

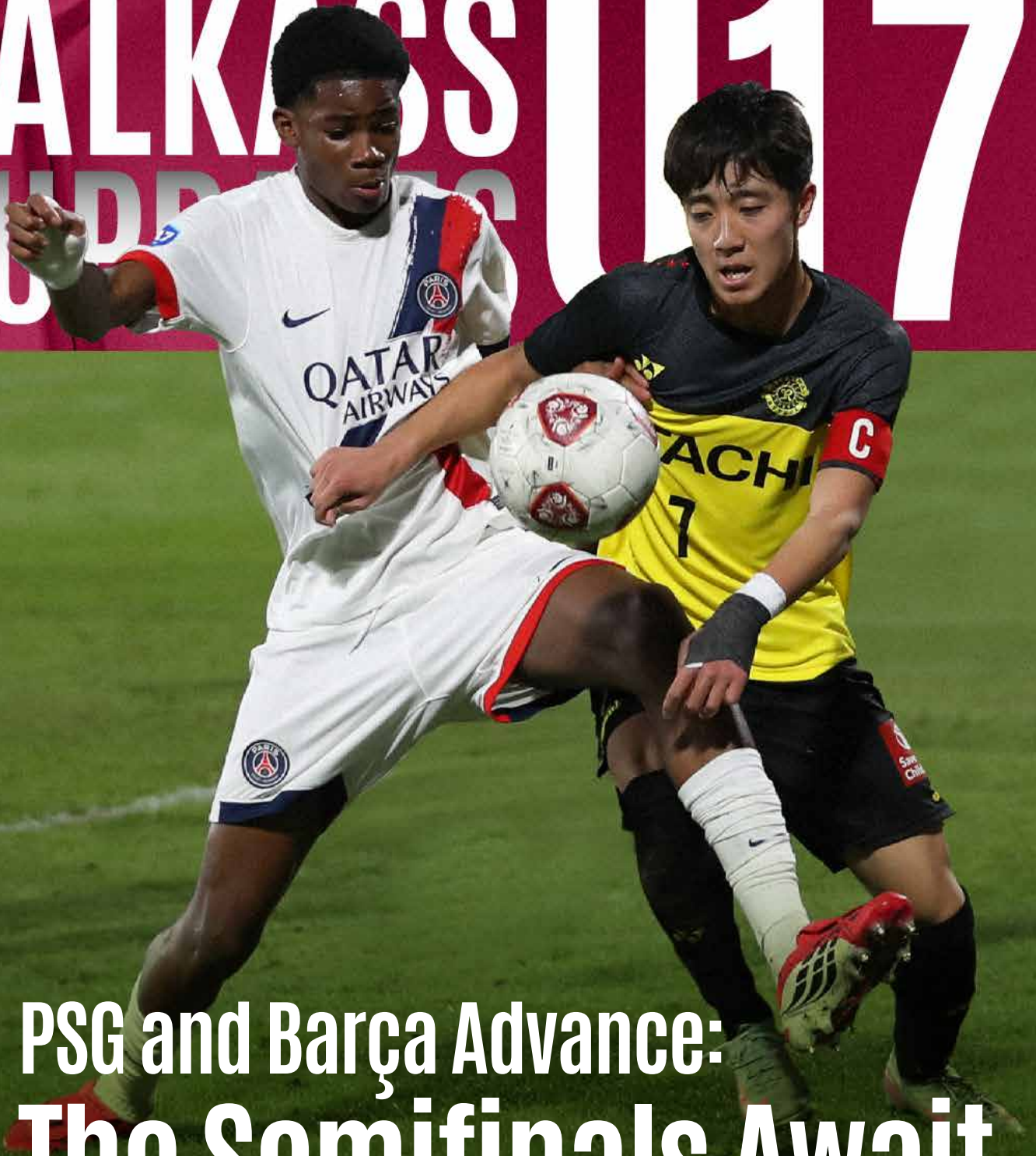


ALKASS[®]
INTERNATIONAL CUP



DAY 6 | Saturday, January 24, 2026

ALKASS U17



**PSG and Barça Advance:
The Semifinals Await**

ORGANIZERS



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QATAR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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RECAP

DAY 5 : 23.02.2026

Quarterfinals Decided: Aspire and Mohammed VI Advance to Semifinals

The opening match saw Aspire Academy and Etoile Sportive locked in a tense, goalless first half before Aspire unleashed a flurry of goals after the break, with Osama Ibrahim Mohamed and Mohsain Abdulla Al Hajri striking quickly to build a lead that, despite a resilient response from Etoile's Mazen Gazzeh, who scored twice, including an unstoppable penalty culminating in a 4-2 victory sealed by Taha Nassir's late finish.

