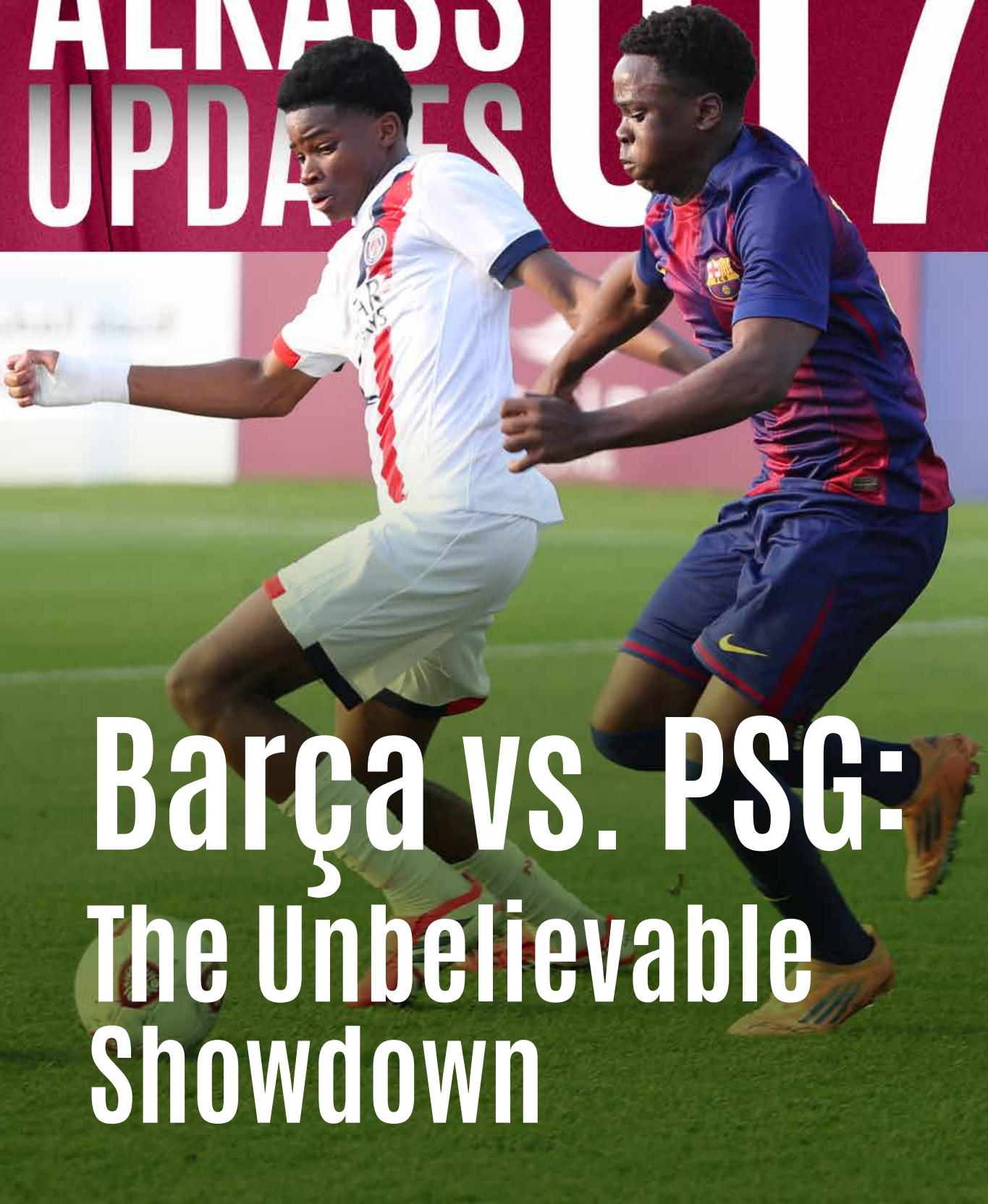




ALKASS®
INTERNATIONAL CUP 
DAY 2 | Tuesday, January 20, 2026

ALKASS U17 UPDATES



Barça vs. PSG: The Unbelievable Showdown

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RECAP

DAY 1: 19.02.2026

Day one of Alkass International Cup featured an intense set of matches in Group A.

The opening game of the 11th edition of the tournament was played between Aspire Academy and Mohammed VI Academy.

