

DAILY NEWS

Tuesday 12 February 2019



Victory **ROMA AND REYSOL** **ADVANCE TO SEMIS**

AS ROMA **3/0** FC SPARTAK
MOSCOW

REAL MADRID CF **0/2** KASHIWA
REYSOL

ALKASS
INTERNATIONAL CUP





ROMA WIN WELL TO SET UP ASPIRE CLASH

Roma advanced to the semi-finals with a straight forward 3-0 victory over Spartak Moscow, after the Russians had been reduced to 10 men midway through the second half.

The Italians came into the game as one of the tournament favourites after their 5-2 mauling of PSG in their opening match was followed up with a highly efficient 2-0 victory over Kashiwa Reysol.

Spartak, meanwhile, had also shown considerable potential in the group stage, rebounding from a narrow loss against Real Madrid to comfortably dispatch Suwon Samsung by three goals to one. And, in Ilya Golyatov, Spartak possessed the tournament's joint top scorer, and a player capable of winning a game on his own.

Roma were on the front foot from the first whistle, and engineered an early chance Andrea Astrologo got up well to head a cross from the right goalwards, but keeper Pavel Boriskin saved comfortably.

Five minutes later Astrologo turned supplier, sending in a corner from the left that skipper Mattia Ciucci rose to meet, but again Boriskin was equal to it.

Roma were beginning to dominate, and Alessio Buttaro went close moments later with a close range, side-footed volley that the Spartak keeper saved well at his near post.

Mory Bamba's pace was troubling the Russian backline, who resorted to questionable tactics to halt his runs on more than one occasion, with Vyacheslav Frolov cautioned early on for hacking down the speedy winger as he got away down the right.

Just after the half hour, and following another foul, Astrologo put in a high, angled cross from the right that Edoardo Bove rose highest to head home.

Spartak's spoiling tactics continued, with Vadim Khromin seeing yellow after blocking off Bamba – not for the first time.

Despite being constantly under the cosh, Ilya Levchenkov could have equalised for Moscow just after the restart, but could not connect with a low cross from six yards out.

Soon after, Spartak's tough task became even more difficult when Frolov was shown a second yellow for a late challenge on Matteo Cancellieri.

Roma passed up a host of chances subsequently, the best of which fell to substitute Daniel Tueto Fotso just before the hour mark, when he popped up unmarked six yards out but mis-controlled the in-swinging corner and the chance was gone.

Boriskin continued to keep Spartak in the game with a series of splendid saves, but the Russian keeper couldn't hold back the tide forever, and Roma doubled their lead as the game entered its final quarter, with Tueto Fotso heading home.

In added time, Riccardo Ciervo's strike into the roof of the net was chalked out for offside, only for the decision to be corrected after a VAR review, following a lengthy delay for consultations. Ciervo almost added a fourth within moments of the restart, only for Boriskin to produce another spectacular save to keep out the first-time volley.

Roma will face Aspire Academy in the second of Wednesday's semi-finals. Both sides have impressed thus far and will have to be at their very best to reach the final.

AS ROMA

- GK Pietro Boer
- MF Andrea Astrologo
- MF Mory Bamba
- MF Edoardo Bove
- DF Alessio Buttaro
- FW Matteo Cancellieri
- DF Mattia Ciucci (C)
- MF Tommaso Milanese
- DF Samuele Suffer
- DF Matteo Tomassini
- MF Filippo Tripi



FC SPARTAK MOSCOW

- GK Pavel Boriskin
- DF Nikolai Tolstopyatov
- DF Vadim Khromin
- DF Vyacheslav Frolov
- MF Aslan Mutaliev
- MF Ilya Levechenkov
- FW Ilya Golyatov (C)
- MF Daniil Grigorev
- MF Sviatoslav Kozhedub
- DF Maksim Stepanenko
- DF Nikolay Genchu



MAN OF THE MATCH

Edoardo BOVE, ROMA
MVP of the Match



THE EXPERTS SAY...

Rhodri Williams - Al Kass Analyst

I thought Roma looked the stronger side, Spartak Moscow were unlucky to lose a player in the fifty first minute and once that happened, Roma were so much stronger with a man advantage that it was going to be a very difficult task for Spartak to get back into the game. Well done AS Roma, they look very strong, and I know the MVP went to Bove, but I would have given the man of the match to Tomassini, the Roma defender who literally negated Mutaliev, the Spartak Moscow playmaker, so much so that he played him out of the game, or as they say in football, he had him in his pocket. Mutaliev has been such a dangerous player all tournament, and this time around we didn't see him because of the incredible work of Tomassini.

