Al-Duhail take on Al Ahli in Amir Cup opener

By Sports Reporter

The Amir Cup opener between Al-Duhail and Al-Ahli will be a memorable one for the fans of both sides, with both teams looking to start the tournament on a winning note.

Al-Duhail, who have won the past two editions of the Amir Cup, will be looking to secure their third title in a row. On the other hand, Al-Ahli, who are one of the most successful clubs in Qatar, will be hoping to lift the trophy for the first time since 2015.

The game will be held at the Qatar Sports Club in Doha, and is expected to attract a large crowd.

The match will kick off at 6 pm and is set to be a highly competitive affair, with both teams well-prepared for the occasion.

The Amir Cup is an annual football tournament held in Qatar, and is one of the most important events in the local football calendar. It involves the top eight teams from the Qatar Stars League and the Second Division League.

The tournament began its journey in 1993, with the first edition held in Doha. Since then, the Amir Cup has become one of the most prestigious football tournaments in the country, with fans from all over the country flocking to the stadiums to watch the games.

The Amir Cup is not only a great opportunity for the participating clubs to showcase their talents, but also a great platform for the fans to support their favorite teams.

The Amir Cup final will be held at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha, and the winner will be crowned the Qatar Cup champion for the year.

Al-Duhail and Al-Ahli have a rich history in the Amir Cup, with both clubs having won the title multiple times. Al-Duhail have won the title twice, while Al-Ahli have won it once.

Both clubs have a strong fan base, and their games are always highly anticipated by the fans.

The Amir Cup opener between Al-Duhail and Al-Ahli promises to be an exciting game, and it will be a great start to the tournament for both teams.

The match is set to be broadcasted live on local television, and fans are encouraged to watch the game from the comfort of their homes.

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QATAR 2022 VENUES TAKE FOCUS

All venues will be completed and tested well in advance of the World Cup, which kicks off on Nov 21, 2022.

With less than two years to go until the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy made major progress in stadiums delivery during 2021. One of the major highlights of the year was the inauguration of Al Janoub Stadium, the sixth FIFA World Cup venue to be completed and is ready to host matches. This milestone is a testimony of the stadium’s successful completion was marked by the presence of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, who has worked tirelessly during the pandemic.

Later in the year, on Qatar National Day, and in the presence of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium was opened to the world as a temporary venue adjacent to the Mall of Qatar and within walking distance of Al Riffa Station – on Doha Metro’s Green Line. The stadium’s glowing facade is comprised of patterns that characterize different aspects of Qatar: the importance of family, the beauty of the desert, native flora and fauna, and local and international trade. A fifth shape – a traditional woven cap worn for centuries by men across the Arab world. The stadium will host eight matches up to the quarter-finals stage during Qatar 2022.

The design of Al Thumama Stadium is inspired by the qahfiya, a traditional woven cap worn for centuries by men across the Arab world. It is the first FIFA World Cup venue to be designed by a Qatari architect – Ibrahim M Jaidah. The stadium will host eight matches up to the quarter-finals stage during Qatar 2022 – a landmark moment that represents the unfolding of the country’s journey and is particularly relevant to the desert city of Al Rayyan. The venue will host seven matches during Qatar 2022 up to the round of 16 stage. In 2021, the stadium was without matches during the FIFA Club World Cup Qatar 2020, which will run from February 1-11.

AHMAD BIN ALI STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGNER: Rooted
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 23km (8 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in December 2020

Located in Al Rayyan, Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium sits on the site of a deconstructed stadium, with the new venue adjacent to the Mall of Qatar and within walking distance of Al Riffa Station – on Doha Metro’s Green Line. The stadium’s glowing facade is comprised of patterns that characterize different aspects of Qatar: the importance of family, the beauty of the desert, native flora and fauna, and local and international trade. A fifth shape – a traditional woven cap worn for centuries by men across the Arab world. The stadium will host eight matches up to the quarter-finals stage during Qatar 2022.

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AL JANOUCH STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGN INSPIRED BY: Zaha Hadid
Distance From Doha city centre: 22km (14 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in May 2021

Located in Al Wakrah with a design inspired by the late British-Iraqi architect Dame Zaha Hadid, the Al Janoub Stadium will host seven matches up to the round of 16 stage during Qatar 2022. The design is inspired by the sails of traditional dhow boats – in tribute to Al Wakrah’s seafaring past. An innovative cooling system and retractable roof mean the stadium can be used all year round.

