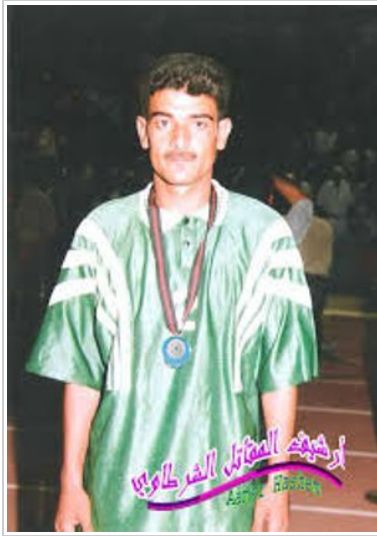




## **Al Shorta's Greatest Players - Number 26:**

### **Haider Hameed**



Haider Hameed was one of Al Shorta's best defenders in the 1990s. He started life at the club as a youth player in 1987, slowly moving up the ranks to the main youth team in 1989 and finally getting his chance in the first team in 1992 under the leadership of Mohammed Tabra.

From that moment on, Haider never looked back and became one of the most important components of Al Shorta's team at the back. The best season of his career was the 1997-98 campaign, where he shone in defence and scored the most important goal of his career in the last game of the season. The match was against Al Sulaikh and it was Haider who gave Al Shorta the lead with a fantastic looping header. The Harps went on to win the game 3-2, and with Al Quwa Al Jawiya drawing 1-1 with Al Zawraa at the same time, Al Shorta leapfrogged the Falcons into first place and secured their first league title in 18 years.

Haider was a huge fan favourite and is still fondly remembered by Al Shorta supporters to this day. He retired from football in 2003 after winning his second league title with Al Shorta and went on to become manager of lower division club Al Difaa Al Madani.

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