



Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 34:

Younis Mahmoud helps win fifth Arab Police Championship title (2002)



The fifth and final edition of the Arab Police Championship was hosted in Baghdad, Iraq, in April and May of 2002. Just like the previous edition, it consisted of five teams who each played each other once. The teams were Al Shorta (Iraq), Al Shorta (Jordan), Al Shorta (Palestine), Al Shorta (Sudan) and Al Shorta (Syria).

Al Shorta (Iraq) were represented by the Iraqi youth team in this edition of the tournament, and hence, Al Shorta (Iraq) were managed by youth team coach Nasrat Nassir. His squad consisted of three goalkeepers (Mann Jamil, Saifaddin Zaman and Wissam Talib), seven defenders (Muayad Khalid, Haider Aboudi, Jassim Mohammed Haji, Zaman Jawad, Ali Abd Ali, Ali Hussein and Wissam Kadhim), nine midfielders (Haitham Kadhim, Bashar Hadi Ahmed, Ameer Obiad, Ahmed Hassan Fadhil, Jassim Mohammed Suleiman, Hamad Jaber, Safaa Kadhim, Muslem Mubarak

and Osama Shalil) and five forwards (Fuad Jawad, Qasim Jalout, Thair Zawid, Ali Jawad and one of Iraq's best ever players Younis Mahmoud).

Al Shorta (Iraq) kicked off their tournament on 23 April at Al Shaab Stadium with a 3-0 win over Al Shorta (Palestine), thanks to goals from Hamad Jaber (on 27 minutes), Ali Jawad (on 32 minutes) and Qasim Jalout (on 77 minutes). Three days later they faced Al Shorta (Jordan) at the same venue and recorded a 2-1 victory. Ameer Obiad opened the scoring for Al Shorta (Iraq) on 10 minutes but Al Shorta (Jordan) equalised on 65 minutes through Muayad Omar's penalty. But five minutes later, Ali Jawad scored the winning goal for Al Shorta (Iraq).

Al Shorta (Iraq) played their penultimate match on 30 April at Al Shorta Stadium and won the game comfortably 2-0 against Al Shorta (Syria) with goals from Thair Zawid on 48 minutes and Hamad Jaber on 51 minutes. Their final game came on 2 May at Al Shorta Stadium and it was an easy 3-0 victory over Al Shorta (Sudan). Muslem Mubarak scored the opener on 24 minutes before Hamad Jaber scored twice on 28 and 48 minutes respectively. Al Shorta (Iraq) ended the tournament with four wins from four, and won the tournament with twelve points, which was seven points ahead of runners-up Al Shorta (Jordan). This was the fifth Arab Police Championship, and Al Shorta (Iraq) won all five of them.

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