

# ALKASS U17 UPDATES

DAY 02

## FIRST DAY HIGHLIGHTS



The Al Kass U-17 International Cup began with a grand opening ceremony attended by QFA President Jassim bin Rashid Al Buainain and Qatar Airways CEO Badr Al Meer. AlKass Sports Channel GM Issa Al Hitmi and footballer Julian Draxler officially inaugurated the tournament. Qatar's Aspire Academy faced Morocco's Mohammed VI Football Academy in the opening match at Aspire Pitch 5...

Rangers, winners in 2019, returned with high expectations. The match remained goalless for most of the game, with both teams displaying strong defensive discipline. The deadlock was broken in the 76th minute when...

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PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN PRESIDENT, MR. NASSER BIN GHANIM AL-KHELAIFI, AMONG CROWD

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ASPETAR: OFFICIAL WORLD-CLASS ON-FIELD MEDICAL PROVIDER

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# HIGHLIGHT OF MATCHES FROM 13.02.2025



## Match 1: Aspire Academy vs Mohammed VI Football Academy

Aspire Academy (Qatar) faced Mohammed VI Football Academy (Morocco) at Aspire Pitch 5. Aspire took the lead in the 26th minute with a VAR-awarded penalty converted by Tameem Nasser Al-Qadi. He later scored again, extending the lead to 3-1. A red card for Mohammed VI in the 67th minute led to another penalty, securing Aspire's 4-1 victory.

Post-match, Aspire coach Álvaro Mejía Pérez praised his team's determination and execution.

## Match 2: Rangers FC vs Seattle Sounders FC

Rangers FC, 2019 champions, returned with high expectations against Seattle Sounders. The match remained goalless until the 76th minute when Rangers scored, quickly adding a second to claim a 2-0 win, reinforcing their title ambitions.



# ***MATCH HIGHLIGHT: PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN VS. REAL MADRID***

The second day of the Alkass International Cup U-17 began on February 14, 2025, with an exciting match between French club Paris Saint-Germain and Spanish club Real Madrid. The game started strong as Real Madrid's forward, Bryan Gonçalves, opened the scoring just 10 minutes in. Near the end of the first half, a penalty review using VAR awarded PSG a chance to equalise, but the initial attempt was missed.



***"IT IS INCREDIBLE FOR THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN A TOURNAMENT WITH THE BEST ACADEMIES IN THE WORLD."***



***ALVARO LOPEZ BERMEJO  
REAL MADRID COACH***

However, due to an error in its application by Real Madrid's goalkeeper, Jose Alberto, the penalty was retaken and successfully scored by PSG's number 9, Romeo Garnier. In the four minutes of added time before halftime, Garnier struck again, giving PSG a 2-1 lead. The second half saw strong performances from both teams but no further goals, sealing PSG's 2-1 victory. Among those in attendance was PSG's CEO, Nasser Al-Khelaifi, who congratulated the team on their win after the match.



# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS: PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN VS. REAL MADRID



# PRESS CONFERENCE: PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN VS. REAL MADRID

PSG head coach Yannick Dumas at a press conference expressed his satisfaction for the team's first 2-1 win over Real Madrid at Alkass U-17 International Cup. He expressed his joy at the performance of the boys and added that he was proud of the team's victory over Real Madrid. He went on to address the team's lost possession of the ball in the first half, and added that the team is willing to further improve in the next game. Commenting on the presence of PSG Chairman Nasser Khulaifi who came to watch the much-awaited match between two of the tournament's leading teams in history, Dumas said it was a big honor to have the Qatari official who he stressed was very supportive to the team, particularly with the expansion of the youth academy in France. He also reiterated the significance of the tournament and its impact on improving the young footballers, and he expressed his hope that the young players would also go on to join the French national team.



Real Madrid head coach Alvaro Lopez Bermejo reiterated at a post-match press conference that the team's goal was not to have ball possession but to win every game and every tournament. Bermejo was reacting to the comments made by the French head coach earlier, who spoke about the team losing ball possession at the match. Bermejo said the team lost concentration after the penalty and did not obtain the required results to win the match. He said the team will watch the game again to see errors and address them by making tactical changes. Overall, the coach stressed that he was satisfied with the players, but the team still has a big job to do with errors in defense and not being able to maximise their opportunities with ball possession.

