



# AFC U23 CHAMPIONSHIP QATAR 2016

## REFEREEING TECHNICAL REPORT







**AFC**  
**U23**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**QATAR 2016™**

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# AFC U23 CHAMPIONSHIP QATAR

Accommodation: The Torch - Doha

Duration: January 12 to 30, 2016

Competition Format: Group stage (4 teams x 4 groups)  
Knockout Stage (Quarter-finals,  
Semi-finals & Final)







# REFEREE INSTRUCTORS & MATCH OFFICIALS

Five Referee Technical Instructors and two Referee Fitness Instructors were appointed for the tournament. Ensuring that there was adequate training and sharing of knowledge, the instructors closely observed and monitored the performances of the officials, providing constructive feedback on their strengths and weaknesses after each match.

A total of 23 officials - 15 referees and 18 assistant referees were appointed for the tournament with one referee and two assistant referees on standby to replace any of the appointed match officials who failed the fitness test or had to withdraw through illness or injury. Two of the standby assistant referees were required after one appointed official failed the fitness test and another was injured.



# INSTRUCTORS & MATCH OFFICIALS



## TECHNICAL INSTRUCTORS / ASSESSORS

- |                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Cheung Yim Yau             | HKG |
| 2. Ismail Adnan Ismail Alhafi | JOR |
| 3. Subkhiddin bin Mohd Salleh | MAS |
| 4. AlTraifi Ali Ahmed         | KSA |
| 5. Abdullaev Farkhad          | UZB |

## NAME OF FITNESS INSTRUCTORS

- |                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Ganesan s/o Maniam        | SIN |
| 2. Chappanimutu Ravichandran | MAS |

## REFEREE / ASSISTANT REFEREE LIST

### Referees

- |                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Beath Christopher James        | AUS |
| 2. Ma Ning                        | CHN |
| 3. Faghani Alireza Mohammad       | IRN |
| 4. Sato Ryuji                     | JPN |
| 5. Ali Sabah Adday Al-Qaysi       | JOR |
| 6. Adham Mohammad                 | JOR |
| 7. Kim Jong Hyeok                 | KOR |
| 8. Mashentsev Dmitrii             | KGZ |
| 9. Mohd Amirul Izwan Bin Yaacob   | MAS |
| 10. Al Kaf Ahmed Abu Bakar Said   | OMA |
| 11. Abdulrahman Ibrahim Al Jassim | QAT |



12. Hettikankanamge Dilan Perera
13. Almirdasi Fahad Adwan
14. Mohmmed Abdulla Hassan
15. Tantashev Ilgiz

#### Assistant Referees

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Nawaf Shaheen               | BHR |
| 2. Wang De Xin                 | CHN |
| 3. Reza Sokhandan              | IRN |
| 4. Yoon Kwangyeol              | KOR |
| 5. Talipzhanov Ismailzhan      | KGZ |
| 6. Ahmad Moannes Nadi Alroalle | JOR |
| 7. Otsuka Haruhiro             | JPN |
| 8. Mohd Yusri Bin Muhamad      | MAS |

- |                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 9. Al Amri Abu Bakar Salim Mahad    | OMA |
| 10. Saoud Ahmed Almaqaleh           | QAT |
| 11. Taleb Salem H A Al-Marri        | QAT |
| 12. Deniye GP Parakkrama Hemathunga | SRI |
| 13. Al Shalwai Abdulah Mutlaq       | KSA |
| 14. Alabakry Mohammed Maki          | KSA |
| 15. Hsu Min-Yu                      | TPE |
| 16. Hasan Mohamed Hasan Abdulla     | UAE |
| 17. Saidov Jakhongir                | UZB |

#### Stand by Referee

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Fahad Jaber Al-Marri | QAT |
|-------------------------|-----|

## Fitness Test & Match Officials' Physical Condition



The fitness test was conducted during AFC Referee Seminars in Kuala Lumpur and Dubai in November and December 2015. All the match officials underwent Yo-Yo Intermittent Test, with the minimum level set at 17-6 for referees and 17-4 for assistant referees. Following the assessment by the Fitness Instructor, the referees and the majority of the assistant referees were declared physically ready having passed the test with high scores.



## Preparatory Course: Classroom Sessions



All classroom sessions - including match debriefings - were held in Aspire Room 1 from January 5 to 30. The environment of the room was conducive to conducting these sessions, which were held with no disruptions. Dealing with interpretations on the Laws of The Game as well as administrative matters relating to match operation and organisational logistics, AFC teaching material was used to discuss and analyse match incidents and decisions. Match officials were also thoroughly briefed on all necessary information to ensure uniformity and consistency on and off the field.





