

DAILY NEWS

Wednesday 06 Feb 2019



AL KASS SHINES THROUGH WITH 3-2 x 2

BAYERN MUNICH 2 - 3 ÉTOILE SAHEL DU SPORTIVE

SPARTAK MOSCOW 2 - 3 REAL MADRID

MIXED FORTUNES FOR EUROPEAN GIANTS



The Under 17 sides of two of Europe's finest clubs were on show on the second day of the Alkass International Cup at Aspire Academy, but they experienced contrasting fortunes on a night of 10 goals.

German giants Bayern Munich had high hopes of making a winning start to the tournament when coming up against Tunisian side Etoile Sportive Du Sahel but they found themselves 3-0 down before finally reducing the arrears with two late goals.

Bayern went behind when Koussay Rejeb had the easiest of chances when tapping into an open net after goalkeeper Manuel Kainz had dropped a simple catch.

Khalil Mahmoudi doubled the advantage early into the second half and he had a glorious chance to make it 3-0 only to rush his chance when a mistake by Bayern skipper Kainz presented him with an open goal.

Youth internationals Nemanja Motika and Moritz Mosandl pulled it back to 3-2 late on

but the Tunisians deserved their victory.

Spanish top-club Real Madrid fared better as they recorded a 3-2 win over Spartak Moscow thanks to goals from Carles Moscardo, Andri Gudjohnsen and Pau Aran. Real were 2-0 up inside 20 minutes as they made the Russians pay for Magomedemin Rabadaniov's early penalty miss.

Spartak skipper Ilya Golyatov scored twice, either side of Aran's strike, and the Russians finished strongly without being able to find an equalizer.

The victory saw Real become the first of the tournament's European giants to win after French side PSG were denied by a last-gasp equalizer last night in a repeat of the 2018 final with Kashiwa Reysol.

Views of the coaches

Christopher Dessy, Head Coach of Etoile Sportive Du Sahel

"Honestly, it was one of the most eagerly awaited matches, because it's with the German team which is known for its precision performance, and the match was great until the last minute."

"I would like to thank the players for their excellent performance and behavior, which I believe is more important than the result."

Quotes from the terraces

Hazar Ben Ahmed, Etoile Sportive Du Sahel supporter

"I came here to support my favorite team Etoile Sportive Du Sahel and I was confident we would win. I am enjoying Al Kass so far, and I will probably be coming for more matches now after our win."

BAYERN YOUNGSTERS LEARNING FROM A LEGEND



Bayern Munich made a losing start to the eighth Alkass International Cup with a 3-2 defeat by Etoile Sportive Du Sahe, but the German youngsters are in good hands as they are being coached by one of the most famous strikers of all-time.

Miroslav Klose took over from Holger Seitz as head coach of Bayern's Under 17 team nine months ago and is hoping to produce the next in a long line of star strikers to represent the Bavarian Reds from Germany.

Whether the next Robert Lewandowski, Gerd Muller, Thomas Muller or Karl-Heinz Rummenigge was on show at Aspire Academy remains to be seen, but the Bayern teenagers could not ask for a better role model to learn from.

The Polish-born 40-year-old was a legend for club and country alike, helping Germany to glory at the 2014 FIFA World Cup, the competition that always seemed to bring out the best in him.

Klose is the top goalscorer in the history of the FIFA World Cup with 16 goals, scoring five at each of his first two appearances in the sport's showpiece event in 2002 and 2006. He won the Golden Boot at the latter, held in Germany, and added four more goals at the 2010 competition before overtaking Brazil legend Ronaldo's record of 15 goals four years later.

Klose is Germany's all-time top-scorer with 71 goals in 137 appearances and the national team never lost a game in which he scored. Although best known for his performances with the Germany national team, Klose was also a class act for Bayern where he scored 52 goals in four seasons from 2007 to 2011, helping the club to five major trophies as well as reaching the Champions League final. After ending his playing career in Serie A, where he scored more than half-a-century of goals over two seasons with Lazio, Klose moved into coaching when joining the backroom staff of the German national team, and now he is charged with developing the best teenage talent at Bayern.

Klose, whose own youth football was spent at SG Blaubach-Diedelkopf, has plenty of promising talent to work with, as seven players with international experience are among the Bayern squad in Doha this year. Two of those internationals, Nemanja Motika and Moritz Mosandl, netted in the closing stages to reduce the arrears after the Tunisians had gone 3-0 ahead. Motika produced a finish Klose would have been proud of himself, chesting the ball down before firing home, while Mosandl made it 3-2 from the spot minutes later.

Despite the defeat, the Germans showed enough attacking flair to suggest they will win far more than they lose. Bayern have five

Bundesliga Under 17 titles to their name but with a legend like Klose coaching the club it should not be too long before they add to that tally.