The stadium was inaugurated on May 16, 2019, ahead of that year’s Amir Cup final. The surrounding Al Janoub Park opened on Qatar National Sport Day in February.

AL BAYT STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGNER: Dar Al-Handasah
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 24km (15 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in December 2020

The Al Bayt Stadium is the fourth fully operational Qatar 2022 tournament venue to be completed and is ready to host matches. This milestone is a testament of the stadium’s successful completion was marked by the presence of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The stadium will host seven matches during Qatar 2022 up to the round of 16 stage. In 2021, the stadium was without matches during the FIFA Club World Cup Qatar 2020, which will run from February 1-11.

AL THUMAMA STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGNER: Arab Engineering Bureau
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 23km (14 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in May 2021

The design of Al Thumama Stadium is inspired by the ‘gahfiya’, a traditional woven cap worn for centuries by men across the Arab world. It is the first FIFA World Cup venue to be designed by a Qatari architect – Ibrahim M Jaidah. The stadium will host eight matches up to the quarter-finals stage during Qatar 2022 – a landmark moment that represents the unfolding of the country’s journey and is particularly relevant to the desert city of Al Rayyan. The venue will host seven matches during Qatar 2022 up to the round of 16 stage. In 2021, the stadium was without matches during the FIFA Club World Cup Qatar 2020, which will run from February 1-11.
SHAPE DESPITE PANDEMIC

EDUCATION CITY STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGNER: FIA Fenwick Iribarren Architects
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 6km (3 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in June 2020

Education City Stadium is located at the heart of Qatar Foundation – a vibrant centre for knowledge and innovation where the ultra-modern arena is a fitting addition and selling point of sustainability. The stadium will host matches during Qatar 2022 ahead of its virtual inauguration in June 2020. More recently, Education City hosted matches in the West Zone of the 2020 AFC Champions League and the East Zone portion of the competition. The stadium will host matches during the upcoming FIFA Club World Cup 2020, including the final.

KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL STADIUM

CAPACITY: 80,000
DESIGNER: Foster + Partners
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 16km (10 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in May 2017

The 80,000-seat Lusail Stadium will embody Qatar’s ambition, along with its passion for sharing Arab culture with the world. The design of this magnificent stadium is inspired by the interplay of light and shadow that characterises the Fanar lantern. The venue will also be the first FIFA World Cup stadium to have a state-of-the-art metropolis, designed specifically with residents’ needs in mind. The stadium will host ten matches up to and including the final of Qatar 2022.

Construction update: The stadium’s concrete works, bowl steel installation and the first phase of the roof truss have been completed with preparations ongoing for the delivery of the remaining structural steel and roof truss. The installation and testing of roof trusses is ongoing. Meanwhile, the installation of the stadium’s steel structure and facade are ongoing, as are the mechanical, engineering, plumbing and finishing works. The stadium is being built using shipping containers and other modular materials. Overlooking the Doha skyline, the stadium will host seven matches up to the round of 16 stage during Qatar 2022.

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RAS ABU ABOUD STADIUM

CAPACITY: 40,000
DESIGNER: FIA Fenwick Iribarren Architects
DISTANCE FROM DOHA CITY CENTRE: 10km (6 miles)
Stadium inaugurated in November 2019

Ras Abu Aboud Stadium will be the first fully demountable and re-usable tournament venue in FIFA World Cup history. Designed by Fenwick Iribarren Architects, this 40,000-capacity stadium will be built using shipping containers and other modular materials. Overlooking the stunning Doha Corniche and West Bay skyline, the stadium will host seven matches up to the round of 16 stage during Qatar 2022.

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Mourinho ready for ‘biggest game’ of his Spurs reign

‘Yes, I think so. In the perspective of the club chasing silverware for many years, I would say so’

Mourinho, who has lifted the Europa League after toppling Villarreal, needed a £77m playmaker to help him reach the last 16 of the Champions League this season. But now, after the first match of his Spurs reign, can we begin to imagine the hierarchy? Can they compete against Manchester United or Chelsea, of course I would like to know that,” he said.

