

# Three-Man Team Captures Triple Gold at UWW Ranking Series in Tirana



The three-man Iranian team and their coach, Pezhman Dorostkar, pose for a photo ahead of departure for the Muhamet Malo 2026 World Wrestling (UWW) Ranking Series in Tirana.

TEHRN - Iran secured three gold medals at the Muhamet Malo 2026 United World Wrestling (UWW) Ranking Series in Tirana, Albania, on Thursday. The Iranian freestyle team dominated the final day of competition in the Ranking Series event, part of the international calendar organized by United World Wrestling. The tournament brings top wrestlers from around the world to

earn ranking points ahead of major championships.

The Iranian team was comprised of three wrestlers, all of whom received gold medals.

At 79kg, Muhammad Nokhodi shut out Dean C. Hamiti Jr. (USA) with a 10-0 technical superiority win to take the title.

In the 74kg final, Younes Emami secured a 5-0 win against Kyrgyzstan's Orzobek Toktomambetov to win gold.

In the 92kg final, Amirhossein Firouzpour overwhelmed Georgia's Miriani Maisuradze 11-1 to complete the Iranian golden sweep.

The Muhamet Malo Ranking Series serves as one of the key ranking tournaments in the UWW calendar for 2026, helping athletes improve seeding for future championships.

## Maghsoudloo Draws With Abdusattorov at Prague International Chess Festival

TEHRAN - Iran's Grand Master Parham Maghsoudloo drew with Uzbek Naderbek Abdostarov in his second match in the Masters section of the 2026 Prague International Chess Festival.

After losing in the first round to David Navarro from France, the Iranian chess player drew with Naderbek Abdostarov, the Uzbek grandmaster, in the second round.

Abdostarov is consid-



ered one of the prominent figures of the new generation of world chess and se-

cured the title of grandmaster at the age of 13.

The Masters section of the

2026 Prague International Chess Festival began on Wednesday in the Czech Republic. The competition will be held in 9 rounds in a classic format and will feature a group of world-renowned grandmasters.

The eighth Prague International Chess Festival is taking place at the Don Giovanni Hotel, bringing together elite competition and a wide programme of side events

## Moghanlou Assists as Kalba, Al Dhafra Play Out Draw



TEHRAN — Al Dhafra held Kalba to a 1-1 draw in their Round 18 encounter of the ADNOC Pro League on Thursday.

The result sees Kalba move to 20 points, sitting eighth in the table, while Al Dhafra edge up to 18 points in tenth place.

The game ignited late on. Yasser Al Baloushi broke the deadlock for Kalba in the 79th minute, only for Marcelinho to respond four minutes later, striking in the 83rd to ensure the visitors left with a point.

## Iran to Play Friendly Matches to Prepare for 2026 Asian Beach



TEHRAN – Iran beach soccer coach Ali Naderi said on Friday Team Melli are going to play several friendly matches as part of preparation for the 2026 Asian Beach Games.

The preparation camp of the Iran national beach soccer team will be held from Feb. 29 to March 5 at the National Football Center in Tehran.

The camp is aimed at preparing the national team for participation in the Asian Beach Games in Sanya, China. Seventeen players will take part in this camp, and based on the players' physical condition and the experience gained from previous camps, the training process is progressing well and showing an upward trend.

He added that three more training camps are planned before the start of the competition, all of which will be held in Tehran. The coaching staff is also seeking to arrange several international friendly matches. Although these matches have not yet been finalized, playing against European teams such as Russia or Belarus national beach soccer teams, or other teams, would greatly ben-

efit Iran's preparation process.

In response to a question about the players' condition in previous camps, Naderi said that after the conclusion of the domestic league—where players performed at a high level—the coaching staff did not allow their fitness to drop. Through continuous and well-organized camps, the players' readiness has been maintained at a high level. He noted that the national team players are currently in good condition and well prepared for the Asian Beach Games in Sanya.

Speaking about Iran's rivals, Naderi stated that the main competitors will be Japan, United Arab Emirates, and Oman national beach soccer teams. He also pointed out that Saudi Arabia national beach soccer team have made significant investments in beach soccer and will compete strongly. Naderi stressed that many Asian teams are developing in this discipline and no opponent should be underestimated. As the defending champions and Asia's top-ranked team, Iran must defend their title with full strength.

## Tractor Beat Gol Gohar to Return to Top of PGPL



TEHRAN — Tractor of Tabriz defeated Gol Gohar of Sirjan at the 23rd Matchweek of the 2025/26 Iran's Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL) on Thursday.

Mehdi Hashemnejad scored the only goal of the match at the minute for the 40th for Tractor. With the Thursday victory, the Tabrizi team returned to the top of the PGPL with 39 points, closely followed by Esteghlal of Tehran and Sepahan of Isfahan and Gol Gohar in the fourth place.

Tractor to Take on UAE's Al-

Ahly in Qatar. The Asian Football Confederation has announced that Iran's Tractor FC to host Al-Ahly of the UAE in Qatar in the round of 16 of the Asian Elite League.

The Executive Committee of the Asian Football Elite League has approved Tractor's request to host the team in the round of 16 of the Asian Elite League at the Thani Bin Jassim Stadium in Al-Rayyan, Qatar.

Tractor will face Shabab Al-Ahly of the UAE at the Thani Bin Jassim Stadium on March 8, 2026.

## Amirali Ahmadlou Knock Out of Dutch International Youth Tournament

TEHRAN - Amirali Ahmadlou was eliminated from the Dutch International Youth Tannins Tournament after losing to the third-ranked player in the world youth rankings.

Amirali Ahmadlou faced an opponent of the United Arab Emirates in the round of 16 who is currently the third-ranked player in the world youth rankings.

Ahadlou lost the first game with a score of 21-12, but in the second game, he tied the game and a score of 21-15. In the third game, a close competition was formed between the two players, but in the end, the UAE representative won with a score of 21-13.

The Iranian pleyer failed to advance to the next stage.

