



# Grand Master Tabatabaei Wins Gold at Cap d'Agde 2025

TEHRAN – Iranian Grand Master Muhammad Amin Tabatabaei (2781) has claimed a gold medal at the Cap d'Agde 2025 – Open Grand Prix.

He collected eight points in nine rounds. The Grand Prix took place from October 25 to November 1 in Cap d'Agde, France.

It was a 9-round Swiss system tournament with a time control of 90 min + 30 sec/move.

Sergey Fedorchuk (2685) of Ukraine and Loïc Travadon (2615) of France won silver and bronze respectively with 7/5 points.

Tabatabaei earned his international master (IM) title in 2015 and was awarded his grandmaster (GM) title by FIDE in April 2018.[1] In February 2018, he participated in the Aeroflot Open.

At the Chess World Cup in September, he defeated Bassem Amin in the first round, then was eliminated by Jeffery Xiong in the second round.[8]

Through February and March 2022, Tabatabaei played in the FIDE Grand Prix 2022. In the second leg, he tied for second with Nikita Vitiugov in Pool B with a 3/6 result. In the third leg, he won his pool with a 3.5/6 result, advancing to the semifinals to face Wesley So and ultimately earning sixth place in the tournament series overall.

In December 2022, Tabatabaei won 3rd place in the 2022 Chessable Sunway Sitges Chess Festival after losing armageddon in 2nd place playoffs to Hans Niemann.[10]

## Tractor Seeking Second Win at 2025-26 ACL Elite

TEHRAN – The Tractor football team will seek a second successive victory when the Iranian side faces Al Shorta of Iraq in the AFC Champions League Elite 2025-26 on Monday.

Tractor defeated Sharjah 5-0 on Matchday Three while Iraq's Al Shorta has yet to shift into high gear with just a point to its name.

While Tractor would have been glad to register victory against Sharjah, it will head into the Al Shorta tie having only twice won back-to-back matches on the continen-



tal stage, which were both achieved in 2016.

The victory against Sharjah, however, ended a run of three

winless matches and with Al Shorta struggling to get its campaign running, Tractor will fancy its chances of tak-

ing maximum points.

Al Shorta's only point came from the Matchday One draw with Al Sadd SC of Qatar and the Iraqi side needs to start getting points on the board if it is to stand a chance of advancing to the Round of 16.

The odds are stacked against them, with Al Shorta having only picked up one point over its last 11 AFC Champions League matches, finding the net only four times and conceding 28.

The match will be held at Yadegar-E-Imam Stadium in Tabriz.

## Paykan, Fajr Sepasi Settle for Draw



TEHRAN – Fajr Sepasi earned a late draw against Paykan in the last match of the 2025-26 Iran Professional League (IPL) Matchday 9. The match, held in Tehran's Shahr-e Qods Stadium, ended in a 2-2 draw.

Faraz Emamali gave the host the lead just five minutes into the match but Mehran Mousavi leveled the score in the 13th minute.

Fardin Amiri was on target for Paykan in the 37th minute but Shervin Bozorg equalized from the penalty spot in the dying moments of the match.

Fajr Sepasi leapfrogged four places to sixth with 13 points, three points behind leader Esteghlal. Paykan sits 14th in the 16-team table.

## Michael Oenning, Persepolis Part Ways

TEHRAN – Iran's Persepolis football club parted ways with German coach Michael Oenning.

Oenning had been named as Vahid Hashemian assistant in August. Last week, Persepolis parted company with the former Iran striker following poor results.

Brazilian coach Osmar Loss has taken charge of Persepolis until the end of the Iran league season.

Media reports suggest that Persepolis coach Mehrdad Khanban will also leave the club.



## Women Volleyballers to Face Turkey at Islamic Games



TEHRAN – Iran will face Turkey in the opening match of the 2025 Islamic Solidarity Games.

Team Melli Banovan will meet Turkey on November 4.

Iran will also play Azerbaijan (November 6), Afghanistan (November 11) and Tajikistan (November 12).

The 6th Islamic Solidarity Games, known as Riyadh 2025, are an upcoming inter-continental multi-sport event organized by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Association (ISSA), and will be held from November 7 to 21, 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

## Ethiopian Runners Crowned in 2025 Beijing Marathon

BEIJING (Xinhua) - A record over 4,700 runners completed the 2025 Beijing Marathon within three hours on Sunday, while Ethiopia's Lemi Berhanu Hayle and Anchinalu Dessie Genaneh won the men's and the women's events respectively.

Hayle clocked 2 hours, 8 minutes and 10 seconds to defend his title, which was more than one minute

faster than his last year's performance.

His compatriot Desalegn Girma Debel finished second, followed by DPR Korea's Han Il Ryong in third.

In the women's event, Genaneh registered 2 hours, 26 minutes and 8 seconds to secure victory, just 7 seconds ahead of runner-up Marion Jepkonga Kibor of Kenya, while another Ethiopian runner Kuftu Tahir Dadiso placed third.

Featuring a record 32,000 participants this year, the Beijing Marathon, spanning from Tiananmen Square to the Beijing Olympic Park, provided more opportunities for runners to show themselves in the dual Olympic city.

According to the organizers, over 4,700 runners finished the 42.195-kilometer race within three hours, which broke the record of 3,004 set last year.

## Meshkatolzahra Safi Wins Silver in ITF W15 Solarino Women Doubles



TEHRAN – Iranian tennis player Meshkatolzahra Safi and her German teammate Vivien Sandberg won a silver medal at the ITF W15 Solarino Women Doubles.

Safi/Sandberg lost to Gasparini/Ruchkina team 2-0 (6-3, 6-4) in the final on Saturday.

The tournament took place in Solarino, Italy, from October 27 to November 2.

Safi has become the first Iranian woman to win a match in a Grand Slam.

Safi claimed a gold medal in the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Turkey M15 in June.

## Peyman Haddadi Named General Manager of Persepolis



TEHRAN – Peyman Haddadi was appointed as Persepolis' general manager on Sunday, replacing Reza Darvish, who resigned after about four years with the Iranian top-flight club.

Haddadi, who served as the club's caretaker over the past two weeks, takes over following Darvish's tenure.

During Darvish's leadership, Persepolis finished third last season and failed to secure a spot in the 2025-26 AFC Champions League Elite and ACL Two.

The club recently hired Osmar Loss as its new head coach after parting ways with Vahid Hashemian due to poor results.

## Iran's First Sports Delegation Arrives in Saudi Arabia



TEHRAN - The national futsal team of Iran, accompanied by the medical staff, arrived in Riyadh on Sunday and was welcomed by members of the Iranian delegation's management team.

The Iranian futsal team is the first sports group to arrive in Riyadh for the 6th edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games. The team traveled alongside the medical staff and was officially received

by the officials upon arrival.

In this edition, Iran's national futsal team leads Group B, alongside Morocco, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan.

The team will face Morocco — regarded as one of the strongest contenders — in its opening match on Tuesday, November 4. The 6th Islamic Solidarity Games will take place from November 6 to 21 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.