Sadd hold off Arabi to lift Amir Cup for 17th time

The triumph was Al Sadd’s 73rd title across all tournaments in their glorious history

By Shahed Dhiyeb

It was a star-studded event as Al Sadd hosted arch-rivals Al Arabi in the Amir Cup final that saw the Qatar giants triumph 2-1 to emerge victorious from the clash. The game, which took place at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha, was attended by numerous dignitaries including HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. The match was officiated by FIFA Referee of the Year, Mr. Fahad Al Buheli.

Al Sadd started the match brightly and were rewarded for their efforts as they took the lead in the 14th minute through an effort from Ahmed Khalil. However, Al Arabi fought back and levelled the score through a goal from Yousef Al Hayari in the 38th minute.

The second half was a tense affair as both teams pushed hard for the win. Al Sadd extended their lead in the 81st minute through a goal from Almoez Al Mheiri, who replaced the injured Karim Boudaji. Al Arabi, however, didn’t give up and pulled one back in the 89th minute through a goal from Khaled Al Bannai.

Despite the late goal, Al Sadd held on to their lead and secured their 17th Amir Cup title, cementing their status as one of the most successful clubs in Qatar football history.

Al Sadd, with this win, not only secured their place in the history books with their 17th Amir Cup title but also continued their dominance in the competition, having won the title on 73 occasions across all tournaments.

The game was marked by a strong display from Al Sadd’s defence, which kept Al Arabi at bay throughout the match. On the other hand, Al Arabi’s forward line failed to find the net, despite creating numerous chances.

The victory was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Al Sadd squad, who have been working tirelessly to maintain their status as the top team in Qatar football.

Al Sadd manager Almoez Al Mheiri said: "This is a great day for us as a club and for all Qatar football. We have been working hard for this win and it’s great to see it come through on the field. We are grateful to our fans for their support and we will continue to work hard to keep improving."
Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium unveiled in spectacular launch

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium: A venue that tells the story of Qatar

Visually stunning and symbolically important, Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium in Al Rayyan hosted the official tournament venue in welcoming the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and one which embodies the dream of a new chapter in Arabian peninsula football.

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium was inaugurated at a spectacular launch

The 40,000 capacity Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium will host seven matches during Qatar 2022 up to the round-of-16 stage.

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium became the fourth tournament-ready venue for FIFA World Cup

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium

Tournament capacity
40,000

Legacy capacity
20,000

Distance from Doha
22 km

Tournament mode

Progress

The stadium has been opened on 18 December 2020 when it hosted the 2020 Arab Cup semi-final.

Design

The design of Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium was inspired by the arch of a traditional Arabian house, which forms part of a rich cultural heritage that is deeply rooted in Qatar. The stadium’s arch shape gives the impression of a traditional Qatari house and symbolizes the hospitality and warmth of the Arab culture.

Transport

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium is accessible by road via the Doha Expressway. It is also reachable by public transport with a comprehensive network of buses and taxis.

Precise facilities

The stadium is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, including: a multi-purpose stadium, 12,000 spectators capacity, full floodlighting, and a high-quality pitch. It also features numerous hospitality and leisure facilities.

Sustainability

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium is designed to minimize its environmental impact. The stadium will use energy-efficient systems, and its construction materials are selected to be environmentally friendly. It also includes measures for water conservation and recycling.
Sights from Amir Cup final and Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium inauguration
QFA launches 2027 AFC Asian Cup bid emblem during Amir Cup final

FOCUS

In conjunction with the country’s National Day celebrations, the QFA (Qatar Football Association) launched the emblem of the history-making 2027 AFC Asian Cup that the country is set to host for the first time. The launch was followed by the unveiling of a vast 3D model of the Al Bayt Stadium at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre (DOHAEXCC).

The stadium, which is part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Legacy Project, hosted the launch event. It is one of the nine stadiums that will host the 2027 AFC Asian Cup.