Aspire Academy took an early lead in the 8th minute through player number 9, Mohsain Alhajri, and maintained their advantage for the remainder of the match. Mohammed VI Academy were unable to find the back of the net, and the game ended with a 1-0 victory for Aspire Academy. The second match between Rangers FC and Étoile Sportive ended in a goalless draw (0-0). Rangers FC dominated possession, particularly in the opening half, but failed to convert their

chances. Étoile Sportive defended resolutely and pushed forward in search of a goal, though their efforts resulted in one yellow card.



MATCH 1



3 | 3



GAME REPORT

On the second day of the tournament, Paris Saint-Germain faced FC Barcelona at Aspire Pitch 07, with kick-off at 3:30 PM Doha time. PSG took an early lead in the 2nd minute through Jouhayni Abdoun, assisted by Alkaly Conde. Barcelona responded in the 29th minute when their captain, Hugo Garces Laguns, scored the equaliser. The first half ended 1-1 after two minutes of added time. In the second half of the Match, PSG regained the lead in

the 59th minute with a goal from Ewan Polter, again assisted by Alkaly Conde, before extending their advantage in the 69th minute through Maoula Niakate. Barcelona reduced the gap in the 79th minute through Alex Arasa Ventaja. In the 87th minute of additional time, Barcelona were awarded a penalty, which was successfully converted to complete an incredible comeback. The match ended in a dramatic 3-3 draw.



"this is a high-level composition of a match, and I'm proud of the team."

Vincent Ehouman
PSG, Head Coach

"It is a great experience for our youngsters to compete against those world-class players."

David Sanchez
FC BARCELONA, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH HUGO GARCES LAGUNAS





P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

PSG VS FC BARCELONA

After their exciting draw, both Paris Saint-Germain U17 coach Vincent Ehouman and Barcelona U17 coach David Sanchez spoke positively about the match and the tournament. Ehouman described the game as "wonderful," He emphasized that both players and fans enjoyed a high-quality contest. Heuman highlighted the value of playing at such a competitive level, especially for a generation not yet used to this intensity. He believes the experience of adapting to a fast pace and facing different footballing styles will greatly benefit his players by improving their performance and technical development. Barcelona's coach David Sanchez also called the match thrilling and intense, considering the 3-3 result a fair reflection of both teams' efforts. He explained that although Barcelona controlled much of the game, they fell behind by two goals before showing a strong reaction to earn a late equalizer. Sanchez praised the tournament's organization, hospitality, and excellent facilities, including the quality of the pitches. He stressed that while the heavy media attention can add pressure, tournaments like this are crucial for building character and experience in young players.



MATCH 2



2 | 1



GAME REPORT

Kashiwa Reysol earned a 2-1 victory over PVF Academy in their U-17 Alkass International Cup encounter, with first-half goals from No.7 Yumeto Kikuchi and No.10 Riku Inada proving decisive despite a strong second-half response from the Vietnamese side. Kashiwa opened the scoring in the ninth minute through Kikuchi, who finished an individual move to give his team an early advantage. PVF Academy responded by dominating possession for long spells and dictating the tempo, but Kashiwa remained effective in front of goal. In the 16th minute, Inada doubled the lead after a well-worked attacking

move, converting an assist from No.3 Koe Toyama. Both sides created opportunities before the break, with goalkeepers producing several important saves. PVF increased their attacking intensity in the second half and came close on multiple occasions. Their persistence was rewarded in the 57th minute when No.19 Nguyen Tai Duc Nam scored, rising highest to head home from a corner kick. The goal shifted momentum as both teams exchanged attacks in an open final phase. Despite PVF's late pressure, Kashiwa defended with discipline to secure the win.



"The match was very difficult, and we expected that because the tournament level is extremely high,"

Naoki Sakai
KASHIWA REYSOL, Head Coach

"we are happy with the performance, and this tournament is a great opportunity for our players to gain experience,""

Nguyen Xuan Thanh
PVF ACADEMY, Head Coach

11th Edition 2026

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MAN OF THE MATCH GENTA YAGIHASHI





P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

KASHIWA REYSOL VS PVF ACADEMY

Kashiwa Reysol head coach Noki Sakai described the match as very difficult, noting that the high level of the Alkass International Cup was expected. He said the team now needs to recover physically before shifting focus to their next challenge against Barcelona. Sakai also highlighted the strength of the group, which includes Paris Saint-Germain and Barcelona, stressing that competing against elite academies is a valuable opportunity for player development and growth.

