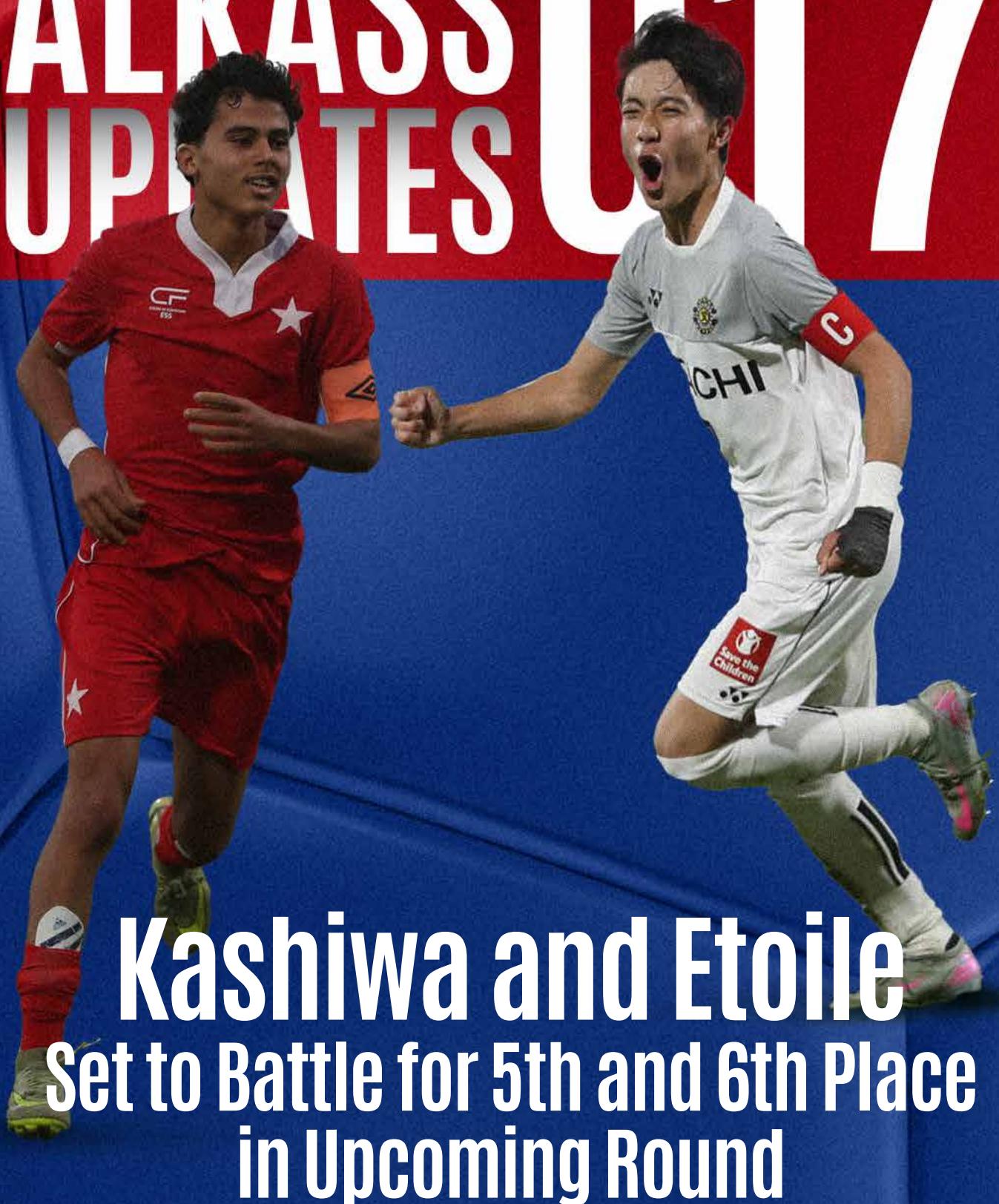




**ALKASS®
INTERNATIONAL CUP**

DAY 7 | Sunday, January 25, 2026

ALKASS U17 UPDATES U17



**Kashiwa and Etoile
Set to Battle for 5th and 6th Place
in Upcoming Round**

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RECAP

DAY 6: 24.01.2026

PSG AND BARCELONA STORM INTO ALKASS SEMIS WITH COMMANDING 3-1 VICTORIES

Paris Saint-Germain secured their place in the knockout stages of the Alkass International Cup with a hard-fought 3-1 comeback victory over Kashiwa Reysol. After falling behind to an outstanding Riku Inada strike in the 19th minute, PSG leveled before halftime through Kenji Anastase's free-kick and then dominated the second half, with Nathan Mboumba and Harry! Mboma scoring in quick succession to seal the win.

In the other group match, Barcelona continued their strong form with a 3-1 win over PVF, shaking off a slow tournament start. Midfielder Robert Oliveras scored twice in the first half to build a commanding lead, and despite a goal from PVF's Hoang Truong Anh, Alex Arasa Ventaja added a late third to confirm Barcelona's victory and top spot in the group, sending them straight into the semi-finals alongside a qualifying Paris Saint-Germain.



11th Edition 2026
DAY 7 : 25.01.2026

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ETOILE SPORTIVE

VS

PVF ACADEMY



KASHIWA REYSOL

VS

RANGERS FC

MATCH 1



1 | 0



GAME REPORT

PVF faced Étoile Sportive in challenging conditions during today's AlKass International Cup fixture, which was played under extreme dusty conditions and low visibility, which had a noticeable impact on the tempo and performance of both teams. The first half remained evenly contested between both teams. A key turning point came in the 43rd minute, when Étoile captain Al Mahdi Chikhaoui was shown a red card, reducing his side to 10 players for the remainder

of the match. Despite the numerical disadvantage, Étoile maintained their discipline and defensive shape. In the second half, Étoile capitalized on their opportunity and took the lead in the 70th minute, when Mohamed Amine Beaoui found the net to make it 1-0. PVF pushed for an equalizer, but Étoile held firm. An additional four minutes of stoppage time were played at the end of the match, with Étoile successfully seeing out the game to secure the victory