MATCH SCORE



X



3

AS ROMA

0

FC SPARTAK MOSCOW



AMBITIOUS ALTINORDU AIM TO REVOLUTIONIZE TURKISH FOOTBALL

Turkish club Altinordu FK have enjoyed testing themselves against bigger clubs at the Alkass International Cup, but now they aim to make their mark on the world.

Formed in 1923, Altinordu is one of the oldest clubs in Turkey, but it was only 10 years ago that their exciting project to revolutionize Turkish football was launched.

The club currently occupy a play-off spot in 1 Lig, Turkey's second division, but while they may not be the best senior team in the country, at junior level it is another matter.

It may be some time before they are ready to meet teams of Bayern Munich's class at senior level, as getting into Turkey's top-flight (the Superlig) is more on their minds right now than competing in the Champions League, but Altinordu's Under 17s did hold Bayern to a draw on their way to topping their group at Alkass.

"Our club's academy is the best in Turkey," says a proud Ilker Seven, the Head Coach of Altinordu's Under 17 side. He added: "We are a player's factory, selling many players to big clubs, including in Europe."

Cengiz Ünder, now playing for Roma in Serie A, began his career with the 'Golden Army', while another player to come through the

ranks is Çağlar Söyüncü who is now with former English Premier League champions Leicester City.

The defender made his debut for the senior national team debut in 2016, becoming the first Altinordu player for 78 years to be called up by Turkey.

Altinordu were bought by Seyit Mehmet Ozkan in 2009, and he set out to build a club purely using homegrown talent.

Seven said: "It is only 10 years since the club was bought, so the project is still very young. Seyit is a prominent Turkish businessman with a steel factory and he is a football fan.

"His vision is to give Turkish players a chance. There are 197 players in our academy and 12,000 players in football schools across Turkey."

Altinordu, based in Izmir, have a mission to develop players both on and off the pitch and they aspire to gain promotion to the top flight where they hope to field a completely homegrown team. And they don't plan to stop there, as they have a dream of fielding an entire homegrown team in major European competitions within the next five years.

Ozkan's vision is to benefit both club and country as he hopes that by getting into one of the two major UEFA competitions – the Europa League, or preferably the Champions League, their players will come to the attention of bigger European clubs and will earn big money moves that would see them gain experience that would help the Turkish national team.

Ozkan wants to bring through players that are of good character as well as bringing talent to the pitch, and more than half of the first team – which has an average age of 21 – is now made up of players who have come through the club's academy.

Altinordu would love to break into Turkey's elite and prove themselves against the likes of Galatasaray, Fenerbahce and Besiktas, who are all from the capital city of Istanbul. That trio have relatively few homegrown players so it's an ambitious plan for Altinordu to match them without high profile signings. While Turkey's big guns splash out on star signings, Altinordu invest heavily in other things like infrastructure, coaching and vast grounds. That has enabled them to set up four centers – in Yesilyurt, Torbali, Selcuk and Kusadasi. The club provide accommodation, have a sports science and dietary team, provide match analysis, and boast UEFA Pro and A license level coaches throughout

the youth sides, so it is no surprise that they impressed against higher profile clubs at Alkass.

As well as developing players' footballing ability, Altinordu educate players in other ways. It's all part of a plan to help their players cope in modern football, so players are given social media courses as well as teaching personal development, football history, English, gymnastics, judo, and even chess and farming. Such attention to detail may be common at major European clubs but it is very rare in Turkey.

Altinordu's influence is Spanish rather than Turkish though as they use Athletic Bilbao as their role models. Bilbao famously only sign players from the Basque region, and their youth academy is known as 'cantera', which translates to quarry in Spanish.

The Spaniards look to develop players from childhood and bring the best all the way through to the senior teams, and it is a romantic idea that appeals to Ozkan, who has built close links with Bilbao.