Meanwhile, PVF Academy head coach Nguyen Thanh praised his team's performance against a strong opponent, expressing satisfaction despite the result. He emphasised that the tournament offers an important opportunity for players to gain experience and compete at a high level. Thanh added that being drawn alongside clubs such as Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain highlights the quality of the competition, which he described as technically impressive.



Exclusive Interview

Ali Al-Muftah - TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR



How would you describe the overall preparations for this season's U17 tournament?

The tournament has a strong reputation and includes some of the best teams. Even though we started preparations later, we worked as quickly as possible to get ready. We were able to invite and include several of the best teams globally. For example, we have a Vietnamese team participating for the first time. Honestly, we invited the most important and prominent teams in the world and here we have teams like PSG and FC Barcelona.

What are your main goals or expectations for this competition this year?

We have several goals: on the sporting side, we want our team to learn from facing these high-level teams. We also aim to gain more Qatari experience in organizing international

tournaments. From a media perspective, we want this event to be recognized as a global tournament with international visibility one day.

How important is it for youth teams like Barcelona U17 and PSG U17 to participate in a tournament like this?

French and Spanish clubs come from some of the best youth academy systems in the world, so their participation is extremely valuable. We also see teams from Japan and Morocco, which is creating some of the best players around the world. All teams have really been performing very creatively and impressively.

Is there any plan to increase awareness about this tournament?

The tournament still needs more fan attendance, but the passion is there. If we had started preparations earlier, we could have done more campaigns to attract larger crowds. Factors like school schedules, breaks, and many other events happening in Qatar have affected attendance as well, but we are hoping we can build more awareness about this tournament.

GROUP B

TEAM	P	W	L	D	POINTS
1 	1	1	0	0	3
2 	1	0	0	1	1
3 	1	0	0	1	1
4 	1	0	1	0	0


FA BARCELONA

VS

PSG

KASHIWA REYSOL

VS

FVP ACADEMY

GROUP STAGE

GROUP A		GROUP B	
	ASPIRE ACADEMY		FC BARCELONA
	MOHAMMED VI FA		PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN
	RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB		KASHIWA REYSOL
	ÉTOILE SPORTIVE DU SAHEL		PVF ACADEMY

DATE	NO.	TEAMS	KICK-OFF
Monday 19. Jan	1	Aspire Academy vs Mohd VI	15:30
	2	Rangers FC vs Étoile Sportive	17:50
Tuesday 20. Jan	3	FC Barcelona vs PSG	15:30
	4	Kashiwa Reysol vs PVF Academy	17:50
Wednesday 21. Jan	5	Aspire Academy vs Rangers FC	15:30
	6	Mohd VI vs Étoile Sportive	17:50
Thursday 22. Jan	7	FC Barcelona vs Kashiwa Reysol	15:30
	8	PSG vs PVF Academy	17:50
Friday 23. Jan	9	Aspire Academy vs Étoile Sportive	15:30
	10	Mohd VI vs Rangers FC	17:50
Saturday 24. Jan	11	FC Barcelona vs PVF Academy	15:30
	12	PSG vs Kashiwa Reysol	17:50

POSITION PLAYOFF (8-5 Pos.)

Sunday 25. Jan	13	Group A Pos. 3 vs Group B Pos. 4	15:30
	14	Group A Pos. 4 vs Group B Pos. 3	18:00

SEMI-FINAL

Monday 26. Jan	15	Group A Pos. 1 vs Group B Pos. 2	15:30
	16	Group B Pos. 1 vs Group A Pos. 2	18:00

POSITION 8-7 & 6-5

Tuesday 27. Jan	17	Winner Game no. 13 vs Winner Game no. 14	15:30
	18	Loser Game no. 13 vs Loser Game no. 14	18:00

POSITION 4 & 3

Thursday 29. Jan	19	Loser Game no. 15 vs Loser Game no. 16	14:15
	20	Winner Game no. 15 vs Winner Game no. 16	16:35

FINAL

Thursday 29. Jan	20	Winner Game no. 15 vs Winner Game no. 16	16:35
	21	All matches will be played at Aspire - Pitch 7	



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MOHAMMED VI FA



FC BARCELONA



PVF FOOTBALL
ACADEMY



RANGERS
FOOTBALL CLUB



PARIS
SAINT-GERMAIN
F.C.



ÉTOILE SPORTIVE
DU SAHEL



ASPIRE
ACADEMY



KASHIWA
REYSOL

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