The launch event also included a special live performance by Qatar’s national football team, the ‘Akhdar’, at the Al Bayt Stadium. The performance was a spectacular display of Qatar’s national pride and unity.

The AFC Asian Cup, to be held in 2027, will be the first time that Qatar will host the tournament. The tournament will be held across nine stadiums, including the Al Bayt Stadium, which is part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Legacy Project.

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It’s like Picasso - the heart and art of it all

SC ambassadors talk about Qatar 2022, the venues, their design, the fan experience, and how football builds bridges between people around the world

By Daniel Baets

A striking feature of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, hosted by Qatar, was the contrast between the grandeur of the stadiums and the simplicity of the fan experience. The emphasis was on creating a memorable experience for fans from around the world, regardless of where they were located.

For the first time in the history of the World Cup, the tournament was expanded to 48 teams, doubling the number of matches and creating a more diverse and inclusive event. The venues were carefully selected to ensure maximum accessibility and convenience for fans from all over the globe.

The tournament was also marked by a strong focus on sustainability, with a number of measures put in place to reduce the environmental impact of the event. These included the use of renewable energy sources for the stadiums, as well as the implementation of waste management and water conservation strategies.

In addition to the matches, the tournament also featured a range of cultural events and activities, including music concerts, art exhibitions, and food festivals. These events aimed to create a truly immersive experience for fans, allowing them to explore Qatar’s unique culture and traditions.

The FIFA World Cup was a true testament to the power of football to bring people together, breaking down barriers and fostering understanding and appreciation of different cultures. It was a reminder that sport has the ability to unite the world, and that football has the power to create a more inclusive and connected society.

In conclusion, the 2022 FIFA World Cup was a resounding success, setting new standards for the future of the sport. The tournament was marked by innovation, sustainability, and a commitment to providing an unforgettable experience for fans from all over the world. As we look forward to the next edition of the World Cup in 2026, it is clear that football will continue to play a positive role in bringing people together and promoting understanding and respect for diversity.
‘Tenacious’ Perez to replace Albon at Red Bull in 2021

The chance to race for a championship-contending team is something I have been hoping for since I joined Formula One and it will be a proud moment to get onto the grid in Red Bull colours alongside Max.’

Perez

Ineos acquires one-third stake in Mercedes F1 team

RENAULT

FORMULA 1

Chargers deal the Raiders a painful loss

BUFFALO

NFL

Chapter 1

Bottomline

NBA to keep coach’s challenge replay rule

BOSTON

SPORT

SPORTS FULL-MOON EVENT AT 2022 ASIAN GAMES IN HANGZHOU

Hangzhou, China — The Hangzhou 2022 Asian Games will kick off today and run until August 10. In a ceremony held at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Center, Korean Olympic Committee president Cho Yang-ho declared the Games open.

The Asian Games, held every four years, have been organized by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) since 1951. They are the world’s third largest multi-sport event after the Olympics and the Paralympics.

NBA coach challenges replay rule

NEW YORK

In the NBA, coaches can challenge replay decisions made by referees as well as the league’s official replay officials during games. The NBA’s Video Review System is used to review potential calls and determine whether they are correct or incorrect. The coach can challenge a call if they believe it to be incorrect and the league’s official replay officials will review the play to determine the correct outcome.

Sports full-moon event at 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou

Hangzhou Olympics are set to host a sports full-moon event on Saturday, with 117 events planned for the three-day competition. The event is the largest multi-sport event in Hangzhou’s history, and it is expected to bring together over 10,000 athletes from across the country.

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Lexi Thompson fires 65 to take one-stroke lead

“We’re just happy to be playing this week and my brother and I had a lot of fun”

SPOTLIGHT

Sorenstam to play Tournament of Champions

Miami Beach native Annika Sorenstam will compete in this week’s Tournament of Champions in January when she tees off in the 2013 LPGA South Florida Championship at Doral Golf Resort & Spa, Florida.