Asked about Qatar and the Asian Cup success, he responded: "Qatar is nice, I have now been here several times. The Asian Cup win is great for the people here. Particularly looking at them hosting the next World Cup here, I believe, it is definitely a success. This is what happens, if you are changing and developing many factors, like they do here at Aspire, where you have the possibilities to train and practice certain things with good people. In time, you will be able to reap the rewards."

Asked about the Al Kass International Cup, Klose stated: "The tournament is being shown on TV here, so it is certainly something special for the local community. However, we see it more as a training camp. We have come here with quite a few very young players, so our main objective was to simply play football."

Klose's side will look to bounce back when they take on Turkish side Altinordu on February 9, when they look to find their scoring boots much earlier than they did against Etoile Sportive.

TOP PLAYERS - MATCHDAY ONE

MATCH 1

Oussama Abid, Etoile Sportive Du Sahel
1 goal for ESS in their 3-2 win over Bayern Munich

MATCH 2

Pau Russo Aran, Real Madrid
1 goal for RM in their 3-2 win over Spartak Moscow



RAMPANT SAHEL OVERPOWER MUNDANE MUNICH

Étoile Sportive du Sahel (ESS) recorded a memorable victory over an out-of-sorts Bayern Munich in the first match of Day 2 at Al Kass, with a powerful and authoritative display that served notice of the Tunisians' tournament-winning potential.

The 3-2 scoreline flattered the Germans, who were second best throughout, and were reliant upon two face-saving goals in added time to prevent a three nil thumping.

ESS set the tone for a dominant display from the kick-off, and almost took the lead inside two minutes when the ball fell to Oussama Abid, whose weak shot could not trouble Bayern keeper Manuel Kainz.

Unfortunately, Kainz was deeply troubled 20 minutes later, when his astonishing gaffe gifted the opener to Sahel. There appeared to be little danger when a free kick was swung in from wide on the left, and the Bayern number one rose highest to claim a routine catch, only for the ball to somehow slip through his fingers. Tunisian defender Koussay Rejeb gleefully accepted the unexpected gift, slotting into an empty net from all of three yards.

It is often said that the mark of a top-class keeper is the ability to recover rapidly from adversity. If this is the case, then Kainz is surely destined for greatness. It soon became clear why he is team captain, as he showed great fortitude just minutes after his bizarre blunder

to prevent the Tunisians from doubling their advantage. A corner swung in from the right was met firmly by ESS midfielder Nassim Khadher, who planted a firm header that looked destined for the bottom corner, only for the German keeper to get down brilliantly and keep the effort out.

And, five minutes before the interval, Kainz was again the hero, getting strong hands to Mohamed Fallah's low drive after the Tunisian skipper had cut in from the left.

The 1-0 deficit may have been the German keeper's fault, but his subsequent heroics ensured that Bayern were still in the game going into half time. But there was nothing he could do when, five minutes after the restart, Khalil Mahoudi latched onto a through ball down the inside right channel, hitting a first time shot past the despairing Kainz's dive.

Just after the hour, the lively Tunisian should have doubled his tally after intercepting a loose backpass and evading Kainz's challenge as the keeper desperately attempted to remedy the situation. The ball arced into the air and fell at the feet of the Tunisian forward, but he somehow shot wide of the open goal from 12 yards out.

As night fell over Aspire Zone and the temperature dropped away, the pace of the game slowed as fatigue began to set in. With a two-goal deficit to rectify, Bayern made a double change on 70 minutes, but

any hope of getting back into the game was soon extinguished, after Mahoudi once again escaped through the middle, skilfully evading challenges before cutting back to Montasar Ben Chabchoubi, who made no mistake.

The fervent Tunisian supporters, who had been vocal throughout, raised the volume still louder, their joyous songs providing a fitting soundtrack to a dominant performance against the hitherto highly fancied Germans.

And yet, amazingly, Bayern almost found a way back after plundering two goals in added time. First, substitute Nemanja Motika got on the end of Grant Mamedova's inviting cross and dispatched a firm volley from 12 yards out.

Then, with only seconds remaining, the referee pointed to the spot after judging – with the aid of VAR – that ESS keeper Ahmed Slimen had planted his studs into the back of Moritz Mosandl when claiming a high ball. The German midfielder recovered to tuck home the penalty, but it was too little too late, as the final whistle immediately sounded.

In truth, ESS never looked in danger, with Bayern desperately disappointing overall – out-thought, outmuscled and outscored by a terrific Tunisian collective who could go far at Al Kass 2019.