Altinordu's approach has attracted interest from Premier League clubs such as Arsenal,

Manchester City and Liverpool, along with other major European outfits like Barcelona, Bayern and Roma, and we could yet see some of the players who have shone at Alkass – such as striker Enis Destan – progressing to bigger clubs in the near future. Not all of their talented players join overseas clubs though as Berke Ozer, dubbed the 'Turkish Gianluigi Donnarumma' was snapped up by Fenerbahce under the noses of Manchester City.

Having bought the club for \$10 US million, Ozkan pumps in a further \$2 million per year to run the club, and by cultivating the enormous talent that lies in the club's academy he hopes to show the world that Turkish youngsters can become a success. Ozkan added: "These children are our future so we need to raise them well. Our motto is 'good person, good citizen, good footballer', and if we can nurture the really talented players we have then we can produce the best generation this country has seen for a long time.

"Our mission, our vision and values are clear; we want our kids to reach the highest level in world football," Ozkan adds. "The reason we

exist is to develop homegrown players who are capable of playing for the best clubs in the world. Turkey is currently an importer of footballers, but we want to transform the country into an exporter of talent. In order to change the perception of Turkish football we have to produce players of the highest caliber."

Ozkan concluded: "If a player is good enough we will give him a shot. We even have an under-six team coming through the ranks and our aim is not just Europe; our sons will play across the world."

"We are a feeder club; our goal is to always be one, but one that is also able to be competitive, and with our philosophy, our investment, and with patience we are confident of achieving our goals."





KASHIWA REMAIN ON COURSE FOR ANOTHER FINAL

Kashiwa Reysol knocked out Real Madrid in a rematch of last year's clash at the same quarter-final stage of the Alkass International Cup.

Last year's finalists defended strongly to set up a last-four clash with Glasgow Rangers, courtesy of a 2-0 victory.

Real had the first effort on goal after nine minutes, but Miguel Romera Ramon's shot went straight at the keeper.

Kashiwa responded and Shun Nakajima and skipper Ibuki Toda both went close before the Japanese went ahead on 21 minutes. Sohki Tamura was brought down by Jorge Sanchez Serafin and Naito Saito stepped up to send Real keeper Lucas Canizares Conchello the wrong way.

Pau Russo Aran, one of the stars of the tournament so far, showed great skill to set up Javier Rodriguez Lanchó but he fired over, and Real then spurned another opportunity when Victor Rofino Gordo headed wide. Kashiwa doubled their lead six minutes before the break when Saito and Takuma Otake linked up well down the left flank and set up Yuki Skimizu to make it 2-0.

Russo Aran saw an effort tipped over the bar as Real tried to find a response before the break, but last year's runners-up held firm. A heavy downpour arrived 10 minutes into the second half but it failed to dampen Kashiwa's mood as they continued to keep Real at bay with relative ease. The Japanese side got everyone behind the ball which made it difficult for Real to create clear-cut chances.

Tamura almost put the game beyond doubt on 65 minutes but his shot skimmed the stop of the bar and Real then had one of their best chances of the night but Icelandic teenager Andri Gudjohnsen headed straight at the keeper.

Russo Aran turned nicely to create an opportunity but he couldn't keep his shot down, and with eight minutes to go the same player sent a fine free-kick over the wall but the keeper was up to the task. Real continued to attack in the closing stages but they never looked likely to deny the well-organized Kashiwa side.



X



MATCH SCORE

0

REAL MADRID

2

KASHIWA REYSOL

REAL MADRID

- GK Lucas Cañizares Conchello (C)
- FW Carles Llario Moscardó
- DF Rafael Marín Zamora
- DF Victor Rofino Gordo
- MF Miguel Romera Ramón
- FW Andri Gudjohnsen
- MF Pau Russo Arán
- MF Jorge Sánchez Serafin
- DF Lucas Alcázar Moreno
- MF Mario Jiménez Rubio
- FW Javier Rodríguez Lanchó



KASHIWA REYSOL

- GK Masato Sasaki
- DF Hayato Fujimoto
- DF Ibuki Toda (C)
- FW Yuki Shimizu
- MF Sohki Tamura
- DF Fumito Okihara
- DF Takuma Otake
- MF Naito Saito
- FW Shun Nakajima
- MF Daichi Sugawara
- DF Hayato Tanaka



MAN OF THE MATCH

Masato SASAKI, Kashiwa
MVP of the Match



THE EXPERTS SAY...

