



Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 6: Al Shorta clinch hattrick of Iraqi Elite Cups with win over Al Talaba (2002)



Al Shorta finished in third in the league again in the 2001-02 season, and were drawn into Group A in the 2002 Iraqi Elite Cup (better known as the Umm Al Ma'arak Cup) alongside Al Najaf, Al Talaba and Duhok.

Al Shorta won their opening game 2-0 against Al Najaf with goals from Tassyer Abdulhussein and Ammar Ahmad, but fell to a 2-0 defeat to Al Talaba in their next game with Ahmed Salah scoring both goals for the Students. Al Shorta ended the group with another 3-2 victory against Duhok after Hashim Ridha, Maher Habeeb and Ammar Ahmad's goals; Hashim Ridha also missed a penalty in the game.

Al Shorta finished in second in their group behind Al Talaba and therefore faced Group B winners Al Zawraa in the semi-final.

After going down to ten men, Al Shorta held on for a penalty shootout and won the shootout 3-2 after Al Zawraa missed three consecutive spot-kicks.



This set 'Al Qeetharah' up for their fourth ever Iraqi Elite Cup final and this time it was with Al Talaba, as it was in the previous edition of the tournament. The Police avenged their earlier 2-0 defeat to Al Talaba by winning their third straight Iraqi Elite Cup final 1-0 as Amer Mushraf stepped up to the plate in another cup final; his shot in the very first minute of the game was deflected into the goal. Al Shorta had 'keeper of the tournament Uday Talib to thank for keeping out Al Talaba striker Younis Mahmoud on a number of occasions.

This sealed Al Shorta's third consecutive Iraqi Elite Cup triumph, and meant that they became the first ever team to win the competition three times in a row. It also made them the joint-most successful team in the competition's history. Winning this cup for the third time in a row is a truly fantastic achievement, and one that certainly ranks among Al Shorta's best ever moments.

To see highlights of the win against Al Talaba that secured Al Shorta's third straight Elite Cup, **click here**.







© Copyright 2010-2016

You are free to copy texts, whether in whole or part, and pictures from this website provided that proper acknowledgement is given to www.alshorta.webs.com.