BAYERN MUNICH

- GK Manuel Maximilian Kainz (C)
- DF Benjamin Hofmann
- DF Djibril Hofmann
- DF Roman Reinelt
- DF Luca Denk
- FW Yusuf Krahan Kabadayi
- MF Moritz Michael Mosandl
- FW Lucas Copado Schrobenhauser
- FW Gabriel Vidovic
- MF Thorben Bjarne Rhein
- DF Angelo Brückner



ÉTOILE SAHEL DU SPORTIVE

- GK Ahmed Slimen
- DF Yosri Gandouz
- FW Oussama Abid
- MF Dhaker Belkacem
- MF Mohamed Aziz Fallah (C)
- FW Ahmed Guermiti
- FW Bilel Mgannem
- DF Koussay Rejeb
- DF Sountalma Sidibe Assoumane
- MF Omran Dziri
- MF Nassim Khadher



MAN OF THE MATCH

Oussama Abid, ESS
MVP of the Match



THE EXPERTS SAY...

Chris Makin - Al Kass Analyst

I was really, really disappointed with Bayern Munich.

The best performers were definitely from Étoile Sportive –

it was an incredible performance considering it is their debut in this tournament.

They thoroughly deserve that win.



X



MATCH SCORE

2

BAYERN MUNICH

3

ÉTOILE SAHEL DU SPORTIVE



“WE HAVE ALL COME HERE TODAY TO CELEBRATE OUR COUNTRY’S FOOTBALL TALENT”

Fan Quote

“I, along with several of my friends who live in Qatar, have come here today to support Étoile du Sahel, which has come all the way from Tunisia, our motherland. We are completely overjoyed because our team has defeated Bayern Munich, which is a very strong and well-known team. Our boys put up a very strong performance out there and we are confident that we will win the Al Kass Cup 2019. Along with our team, all the fans present here also played an important role in today’s victory as the supporters are the backbone of any team. All of us present here today are here to welcome and support our team and make them feel as if they are playing in their home ground.”

Sabir, Étoile supporter



ALEX, REAL MADRID SUPPORTER

“I and my whole family are die-hard supporters of Real Madrid and never miss any of their games. When I heard that their team is playing in the Al Kass International Cup, I immediately checked the tournament schedule to ensure I have nothing else planned for the days they are playing. I am very glad to come here and see the enthusiasm among the fans for the young players. Real Madrid has fans across the world and has huge fan-following in Qatar as well and we are very happy because they won their game today. The other team also put up a good game, but Real Madrid emerged victorious, just what I had been hoping for. The tournament organizers have done an amazing job and I will be bringing my friends and family in the upcoming matches.”

“I LOVE REAL MADRID SO MUCH, SO I CAME HERE WITH MY DADDY.”

- AAMISH, PROBABLY THE YOUNGEST REAL MADRID SUPPORTER HERE TODAY (SEE PICTURE BELOW)



SPANISH GIANTS ARE THE REAL DEAL



Former winners Real Madrid held off a spirited display from Russians Spartak Moscow to come out on top in the best game of the tournament so far.

The two clubs produced a five-goal thriller although both sides could have scored more in an entertaining game.

Real, who won the tournament in 2017, played some lovely football and twice opened up a two-goal advantage but Spartak – with skipper Ilya Golyatov proving a real handful – refused to give in and they pushed the Spaniards all the way.

Real made a lively start and Icelandic international Andri Gudjohnsen went close after just two minutes when put through by skipper Javier Lancho.

But the Russians were presented with a glorious opportunity on nine minutes when Magomedemin Rabadanov went down

under the challenge of Miguel Ramon but highly-rated Spanish Under 17 international keeper Lucas Conchello dived to his right to save Rabadanov's penalty.

Within minutes Real were ahead with a fine right-foot effort from Carles Moscardo after Ramon's initial effort had been blocked. Real went 2-0 up on 20 minutes with a close-range tap-in from the lively Gudjohnsen and at that stage the Spaniards looked to be cruising to victory. Spartak had other ideas, however, and produced a lovely passing move that ended with Golyatov slotting home to make it 2-1.

Hopes of a comeback were thwarted immediately as Spanish youth international Pau Aran ended a fine passing move that left him in space and he beat Vladislav Pchelnikov with a minimum of fuss.

Golyatov then tested Conchello with a high right-footed drive but the tall keeper was up

to the task but the Spartak captain did net his second of the match early into the second half when tapping home Aslan Mutaiev's left-wing cross.

Real almost restored their two-goal advantage soon after but Lancho's looping header hit the post.

The longer the second went on the more dangerous Spartak became and for large periods they were camped in the Real half without being able to find a way past the imposing Conchello.

Spartak will certainly consider themselves as unlucky to lose but will be thankful that they will rarely come up against a side with the passing and finishing ability of Real Madrid.