*"Recovery is critical
for players; it is as important
as practice."*

DINH TMUG
PVF ACADEMY, Assistant Coach

*"We are enjoying the
Tournament and learning football
along the way."*

MOHAMED JIHED SBOUI
ETOILE SPORTIVE, Head Coach

11th Edition 2026
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MAN OF THE MATCH MOHAMED AMINE BEAQUI





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

ETOILE SPORTIVE VS PVF ACADEMY

Following the match, both coaching staffs shared their views on the performance and outcome. Dinh Tmug, highlighted the physical demands on his players, explaining that the team had played two consecutive matches and was not fully recovered. He noted that the players needed time to rest and reset, admitting that his side struggled to convert chances despite creating several opportunities. He emphasized that improving attacking efficiency will be a key focus in upcoming training sessions and expressed confidence that the team can respond better in future matches.

On the other side, Mohamed Jihed Sboui praised his team's preparation and mentality, describing the match as strong and well-managed. He stated that his players successfully applied their attacking tactics and showed bold character, which helped them secure their first win of the tournament. While acknowledging that chances were limited, he highlighted the team's growing confidence and resilience, noting that this was their fourth match and that the players are gradually becoming stronger. Sboui concluded by expressing his enjoyment of the tournament and his belief in the long-term development of his players, whom he hopes to see become future stars.



MATCH 2



2 | 0



GAME REPORT

Kashiwa Reysol defeated Rangers FC 2-0 in a match defined by early pressure and decisive moments. The Japanese side struck first in the 9th minute when Riku Inada converted from Toma Ishikawa's assist. Rangers responded with possession and several shots on target, but Kashiwa's goalkeeper Yujiro Yoshiguchi produced key saves to preserve the lead. The first half ended 1-0, with Rangers unable to capitalize despite creating openings.

