



Al Shorta's Greatest Moments - Number 9:

Maher Habeeb wins Police second straight Iraqi Elite Cup (2002)



The 2001 edition of the Iraqi Elite Cup (known more commonly as Umm Al Ma'arak Cup) was in fact played in 2002; Al Shorta qualified for the tournament by finishing in third place in the 2000-01 Iraqi Elite League. They were drawn into Group A with three other teams: Al Zawraa and Duhok (just like in the 2000 edition) and Al Karkh.

Ahmad Mnajid, Mahir Ogla and Amer Mushraf's three first-half goals led Al Shorta to a 3-2 victory over Duhok in their first game (see the goals of that game [here](#)) before they comfortably dispatched of Al Karkh with a 3-0 win thanks to Ahmad Mnajid, Ziyad Tariq and Abbas Raheem's goals. Another victory followed in their final group game but this time it was against Al Zawraa. The Police went a goal down after giving away an early penalty but goals from Ahmad Mnajid and Abbas Raheem and Hashim Ridha's penalty turned the game on its head. Al Zawraa scored another penalty afterwards to make it 3-2, and then got their third penalty of the game but they missed that one as the cup holders won the game 3-2, despite having ten men after Amir Qasim's sending off (see the highlights of that game [here](#)). Al Shorta therefore topped the group with maximum points and progressed to the semi-finals.

Amer Mushraf's 63rd-minute winner in a 1-0 victory over Al Quwa Al Jawiya in the semi-final set Al Shorta up for another final, this time with Al Talaba. The game ended 0-0 after normal time, but Maher Habeeb's golden goal header in the 112th minute won Al Shorta the tournament for the second consecutive year as they won the final 1-0 after extra time.

Ziyad Tariq won the player of the tournament award.

To see highlights of the exciting cup final between Al Shorta and Al Talaba, [click here](#).



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