**Main topics relating to the Interpretation on the Laws of the Game covered are:**

- Foul Recognition
- Movement & Positioning
- Teamwork
- Offside
- Handling the ball

**Topics relating to Administration Matters are:**

- Tournament Format
- Pre-match Procedures
- Stadia Layout
- Meals & Laundry
- Media Contact
- Stadium Accreditation
- Transport (Arrival & Departure Procedures)
- Referee's Apparel (Warm-up & Match)
- Start List & Equipment Check
- Referee's Match Report
- Communication Sets & Beep Flags
- Match Observation for non-appointed Match Officials

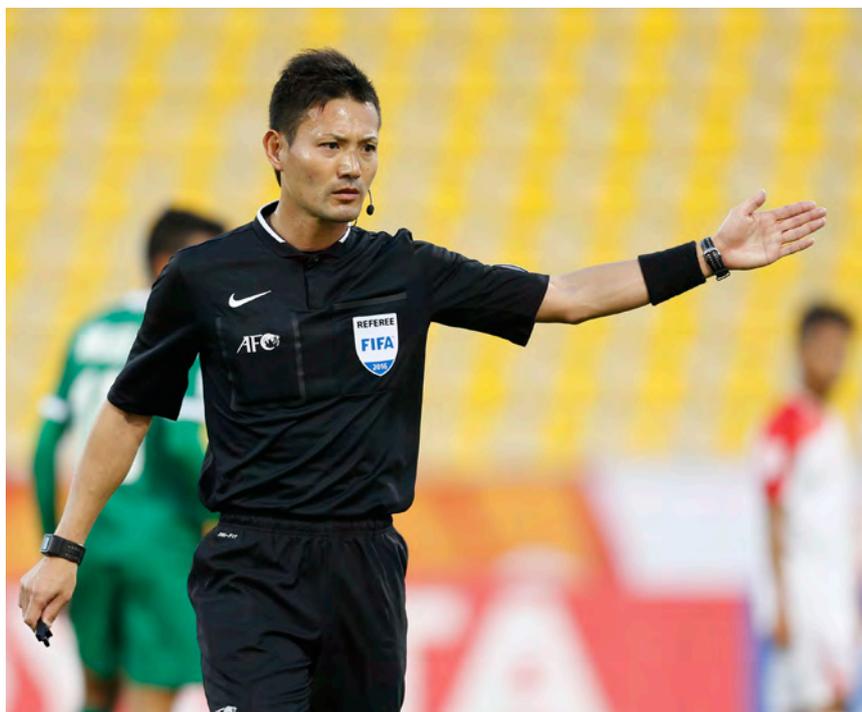


## Preparatory Course: Practical Sessions

From January 8 to 12, preparatory practical training sessions were conducted every morning at the Aspire Stadium's main training field, which was located approximately 500 meters from the hotel. Twenty two players assisted in the practical sessions that covered numerous topics including:

- Referee's positioning
- Foul recognition
- Offside recognition
- Free-kick management
- Standard signalling

The practical training was mainly concentrated on the positioning of referees, with particular focus on the cooperation with the assistant referees and incidents that had happened near the penalty area.



## Daily Match Day Preparation / Physical Conditioning Training

Daily match day preparations were supervised by the Fitness Instructors at the main field. The MD-1 (match day minus one) preparation usually took about 45 min to complete. The Fitness Instructors also conducted the post-match recovery sessions at the hotel's swimming pool and gymnasium, gathering and sharing information on fatigue and heart rate levels. Post-match conditioning plans were also created by the Fitness Instructors and placed on the notice board for officials to implement after their games.



## Daily Practical Training

Practical training sessions were conducted every day following the Technical Instructors review and analysis of the key match incidents in the previous day's matches. The main objective of the practical training was not concerning any incorrect decisions made by the match officials but instead to focus on movement and practice getting into the right positions.

## Daily Match Analysis/Debriefing

Match analysis and debrief sessions that reviewed the major incidents of the previous day's matches were held daily at 1100hrs. The purpose of these sessions was to identify any areas that the match officials needed to correct and to help all the referees and assistant referees improve their knowledge ahead of their next games.

## Match Coordination Meetings

Match Coordination Meetings (MCM) were conducted three times before the start of the AFC U23 Championship, with the MCMs for Group A and Group D conducted independently, while there was a combined MCM for Groups B and C.

Another MCM was conducted after the



Group Stage covering the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final. The meeting with officials from the participating teams dealt with numerous topics including: the purpose and use of vanishing spray, behaviour in the Technical Area, and the jersey colours of the players.

### Live Video Assessment – Match DVD

With the support and coordination of Alkass TV, match recordings directly from the host broadcaster, Mr Ali Altraifi and an AFC Video Analyst reviewed the matches live at the broadcaster's station and chose the relevant clips for the daily match debriefings. The AFC's Audio Visual Unit also provided DVDs of the matches for the instructors to review.



### Instructors Technical Meeting

Technical Instructors met at 2230hrs every match day to decide what clips would be used for match debriefing sessions. They met again prior to the next day's debriefing meetings to coordinate which incidents would be highlighted during that sessions' analysis.