SPARTAK MOSCOW



- GK Vladislav Pchelnikov
- DF Nikolai Tolstopiatov
- DF Vadim Khromin
- DF Vyacheslav Frolov
- MF Magomedemin Rabadanov
- MF Aslan Mutaiev
- FW Ilya Golyatov (C)
- MF Daniil Grigorev
- MF Sviatoslav Kozhedub
- DF Maksim Stepanenko
- DF Nikolay Genchu



REAL MADRID



- GK Lucas Conchello
- FW Carles Moscardo
- DF Alberto Cuadros
- DF Rafael Zamora
- MF Miguel Ramon
- FW Andri Gudjohnsen
- MF Pau Aran
- MF Jorge Serafin
- DF Lucas Moreno
- MF Mario Rubio
- FW Javier Lancho (C)



MAN OF THE MATCH

Pau Russo Aran - Real Madrid
MVP of the Match



THE EXPERTS SAY...

Nick Summerbee – Al Kass Analyst

What a debut in the tournament for Spartak Moscow. They really attacked Real Madrid tonight. They were unfortunate not to score more goals. But still there was some wonderful play by Spartak Moscow who have been really very impressive. They produced some fabulous attacking play. Real Madrid are quite composed on the ball and can always open teams up with their attacking play. I'm so glad for Spartak Moscow because nobody knew what to expect from the Russian team but they really impressed us. Hopefully they will get a positive result from the next game.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| <p>MATCH SCORE</p> |  | X |  |
| | 2 | | 3 |
| | SPARTAK MOSCOW | | REAL MADRID |

Qatar

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See you in 2022

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See You in 2022

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GAMES SCHEDULE

GROUP STAGE

| GROUP A | | GROUP B | | GROUP C | | GROUP D | |
|---|---|---|--|---------|--|---------|--|
|  Aspire Academy |  Paris Saint Germain FC |  FC Bayern München |  Real Madrid CF | | | | |
|  Rangers FC |  AS Roma |  Altinordu FK |  FC Spartak Moscow | | | | |
|  Raja Club Athletic |  Kashiwa Reysol |  Etoile Sportive Du Sahel |  Suwon Samsung F.C | | | | |

| DATE | NO. | TEAMS | TIME | VENUE |
|------------|-----|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Mon. 4 Feb | 1 | Paris Saint Germain FC | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 2 | Aspire Academy | 18:45 | 5 |
| Tue. 5 Feb | 3 | FC Bayern München | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 4 | FC Spartak Moscow | 18:45 | 4 |
| Wed. 6 Feb | 5 | Raja Club Athletic | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 6 | AS Roma | 18:45 | 5 |
| Thu. 7 Feb | 7 | Altinordu FK | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 8 | Real Madrid CF | 18:45 | 4 |
| Fri. 8 Feb | 9 | Aspire Academy | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 10 | Kashiwa Reysol | 18:45 | 5 |
| Sat. 9 Feb | 11 | FC Bayern München | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 12 | Suwon Samsung F.C | 18:45 | 4 |

POSITIONS 9 - 12

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|-------------|----|-------------|-------|---|
| Sun. 10 Feb | 13 | Position 9 | VS | Position 10 | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 14 | Position 11 | | Position 12 | 19:00 | 4 |

QUARTER FINALS

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|-------------|----|-------------|-------|---|
| Sun. 10 Feb | 15 | 1st Group A | VS | 2nd Group C | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 16 | 1st Group C | | 2nd Group A | 19:00 | 5 |
| Mon. 11 Feb | 17 | 1st Group B | VS | 2nd Group D | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 18 | 1st Group D | | 2nd Group B | 19:00 | 5 |

PLAY OFFS POSITIONS 8 - 5

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|-------|---|
| Tue. 12 Feb | 19 | Loser Game No. 15 | VS | Loser Game No. 18 | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 20 | Loser Game No. 16 | | Loser Game No. 17 | 19:00 | 4 |

SEMI FINALS

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|-------|---|
| Wed. 13 Feb | 21 | Winner Game No. 15 | VS | Winner Game No. 18 | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 22 | Winner Game No. 16 | | Winner Game No. 17 | 19:00 | 5 |

PLAY OFFS POSITIONS 8 - 5

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|-------|---|
| Thu. 14 Feb | 23 | Loser Game No. 19 | VS | Loser Game No. 20 | 16:35 | 4 |
| | 24 | Winner Game No. 19 | | Winner Game No. 20 | 19:00 | 4 |

POSITIONS 3 - 4 & GRAND FINAL

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|-------|---|
| Fri. 15 Feb | 25 | Loser Game No. 21 | VS | Loser Game No. 22 | 16:35 | 5 |
| | 26 | Winner Game No. 21 | | Winner Game No. 22 | 19:00 | 5 |

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