The tournament, which will conclude on the Stadthaler Course and Sport Golf Course at Doral, is the season opener for the LPGA and the first event of the 2013 season for the world’s top women golfers. The 44-year-old Swede, who hasn’t played since the end of last season, won the 2001 LPGA Championship at Doral to capture her 16th LPGA Tour title.

“A lot has changed since then,” said Sorenstam, who is married to Australian golfer Stuart Appleby. “I’ve had to learn to play the game in a completely different way.”

Sorenstam, who turned pro in 1993, had not played in a tournament since November 2011, when she finished third at the Honda Classic in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

“I’ve been off for a while, but I think I’m ready to come back,” she said. “I’m really looking forward to getting back out there.”

Sorenstam, who won the 1995 LPGA Championship at the Champions Course at Doral, said she is looking forward to seeing the changes made to the course since she last played there.

“I’ve heard there have been some changes,” she said. “I’m looking forward to seeing how it plays.”

Sorenstam, who has won six majors, said she is excited to be back on the LPGA Tour and to compete against some of the game’s top players.

“I’m looking forward to being out there and competing against the best players in the world,” she said. “I’ve missed that feeling of being up against the best and I’m looking forward to being able to do that again.”

Sorenstam, who lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, said she has been working on her game and is hoping to get back to her best form.

“I’m really looking forward to being out there and competing against the best players in the world,” she said. “I’ve missed that feeling of being up against the best and I’m looking forward to being able to do that again.”

Johnson masters annus horribilis to return to the top

While 2022 was an annus horribilis for the vast majority of people, Dustin Johnson was a ray of sunshine.

In the 2016 PGA Championship, Johnson claimed his place at world No. 1 with his victory at Whistling Straits, and he was the world’s top player for a month before losing to Patrick Reed at Augusta National in November.

He struggled from 2019 to 2021, with no victories, but he returned to form in 2022, winning 12 times and finishing No. 1 in the world rankings.

Woods also ended the year on a high, scoring at the WGC Tour Championship when he came from behind to win the season-ending event in Las Vegas.

Johnson, who was ranked No. 1 in the world at the end of 2022, said he was happy to be back and looking forward to another year of success.

“I’m really excited to be back on the course this year,” he said. “I’ve been working hard to get back to my best and I’m ready to prove myself this year.”

Johnson, who has won 20 times on the PGA Tour, said he is looking forward to the challenges ahead.

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“I’m really excited to be back on the course this year,” he said. “I’ve been working hard to get back to my best and I’m ready to prove myself this year.”

Johnson, who has won 20 times on the PGA Tour, said he is looking forward to the challenges ahead.

“I’ve been working hard to get back to my best and I’m ready to prove myself this year,” he said. “I’m excited to see what the year brings.”
Ashwin and Yadav shine as bowlers put India in control

15 wickets fell on the day which started when Cummins and Mitchell Starc took just 25 deliveries to knock off the final four India batsmen.

**FOUR WICKETS IN EIGHT DELIVERIES**

India lost 15 for 5 in the final session of play, with middle-order batsman Ajinkya Rahane being the only wicket that India hold on at the close of play. India's bowlers, with left-hander Axar Patel and right-hander Axar Patel at the top of the order, took the final wicket of Australia's skipper Tim Paine in the final over of the day.

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Thriller expected as Ulsan take on Persepolis in final

I expect one of the most exciting matches in Asian football: Golmohammadi

FOOTBALL

ASIAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

The AFC Champions League celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Ulsan Hyundai and Persepolis are set for an Asian Champions League final that promises to be a thriller.

Ulsan Hyundai are aiming to win their second title, having triumphed in 2012.

Persepolis aim to secure a second title after winning in 2009.

The match will be played in Nanjing, China, on November 24.

**FOCUS**

Rapinoe questions her inclusion in FIFA team of year

Women’s World Cup winner and Olympic gold medalist questions her inclusion in FIFA team of year...