### Equipment

The AFC provided match officials with the beep flags and the communication system to assist them in the management of the match on the field.

### The Vanishing Spray

The vanishing spray was used during the matches as an effective method to ensure players complied with the 10 yards distance during free kick management.

### Heart Monitoring System

The AFC used the heart monitoring system to ensure that the match officials were in good physical condition during the match and throughout the competition.

### Release of Match Officials

After the last match day of Group Stage (MD6), six referees and nine assistant

referees were released from the competition. Three more referees and four assistant referees departed after the semi-finals, leaving four referees and six assistant referees to cover the third-place playoff and the final.



# MATCH OFFICIALS' PERFORMANCE

## Physical Fitness

The referees and assistant referees displayed high levels of fitness during the tournament thanks to the physical training and conditioning programmes conducted by the Fitness Instructors. The referees and assistant referees were able to maintain their fitness level at the highest level and did not show any signs of fatigue throughout the competition.

## Technical

A number of younger match officials were appointed for the AFC U23 Championship to provide them experience of top level matches, with their exposure to the competition in Qatar helping their development and preparation for future appearances at the highest level of AFC tournaments.

The match officials were very attentive during the practical and theoretical preparatory courses as well as during the match analysis/debriefing sessions. They were always ready to apply the instructions given by the technical instructors when they were on the field of play.

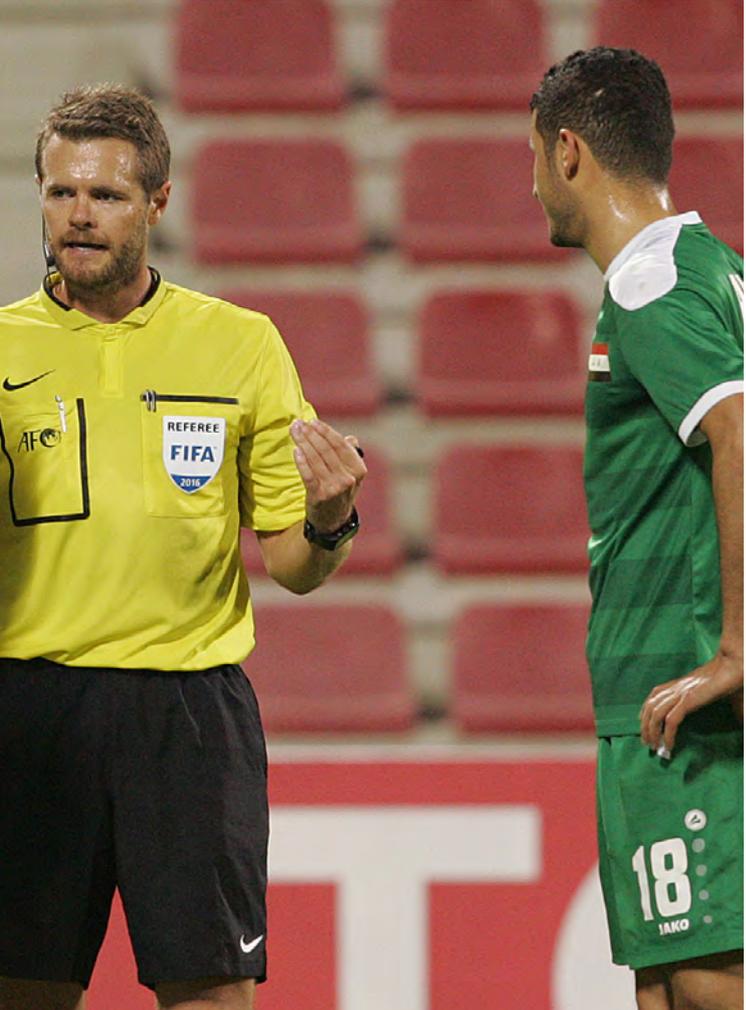
Over the 32 matches there were 108 cautions, one second caution and four sending-offs and most of the decisions made throughout the tournament were correct. During the competition, however, there were incidents of incorrect decisions in the penalty area and in signalling for offside. These situations were immediately analysed during the post-match debriefings and there were no subsequent issues.

## Conclusion

The conditions and facilities at the competition venue enabled excellent cooperation and teamwork amongst the match officials, who were able to perform at the highest level during the matches. The instructors were able to share their vast experience and knowledge which helped motivate the referees and assistant referees and contributed to their impressive displays in Doha.

The unwavering support and cooperation of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) also contributed to the strong performances of the match officials, thanks to the provision of the excellent facilities - for fitness test, training sessions, and post-match self-recovery, - as well as the assistance and support in the logistical aspects of the tournament.





# Match Officials' for the AFC U23 Championship final:

Teams: Korea Republic vs Japan

Date: January 30, 2016

Venue: Abdullah Bin Khalifa Stadium, Doha





QATAR 2016

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