Rhodri Williams – Al Kass Analyst

I don't think we were surprised about Kashiwa Reysol beating Real Madrid because we have seen them do it before. They have been quiet in the tournament up until now and just went about their business. They began with a draw with PSG in a repeat of the last year's final and I can see they have always used this tournament to learn and develop their football as a club. Therefore, we know every year that they will be a tough team to beat. A lot of people were expecting Real Madrid to win. They have got amazing stamina and they pass the ball really well, making it really difficult to get the ball off them. But I think they got a bit frustrated and, in the end, the better team won.



ROAD TO THE CUP

QUARTER FINAL 1	10 FEB	16:35
RANGERS FC		
ÉTOILE SPORTIVE DU SAHEL		

QUARTER FINAL 4	11 FEB	19:00
REAL MADRID CF		
KASHIWA REYSOL		

SEMI FINAL 1	13 FEB	16:35
RANGERS FC		
KASHIWA REYSOL		

QUARTER FINAL 2	10 FEB	19:00
ALTINORDU FK		
ASPIRE ACADEMY		

SEMI FINAL 2	13 FEB	19:00
ASPIRE ACADEMY		
AS ROMA		

QUARTER FINAL 3	11 FEB	16:35
AS ROMA		
FC SPARTAK MOSCOW		

FINAL	15 FEB	17:45
WINNER 1		
WINNER 2		



TOP SCORERS



17 ILYA GOLYATOV
FC SPARTAK MOSCOW **FW**
3 GOALS



7 CHRISTOPHER COLIN MCKEE **FW**
RANGERS FC
3 GOALS



20 NATHAN YOUNG COOMBES **FW**
RANGERS FC
3 GOALS

ROMA ROAM INTO THE LAST FOUR WHILE KASHIWA STUN REAL



Italian side Roma enhanced their position as tournament favorites when setting up a semi-final clash with Aspire Academy in the Alkass International Cup. Roma maintained the tournament's only 100% winning record when making light work of defeating Spartak Moscow. They stormed to a 3-0 victory over 10-man Spartak, who failed to find their best form on the day. The first half saw a heavy downpour and also a headed goal from player of the match Edoardo Bove, who netted his third goal of the tournament when getting on the end of Andrea Astrologo's cross.

The Russians had Yacheslav Frolov sent off during the second half and the Italians doubled their advantage when substitute Daniel Tueto Fotso headed home at the far post. Riccardo Ciervo added a third in the closing stages, thanks to VAR after his effort was initially ruled out for offside. The same player almost added a fourth moments later as the Italians booked their place in the semi-finals. The second quarter-final saw Kashiwa Reysol knock out 2017 champions Real Madrid for the second successive year. The teams have met in the tournament in each of the last

three years, with Kashiwa winning the last two. Kashiwa went ahead from the spot midway through the first half with a well-taken penalty by Naito Saito, and Yuki Shimizu finished off a fine move to give them a 2-0 half-time advantage. It remained that way as Kashiwa defended strongly and Real were unable to create many clear opportunities.

TODAY'S MATCHES



×



16:35



×



19:00

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REAL MADRID

ALTINORDU FK

FC SPARTAK MOSCOW

Qatar

الوعد ٢٠٢٢
See you in 2022

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See You in 2022

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The SC is also making rapid progress in building stadiums and other infrastructure, and ensuring the tournament and its preparations contribute to Qatar's sustainable development.

