



Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 44:

Al Shorta become sports club as different teams merge (1974)



From 1932 to 1962, Al Shorta were known as Montakhab Al Shorta, meaning 'Police Select XI', and the team represented the Iraqi Police Force in football tournaments. 1960 saw the foundation of the Police Games Directorate (PGD), and two years later, the PGD decided to split Montakhab Al Shorta into multiple different teams, including Aliyat Al Shorta (Police Machinery), Madrasa Al Shorta (Police School), Kuliya Al Shorta (Police Academy), Shorta Al Najda (Police Debuties), Shorta Al Murour (Police Traffic) and Quwa Al Siyara (Car Forces).

These teams continued to compete separately in domestic competitions until 1974, when the Iraqi Football Association decided to start a new league solely for clubs (rather than institutions teams), meaning that all the Police

teams had to be brought together to form a sports club, which is the same club we know today.

Since Al Shorta became a sports club all those years ago, the club has gone from strength to strength, winning a further five league titles and becoming the first Iraqi club to win a major continental club competition by triumphing in the 1982 Arab Champions League. That moment in August 1974 has helped to shape the club into what it is today, which is one of Iraq's greatest and most successful clubs.

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