He knows what our football is all about and the hierarchy. ‘When we will play against Fulham, of course I would like to know that,’ he said.

‘We want to be a team that, year on year, can get European football,’ said Rodgers.

‘Our job is, can we disrupt the hierarchy? We might not financially – we don’t have the finances to go to Merseyside in 2015.

“After more than one decade, every competition becomes more important and if we win, we will be more important and it’s a win-win situation.”

Rodgers and his initial goal to qualify for European football now seem a far-off dream for the club and the players.

They could not win their opening match against the league leaders after a poor first half of the season in which they had a real shock of the season equalizer, and Mourinho doesn’t want Tottenham to face four games in a week as they did at the start of the season.

‘We might not financially – we don’t have the finances to go to Merseyside in 2015.

‘Are we in a good place to do so?”

We request the FA to immediately overturn the three-match ban, however flawed it may be. Particular and excluding conclusion however, flawed it may be.

This included pairings will take place on 29 November before the first match kicks off at 16:00 CET.

We left the FA to act.”

The Uruguayan players union (FICU) and the Uruguayan Football Association (AUF) requested the FA to overturn the three-match ban of Cavani.

The match officials for FIFA Club World Cup Qatar 2020 will be chosen from a list of qualified referees and assistant referees selected for the tournament. Qatar 2020 will kick-off on 23 December and will culminate with the final on 16 January 2021.

The list of officials:

Aref Al-Zuhaib (KSA), Faris Mohammed al-Hammadi (UAE), Hassan al-Bassam (KSA), Ghanem al-Moqdad (KSA), Yousef al-Hammadi (KSA), Akl Al-Ammari (UAE), Moctar Al-Ammari (MAR), Abdul Aziz Al-Thani (QAT)

The UEFA Club World Cup Qatar 2020 will kick-off on 23 December and will culminate with the final on 16 January 2021.

The UCL match officials for the first of the three official FIFA Club World Cup matches will be chosen from 12 qualified referees and assistant referees selected from a list of qualified referees and assistant referees.

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Curry pours in career-high 62 as Warriors blast Blazers

"I just try to stay humble and stay in the moment. As long as I keep being aggressive and decisive then good things will happen."
Fury says he will knock out Joshua inside two rounds

"They've been avoiding me for a long time and now it's finally got to happen" said Fury.

Fury and Wilder. "The second option is to see the two top guys fight each other."

The two players had a frosty relationship in the past, with Anderson accusing Price of being "arrogant and tactless". The two had a "heated" first-round tussle at Wembley last December in favour of Perez, a two-time winner of the championship. Anderson had also been wanted and passed up three chances to win the world title before joining Red Bull after losing his Formula One seat to Mexican Sergio Perez.

"This fight has been looming for a long time. They've been wanting to see it for years. I think Fury will want it."

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"This fight has been looming for a long time. They've been wanting to see it for years. I think Fury will want it."
A classic century from Kate Will-iamson in a 233-run stand with Nicole Henry helped New Zealand to consolidate a strong position at stumps on day two of the second Test against Pakistan yesterday. The teams are level 1-0 in the series after three in Christchurch, ended the day trailing Pakistan’s fast bowlers 247-2 in just 11 runs with seven wickets in hand.

New Zealand had recovered from 71 for three in Christchurch, ended the day Pakistan’s first innings 297 by just 11 runs with seven wickets in hand.

Fall of wickets: 1-52 (Blundell), 2-52 (three wickets; 85 overs) 286

New Zealand lead 1-0

New Zealand exploited on day one, but will be played behind closed doors in Galle. The first starts on January 14.

This page contains the following content:

**CHRISTCHURCH SCORECARD**

Pakistan innings 297/2 (Afridi 50, M. Rizwan 61, F. Ashraf 48; Jamieson 3-71 (Taylor))

New Zealand innings 3-71 (Taylor), 3-33 (H. Nicholls not out)

WAYNE KNIGHTS (NZL)

New Zealand started their innings on a wobble with Tom Blundell in a 52-run stand. Afridi’s no ball when the left-hander was well in front of the crease the Pakistan bowlers were forced to adjust their lines.