The second match was shaped early by discipline, as Rangers FC played nearly 70 minutes with ten men following Ethan Molloy's 24th-minute red card; Mohammed VI Academy patiently broke down the stubborn resistance, with Imrane Dakech scoring immediately after halftime and Omar Allaoui adding a late clincher for a controlled 2-0 win, sending both Moroccan side and Aspire Academy through to the semifinals where their attacking quality and composure will be tested further. Looking ahead, the stage is set for an exhilarating semifinal where the tournament's strongest teams will clash, promising to showcase the very best in youth football.



MATCH 1



3 | 1



GAME REPORT

FC Barcelona continued their win streak with a 3-1 victory over PVF, moving on from a solid start to the tournament that saw them draw with Paris Saint-Germain and a win against Kashiwa Reysol. Barcelona took an early lead in the 5th minute when midfielder Robert Oliveras Aceves found the net, following a well-worked assist from Ruslan Mba Hernando. The Spanish side doubled their advantage in the 20th minute, with Oliveras scoring again, this time assisted by Lucas Bernal Espinar.

PVF responded in the 25th minute through Hoang Trung Anh, reducing the deficit before the second half, which featured one minute of added time. Early in the second half, Barcelona failed to capitalize on a foul awarded in the 46th minute. However, their persistence paid off in the 68th minute, when Alex Arasa Ventaja scored to seal a 3-1 win, making them winner of the day. The results move FC Barcelona straight to the semi-finals.



"I'm proud of being in this tournament, this was an enriching experience for myself and the team,"

NGUYEN XUAN THANH
PVF ACADEMY, Head Coach

"The team played well and cohesively in the group stages."

DAVID SANCHEZ
FC BARCELONA, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH ROBERT OLIVERAS ACEVES





PRESS CONFERENCE

FC BARCELONA VS PVF ACADEMY

Following the conclusion of their group-stage match, both coaches shared their reflections on the game and the tournament. PVF head coach Nguyen Xuan Thanh acknowledged the challenge of facing a powerful team like Barcelona, noting that his team initially adopted a defensive approach before attempting to attack, which led to a loss of control at key moments. Despite the result and PVF's exit from the tournament, Thanh emphasized the significant value of the experience, highlighting the high intensity of the competition and the lessons gained by his players. He described the tournament as extremely beneficial for their development and confirmed that the coaching staff will now assess players' strengths and weaknesses moving forward. On the other side, Barcelona head coach David Sanchez expressed satisfaction with his team's performance, particularly in the second half. He praised the players' cohesion and overall consistency throughout the group stage. Looking ahead, Sanchez stated that Barcelona will focus on recovery before preparing tactically for their upcoming match against Mohammed VI Academy, acknowledging the opponent's attacking quality while reaffirming his full confidence in his squad's ability to compete and progress further in the tournament.



MATCH 2



3 | 1



GAME REPORT

Paris Saint-Germain secured qualification from the group with a 3–1 victory over Kashiwa Reysol in a high-intensity Alkass International Cup encounter. Kashiwa Reysol opened the scoring in the 19th minute through Riku Inada, who produced an outstanding goal to give the Japanese side an early advantage.

PSG responded in the 31st minute when Player 6 Kenji Anastase converted a free kick to level the score before halftime.

The first half was evenly contested, with two fouls committed by each team. In the second half, PSG increased the pressure and took control of the match. Nathan Mboumba put Paris ahead in the 73rd minute, before Harryl Mboma added a third goal in the 77th minute, sealing the win.

Two minutes of added time were played, with PSG comfortably seeing out the match. The result confirms Paris Saint-Germain and Barcelona as the qualified teams from this group.



"It is amazing to comeback with the result, and this is the beauty of football."

VINCENT EHOUMAN
PSG, Head Coach

"The goal was fantastic, we still won the match with that iconic goal."

NAOKI SAKAI
KASHIWA REYSOL, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH KENJI ANASTASE





PRESS CONFERENCE

PSG VS KASHIWA REYSOL

Following Paris Saint-Germain's 3–1 victory, both coaches reflected on an intense and demanding encounter. PSG head coach Vincent Ehouman expressed pride in his team's response and late goals, emphasizing that comebacks are a key part of football. He praised his players' ability to perform under extreme pressure and turn the match around, while also acknowledging areas for improvement. Ehouman noted that defensive organization must be tightened, as certain spaces and gaps could have been avoided. Looking ahead, he highlighted the challenge of facing Aspire Academy, describing them as a tough opponent, especially when playing on their home ground. On the other side, Kashiwa Reysol coach Naoki Sakai commended his players' effort and discipline, particularly in the first half, where the defensive plan was executed successfully. He admitted disappointment with the second-half performance, citing a loss of concentration and key moments that shifted the match's momentum. Sakai explained that PSG's equalizing free kick boosted their confidence, and their substitutions made them more aggressive. Despite the result, he praised his team's opening goal and overall commitment, viewing the match as a learning experience for future improvements.