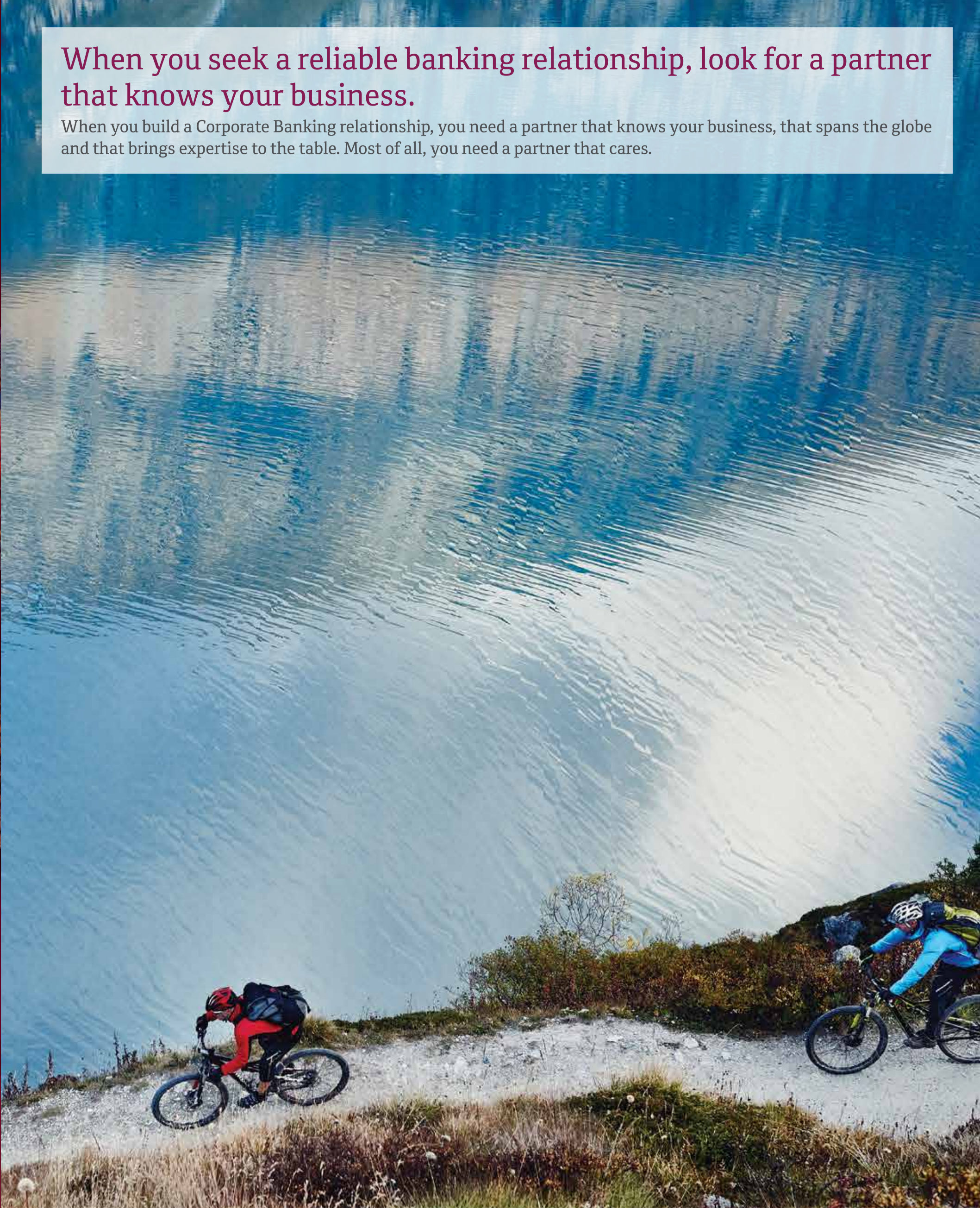
From the stadiums where football history will be made to infrastructure, accommodation and transport, the SC and our stakeholders are making sure that Qatar is ready to welcome the world in 2022.

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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	Raja Club Athletic	16:35	4
	14	Suwon Samsung F.C	19:00	4

QUARTER FINALS

Sun. 10 Feb	15	Rangers FC	16:35	5
	16	Altinordu FK	19:00	5
Mon. 11 Feb	17	AS Roma	16:35	5
	18	Real Madrid CF	19:00	5

PLAY OFFS POSITIONS 8 - 5

Tue. 12 Feb	19	Etoile Sportive Du Sahel	VS	Real Madrid CF	16:35	4
	20	Altinordu FK		FC Spartak Moscow	19:00	4

SEMI FINALS

Wed. 13 Feb	21	Rangers FC	VS	Kashiwa Reysol	16:35	5
	22	Aspire Academy		AS Roma	19:00	5

PLAY OFFS POSITIONS 8 - 5

Thu. 14 Feb	23	Loser Game No. 19	VS	Loser Game No. 20	15:00	4
	24	Winner Game No. 19		Winner Game No. 20	17:45	4

POSITIONS 3 - 4 & GRAND FINAL

Fri. 15 Feb	25	Loser Game No. 21	VS	Loser Game No. 22	15:00	5
	26	Winner Game No. 21		Winner Game No. 22	17:45	5

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