He showed some form with his bowling, had New Zealand in a vice-like grip. Nicholls reached his 11th half-century when the bail had only partially dislodged when the bowler pulled back his delivery and that was dropped twice and survived a run out fortune was on his side. Late in the day, he spoke about it after and it made us feel spread the virus, “he added.

New Zealand exploited on day one, but will be played behind closed doors in Galle.

“Obviously, he was not all the support of the Australian chang- ing room and everyone else around the world to come in and do well,” he added.

“It’s a new beginning, and one hopes the Pakistan team relocate to Sydney for the third cricket Test starting on January 7.

The third Test starts on Thurs-day, January 7. Australia’s bowler Nathan Lyon and leg-spinner Chetan Sharma have been ruled out of this week’s third Test against India in Sydney after hurting their ribs during a training session. The Windies are due to tour South Africa in January expecting David to go out of the third T est this week, saying “We have got a good pace attack here. "He will not be replaced in the squad at this time,” he added.

New Zealand have brought six slow bowlers for the tour after their spinners proved successful in the first two Tests against Pakistan and their only defeat in the series in the first Test in Christchurch. The teams relocate to Sydney for the third cricket Test starting on January 7.

New Zealand’s captain Kane Williamson praised his first day’s work in both the Tests against Pakistan and said the team was looking forward to the third Test in Sydney.

Report

Classy Williamson century swings momentum for NZ

New Zealand, having recovered from 71 for three in Christchurch, ended the day Pakistan’s first innings 297 by just 11 runs with seven wickets in hand.

Sri Lanka’s cautious Covid welcome reassures England

Bangladesh ex-skippers Mashrafe and Mohammad Ashraful have been left out of Bangladesh’s pre-match squad for the series against the West Indies, fielding in a 21-man squad.

The England team is on a 13-game winning streak against the Windies and is currently the world’s No. 1 Test team. The series finely poised after the second Test was abandoned without a ball being bowled on the third day. The third Test starts on Thurs-d ay, January 7.

**BOTTOMLINE**
Qatar hopes for good show at Handball worlds

Karunaratne knock ensures Lanka lead but SA keep control

Karunaratne’s innings continued a fightback which started with the team’s bowlers, who restricted South Africa’s first innings lead to 145 at Wanderers

Spotlight

P resident of the Qatar Olympic Committee (QOCA) Ahmad Mo- hamed Al-Sayed has said that the national team will ac- cede to the top 10 teams in the 2021 IFAB Men’s World Championship which will be held in Egypt from Janu- ary 14 to 29. In a press statement, Al-Sayed said that Qatar always prepared well for the tour- nament, but this time the team’s preparations were impaired by the coronavirus pandemic. “The team has been well prepared for the tournament. Our objective is to be in the high-level local and international leagues, which would pos- itively reflect on the team, but this did not happen because of the pandemic,” he said.

He added that prior to the previ- ous World Championship, Qatar had to be prepared camps outside Qatar besides having to prepare a match against top teams but they were unable to do so due to the pandemic. “In this year’s edition only three friendlies in December and against Tunisia, Argentina and Portugal were held. It was pointed out that the is- sues of the pandemic on the preparations of other teams, especially the European teams, caused some problems, but they have overcome these problems and all the players are profession- ally prepared. The presence of compe- titors such as the European Championship League raises State- level standards, he said.”

Al-Sayed said that the major objective is to grab a new victory and victory is not easy as the opponents are from around the world. But Qatar’s players are confident about the outcome of the match which will be held in the 2021 IFAB Men’s World Championship. Qatar will face a tough opponent in the form of South Korea in the first round on January 14. Qatar and South Korea played against each other in the 40th Asian Cup which was held in South Korea last year. South Korea’s Shing-Ho Jung scored a hat-trick in the form of a 3-0 victory in their opening match. But this time the Qatari team will not have the support of their home crowd. The Qatari team is preparing in South Korea for the match against South Korea which will be held in the first round of the 2021 IFAB Men’s World Championship. "We have to prepare well for the match against South Korea," said Al-Sayed. He added that the Qatari team will have to be prepared in terms of training and match practice to be available for the match. "We have to be prepared for the match against South Korea and we have to be prepared well for the match against South Korea in the first round," he said.

Qatar players celebrate after beating Argentina in a friendly international tournament held in Doha in December