# *MATCH HIGHLIGHT: AL AHLY FC VS. KASHIWA REYSOL*

The second match of the tournament on day two featured a competitive match between Egyptian club Al Ahly FC and Japanese club Kashiwa Reysol. The breakthrough came in the 56th minute when Kashiwa Reysol's player number 19, Takumi Suzuki, scored a goal, giving his team a crucial lead. Despite Al Ahly's relentless efforts to equalise, Kashiwa Reysol held firm. As the final whistle blew, the Japanese side emerged victorious, awarding the team with three valuable points. Al Ahly was disappointed with their performance and expressed their determination to step up in their next match, aiming for a win.



*“IT WAS A TOUGH GAME,  
BUT THE TEAM HAD GOOD PERFORMANCE.”*

*HIROKI TSUCHINNO  
HEAD COACH OF KASHIWA REYSOL*



*“I AM HERE BECAUSE I HEARD THERE IS A JAPANESE TEAM JOINING THIS  
MATCH. SO, I WAS EXCITED TO SEE THEM AND I SUPPORT THEM TILL THE  
END. THE TOURNAMENT IS BIGGER THAN I EXPECTED.”*

*- AYA TAKAYAMA  
KASHIWA REYSOL FAN*

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# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS: AL AHLY FC VS. KASHIWA REYSOL



# PRESS CONFERENCE: AL AHLY FC VS. KASHIWA REYSOL

Al Ahly head coach Ossama Hassanein at the post-match press conference said the team faced a very strong match and a tough team after losing 0-1 to Kashiwa Reysol. He added that the players from Kashiwa, which he called a top-tier team, were fast and quick to transition, moving from offense to defense really quickly and being able to capitalise on the goal. The Egyptian head coach added that his team were not able to take the chances they got in the second half, and will try to improve these errors for the next match, learning from their mistakes and improving as they go along. He added that the team will take every match as they play along, and will try to raise the level of the players in the competition



Al Ahly is participating at the Alkass U-17 tournament for the first time this year to take on other European clubs, and reiterated that every team at the competition plays world-class football at a global stage. Hiroki Tsuchino, head coach of Japan's Kashiwa Reysol, told a post-match press conference that the team, which secured 1-0 victory in its first match faced a very tough game with Al Ahly. After gaining 3 points for a win, the team looks forward to taking a rest for tomorrow and preparing for the next match against Paris Saint-Germain, which he said will be a tougher game. Tsuchino added that the team is pleased to be back in Qatar to play at the tournament four years after the COVID-19 pandemic.



# ONE-ON-ONE:

**DAMON TILLEY, HEAD OF EVENTS AND NATIONAL SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAMME (NSMP) AT ASPETAR, ORTHOPAEDIC AND SPORTS MEDICINE HOSPITAL**

## **What are the medical services currently available during the tournament?**

Aspetar is working with close collaboration with the Qatar Red Crescent as well as the Hamad General Hospital for any medical related issues that come up. At the moment, we have four ambulances in addition to medical paramedics on site. Not only do we look after the athletes, but other clients we look after are the VIPs, spectators, workforce, and media.

## **As Qatar makes a mark as a global sporting hub, tell us about the growing role of Aspetar as a globally renowned sports medicine hospital?**

Aspetar was set up in 2006 and we cover over 100 events a year, and that covers all range of sports. We're busy across the year. We also have an agreement with Qatar Olympic Committee, and run a National Sports Medicine Program where we provide doctors, physiotherapists, massage therapists, and nurses to the clubs and federations. We also have satellite clinics in all the clubs and federations for all different sports.

## **World-class athletes come to Aspetar for their treatment and therapies, what are the new technologies and services currently available at the Centre?**

We got a football excellence centre that Qatar national football team use that's state-of-the-art, but we're continually trying to improve our services where we can. So we're always looking for new ways, always learning from experiences as well.

## **Any new plans or programs that athletes from around the world can look forward to from Aspetar this year?**

We have a research centre, so we're continually striving to improve ourselves to learn new ways to treating sports injuries. It's never ending.

## **Advise to athletes on preventing sports injuries?**




Over the last few decades, sports has become more professional. Now you get a lot of full-time sportsmen. In the past, there were more part-time. So there's a lot more stress on the athlete. So it's important that they look after their bodies, and respond to their bodies. Again, nutrition is very important, as well as just making sure that they're listening to their bodies and they're getting the right help and support needed.



# RANKING SCHEDULE:

## 14.02.2025



#	TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAW	LOST	POINTS
1		1	1	0	0	3
2		1	1	0	0	3
3		1	0	0	1	0
4		1	0	0	1	0

# TOMORROW'S MATCHES:

## 15.02.2025



15:30



VS



17:50