The second half saw Kashiwa maintain composure and extend their advantage in the 71st minute through Yumeto Kikuchi. Rangers had a golden chance to reduce the deficit late on, but Yoshiguchi denied a penalty in the 84th minute. Despite their efforts, Rangers could not break through, and Kashiwa held firm to secure a deserved 2-0 victory. The win reflected Kashiwa's organization and resilience, while Rangers were left to rue missed opportunities.



"We try to understand the bigger picture. 14-15 year olds going abroad playing against great opposition."

MALCOLM THOMSON
RANGERS FC, Head Coach

"We are proud of the team's effort, and this victory shows the progress of our young players."

IBUKI TODA
KASHIWA REYSOL, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH RIKU INADA





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

RANGERS FC VS KASHIWA REYSOL

The two coaches offered contrasting reflections yet agreed the tournament provided valuable lessons for their squads. Kashiwa Reysol coach Ibuki Toda expressed satisfaction with his team's performance, praising their ability to deliver a strong display despite limited recovery time between matches. He highlighted the resilience shown by his players and emphasized that while qualification for the semifinals was out of reach, the victory demonstrated their fighting spirit. Toda noted that the competition remains a valuable platform for development, stressing the importance of learning from each match and preparing with determination for upcoming challenges. Rangers FC coach Malcolm Thomson admitted disappointment at the result, acknowledging that his side struggled to recover after conceding early. He pointed to fatigue and squad changes as factors that affected rhythm, while also noting the impact of missed opportunities, including the late penalty. Thomson emphasized that the tournament offers vital experience for his young squad, explaining that defeats can be as instructive as victories in shaping their growth. He concluded by commending the organization of the competition and the opportunities it provides for developing players.



Exclusive Interview

ESSA BIN ABDULLA ALHITMI

CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE Alkass International Cup U17



What makes the Al Kass International Cup an important stop on the global youth football calendar?

The tournament has become one of the leading youth competitions internationally, thanks to its strong reputation, professional organization, and ability to attract top academies and clubs from different continents. This diversity of footballing schools provides players with a high-quality competitive experience and makes the tournament a genuine platform for talent discovery.

How does this tournament contribute to the development of young players in Qatar and the region?

The tournament offers a valuable opportunity for players in Qatar and the region to compete directly against elite global academies, which helps raise their technical and mental levels and strengthens a culture of competition at an early age. It also allows local coaches to exchange expertise and gain insight into modern training methods, positively impacting the overall football development system in the region.

Why is the tournament important for young talents competing at U17 level?

Partnerships play a central role in the tournament's success and continued growth. They help attract prestigious teams, facilitate the exchange of organizational and technical knowledge, and enhance the event's international credibility. These relationships also expand the pool of participants and reinforce the tournament's position among the world's leading youth competitions.

To what extent does the tournament help reinforce Qatar's image as a global hub for hosting major sporting events?

The AlKass International Cup significantly contributes to strengthening Qatar's position as a global sports destination, particularly in youth development. It reflects the country's high organizational capabilities and advanced infrastructure, while highlighting Qatar's commitment to investing in sport and developing future champions.



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 	1 vs 0 PVF Academy  15:30
	14	Rangers FC 	0 vs 2 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	Étoile Sportive 	vs	Kashiwa Reysol 	15:30
	18	PVF Academy 	vs	Rangers FC 	18:00

POSITION 4 & 3

Thursday 29. Jan	19	Loser Game no. 15	vs	Loser Game no. 16	14:15
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FINAL

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

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11th Edition 2026



MOHAMMED VI FA



FC BARCELONA



PVF FOOTBALL
ACADEMY



RANGERS
FOOTBALL CLUB



PARIS
SAINT-GERMAIN
F.C.



ÉTOILE SPORTIVE
DU SAHEL



ASPIRE
ACADEMY



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