Exclusive Interview

Miguel Heitor

Deputy Tournament Director & Match Commissioner -
Alkass International Cup U17



What does this tournament represent to you?



Most of the operations in this event have been working the same way since the first edition in 2012, and I was part of that very first event. For me, being involved from the beginning makes the tournament feel personal and special. It's really like a baby to me, because I've seen it grow over the years, and being part of this team is a privilege. Many of my colleagues, like Nadine and Ali Muftah, have been involved for a long time as well, which makes it feel even more like a family.

How do your efforts on and off the field contribute to the tournament's success?

My role combines match operations with overall tournament management. We need to make sure training facilities, pitches, and dressing rooms are ready and well maintained for the teams. Match timing, referees, countdowns, and technical areas must be perfect. I also check player equipment, age verification, registration forms, and rules compliance. Everything is planned so that teams have the best environment to perform. As Deputy Tournament Director, I oversee competition elements, and as Match Commissioner, I make sure each match starts and runs exactly as it should.

Why is the Alkass International Cup important for young talents competing at U17 level?

This tournament is very important for young players because it gives them exposure to international competition and allows them to experience professionalism at a young age. They learn responsibility, discipline, and how to prepare for games in a structured environment. Playing in a well-organised tournament helps them develop their skills, understand match procedures, and gain experience against top teams. It's a complete learning opportunity that prepares them for the next stages of their football careers while also showing them what it takes to perform at a high level.

GROUP B						
TEAM		P	W	L	D	POINTS
1		3	2	0	1	7
2		3	1	0	2	5
3		3	1	2	0	3
4		3	0	2	1	1



FC BARCELONA

VS

PVF ACADEMY



PSG

VS

KASHIWA REYSOL

11th Edition 2026
DAY 6 : 24.01.2026

ALKASS
INTERNATIONAL CUP

Beyond the Pitch: Rangers & Mohammed VI, A Shared Journey Through the Desert



11th Edition 2026
DAY 6 : 24.01.2026

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**FROM MANY TO FOUR.
THE STAKES HAVE NEVER
BEEN HIGHER**

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	1 vs 0 Mohammed VI	15:30
	2	Rangers FC	0 vs 0 Étoile Sportive	17:50
Tuesday 20. Jan	3	FC Barcelona	3 vs 3 PSG	15:30
	4	Kashiwa Reysol	2 vs 1 PVF Academy	17:50
Wednesday 21. Jan	5	Aspire Academy	2 vs 1 Rangers FC	15:30
	6	Mohammed VI	0 vs 0 Étoile Sportive	17:50
Thursday 22. Jan	7	FC Barcelona	5 vs 1 Kashiwa Reysol	15:30
	8	PSG	1 vs 1 PVF Academy	17:50
Friday 23. Jan	9	Aspire Academy	4 vs 2 Étoile Sportive	15:30
	10	Mohammed VI	2 vs 0 Rangers FC	17:50
Saturday 24. Jan	11	FC Barcelona	3 vs 1 PVF Academy	15:30
	12	PSG	3 vs 1 Kashiwa Reysol	17:50

POSITION PLAYOFF (8-5 Pos.)					
Sunday 25. Jan	13	Étoile Sportive	vs	PVF Academy	15:30
	14	Rangers FC	vs	Kashiwa Reysol	18:00

SEMI-FINAL					
Monday 26. Jan	15	Aspire Academy	vs	PSG	15:30
	16	FC Barcelona	vs	Mohammed VI	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

FINAL					
Thursday 29. Jan	20	Winner Game no. 15	vs	Winner Game no. 16	16:35

All matches will be played at Aspire - Pitch 7

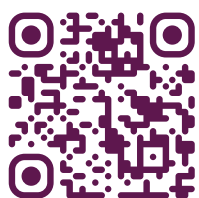


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ABOUT **AZF**

Aspire Zone Foundation (AZF) is a premier sports organization located in Doha, Qatar. Established in 2003, AZF aims to foster sports development and promote a healthy lifestyle within Qatar and internationally. The Foundation manages a sprawling 250-hectare complex known as Aspire Zone, which includes state-of the-art sports facilities and venues. Aspire Zone stands out as the world's most integrated sports city, featuring convenient on-site accommodation, including hotels and spa facilities. Situated at the core of the action, AZF not only supports Qatar's sporting aspirations but also contributes significantly to the global development of sports.

AZF is a government-backed entity that reports directly to the Emir of Qatar. Its overarching mission is to position Qatar as a global leader in sports excellence, aligning with the broader Qatar National Vision 2030. As an organization, AZF is strategically targeted to deliver outstanding sports medicine services to athletes to maximize their potential, develop top athletes to represent Qatar in global sporting fixtures, maximize the use of technology in sports, foster high-quality academic sporting education programs, and commercialize its sports facilities and management services.



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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
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ASPIRE ACADEMY



KASHIWA REYSOL

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