepare for the 2014 Sochi Winter Games.

Voters in Switzerland and Austria already toppled potential 2026 bids. Recent Olympic hosting contests saw bids fail due to public opposition or government doubts in Scandinavia, Germany, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland.

## Bayern Munich Plunged Into Crisis



From left: Bayern Munich's German defender Niklas Suele, Bayern Munich's Spanish midfielder Javi Martinez and Bayern Munich's German defender Joshua Kimmich react after the UEFA Champions League Group E football match between Bayern Munich and Ajax Amsterdam in Munich, southern Germany, Oct 2, 2018.

BERLIN (Dispatches) - Sarcasm comes naturally when a giant of football is slipping into crisis. Currently, Bayern Munich fans and pundits only seem to have scorn and ridicule for the reigning German champions.

Commentators say alarm bells are being ignored by the club as Bayern is said to have lost faith and is lacking a convincing strategy. But still, the unpleasant situation appears to have caught Bayern's football family like an unexpected storm.

After six straight victories, national rivals were full of admiration as the 2018/2019 Bundesliga season seemed like a walk in the park for Bayern. Schalke 04 sporting director Christian Heidel, for example, assumed Bayern is not going to lose a game this season.

Only a few days later and Germany's leading club seems to be struggling. The team lost twice and is performing poorly. The club's big dream - to win the 2018/2019 Champions League - seems out of reach.

## Tour de France Trophy Stolen at Cycle Show: Team Sky

LONDON (Reuters) - The Tour de France trophy won by Team Sky's Geraint Thomas earlier this year has been stolen during a cycle show in Birmingham, the British team said on Wednesday.

The trophy, loaned to bike manufacturer Pinarello, had been on display at venues across the UK along with the team's other grand tour titles but was picked up when left unattended at the NEC in Birmingham recently.

"It is incredibly unfortunate that this has happened," Thomas said in a statement. "It goes without saying that the trophy is of pretty limited value to whoever took it, but means a lot to me and to the team."

"Hopefully whoever took it will have the good grace to return it. A trophy is important, but clearly what matters most are the amazing memories from this incredible summer - and no one can ever take those away."

Pinarello managing director Richard Hemington said he was devastated by the theft.

"We accept full responsibility and have personally apologized to Geraint," Hemington said. "We hope



The team said in a statement on Wednesday that police is investigating the case after the trophy disappeared during an event organized in Birmingham, where Team Sky displayed the three Grands Tours trophies won by its riders.

that the trophy can be recovered."

Team Sky said police were investigating the matter and they were liaising with all relevant parties to agree on the best course of action to resolve the issue.

Thomas won the team's sixth Tour de France title in seven years in July.

It was the fourth successive grand tour win for the team after Chris Froome won the Tour and the Vuelta a Espana last year before clinching this year's Giro d'Italia.

## Fraud Police Raid Belgian Football Clubs

LONDON (Dispatches) - Several of Belgium's top football clubs have been raided as part of a police investigation into alleged fraud involving the transfer of players.

Agents, referees and officials from top clubs including Anderlecht, Club

Bruges and Standard Liege are being investigated, Belgian media report.

Club Bruges' manager, Ivan Leko, is being questioned, along with prominent Belgian-Iranian agent Mogi Bayat.

More than 200 police officers took

part in raids across several countries.

Police also raided properties in France, Luxemburg, Cyprus, Montenegro, Serbia and Macedonia, prosecutors said in a statement.

A number of people now face questioning, the statement said.