

# SHAIKH HAMAD BIN ISA SET FOR BUSY PROGRAMME AT 'SPEED WEEKEND'

Contributed by mazen  
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Only a week remains before the inaugural 'Speed Weekend Bahrain' takes Bahrain International Circuit by storm. The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East is gearing up to welcome thousands of race fans and entertainment seekers who will enjoy three of the region's most captivating motor racing series: the Chevrolet Supercars Middle East Championship, the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East and the Batelco 2000cc Challenge.

Bahraini racer Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa will have a unique task at the event, which takes place on December 11 and 12. Shaikh Hamad bin Isa will be competing in both the Chevrolet Supercars and the Batelco 2000cc – twice the battle that will require double the effort.

Shaikh Hamad bin Isa commented: 'Most of my focus is to get onto the podium in the Chevrolet Supercars second round, especially since we are racing at my home track. It's going to be tough since I am also going to be racing in round three of the Batelco 2000cc, which I will also be giving as much attention as I can to.

'Hopefully I can achieve good results in both events. I am mentally and physically prepared, and I'm looking forward to having an enjoyable weekend out on the track.'

In the first round of the Chevrolet Supercars Middle East Championship held at Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi, Shaikh Hamad bin Isa put on a strong and consistent drive, finishing sixth in the SC09 category in both races. He is also now sixth on the SC09 championship standings.

'I was quite pleased with my performance, considering the high level of racing between all the competitors. I hope I can continue to be consistent and this time takes a place on the podium,' he said.

In the Batelco 2000cc Challenge, Shaikh Hamad bin Isa made up for a difficult first round in October by winning both races in round two held in November. His impressive double helped him rise to third place on the championship standings, and he will be aiming to continue his ascent.

'At present, things are looking good, but I will not take anything for granted and of course I will be going out to get the maximum points possible, and maybe again take a victory or two,' he said.

Shaikh Hamad bin Isa is sponsored by ROBECO Investment Bank. He is also the official ambassador to the International Automobile Federation 'Make Cars Green' campaign – which is a global environmental initiative aimed at reducing the negative impact of motoring on the planet.

Other international ambassadors include former Formula One Red Bull Racing driver David Coulthard and current Formula One Red Bull Racing ace Mark Webber.

Tickets for 'Speed Weekend Bahrain' are now available at 7 BD for both days. Children aged 15 years old and younger will be able to get in free.