

# Canadian Afghan Sports Report

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Afghan Cup (September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011):

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### Who was the actual winner?

CASA's answer: THE AFGHAN COMMUNITY

Although there was little complications & some disagreements in this year's annual sporting event (especially in the soccer section), yet it is extremely amazing to see so many Afghans coming together for CASA's annual event "*The Canadian Afghan Cup*". According to CASA & its supportive/intelligent/community oriented well wishers, this year's Canadian Afghan Cup (September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011) was even more successful comparing to last 4 years. The teams & players participated from all over Canada & United States (Virginia & New York). During these 4 days of intense competitions, CASA realized that the number of teams is increasing (especially in the volleyball section) and they are becoming more competitive, more organized, and more goal oriented.

Every team in the tournament wanted to be the successor, the winner, the champion, but what CASA believes is that the true winner is the Afghan community, the Afghan youth, and the Afghan families who came during these 4 days of sporting event to support all the teams. CASA believes that by just being part of the tournament is a success story itself. It is not an easy task to gather players together and to convince many families to let their children play in these competitive games. Yet our thanks and appreciation goes to all those coaches & managers that took their time off from their work, family, kids, and took the initiative to make a team and join the "Canadian Afghan Cup".

Apart from sporting event (Soccer, Basketball & Volleyball), the Canadian Afghan Cup is also another way of seeing our friends whom we do not see on a regular basis. We all know that life & work schedule in western countries is not how it was back in Afghanistan. Therefore, the Canadian Afghan Cup tournaments are a great way of visiting your friends & families under a healthy roof. It was also the celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr where we all visited our friends and relatives.

CASA understands that some teams in Ontario couldn't participate in this year's annual event due to the holy month of Ramadan (which started on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011) & lack of practice. Hence, CASA's next indoor soccer tournament (5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Afghan Cup – Indoor) is taking place at the Hangar Downsview Park on December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This event will be for AFGHANS ONLY and teams are requested to contact CASA as soon as possible to guarantee their spot. The deadline to register your teams for indoor soccer tournament is November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

This year, the participating teams were:

## **SOCCER**

- 1. Toronto AFC** (Toronto)
- 2. Jawedaan FC** (Toronto)
- 3. Eagles FC** (Richmond Hill)
- 4. Cayotes FC** (Toronto)
- 5. ASF Ariana FC** (Virginia & New York)
- 6. Balkh FC** (Toronto)
- 7. Guelph AFC** (Guelph)
- 8. United Sabbah** (Montréal)
- 9. Toronto Tigers** (Toronto)
- 10. Ariana United** (Richmond Hill)

Each team played 3 games in the first round of the competition. After the first round, the top 8 teams made it to the quarter finals. Balkh FC surprised many teams by achieving number 1 spot out of 10 participating teams in round 1.

The ranking after 1<sup>st</sup> round was as follows:

- 1. Balkh FC\*** (2 wins 1 tie)
- 2. Guelph AFC\*** (2 wins, 1 tie)
- 3. Ariana United\*** (2 wins, 1 loss)
- 4. Cayotes FC\*** (1 win, 1 tie, 1 loss)
- 5. Toronto Tigers\*** (1 win, 1 tie, 1 loss)
- 6. United Sabbah\*** (1 win, 2 losses)
- 7. Toronto AFC\*** (3 ties)
- 8. ASF Ariana FC\*** (1 win, 2 losses)
- 9. Jawedaan FC** ( 1 win, 2 losses)
- 10. Eagles FC** (2 tie, 1 loss)

## **THE QUARTER FINALS:**

- 1. ASF Ariana FC** defeated **Balkh FC** (4-2)
- 2. Guelph AFC** defeated **Toronto AFC** (3-2)
- 3. Ariana United** defeated **United Sabbah** (3-2)
- 4. Toronto Tigers** defeated **Cayotes FC** (2-1 penalty shootouts)

#### THE SEMI FINALS:

1. ASF Ariana FC defeated Toronto Tigers (3-0)
2. Guelph AFC defeated Ariana United (4-0)

#### FINALS:

ASF Ariana FC defeated Guelph AFC (3-0).

**Congratulations to ASF Ariana FC for becoming the champion of the 5<sup>TH</sup> Annual Canadian Afghan Cup 2011 – Outdoor Soccer.**

#### THE AWARDS:

1. First place team: ASF Ariana FC
2. Second place team: Guelph AFC
3. Most Disciplined team: Eagles FC
4. Most Valuable player: Ismail Akbary of Guelph AFC
5. Top Scorer: Mohammad Basir Mashriqi of ASF Ariana FC
6. Best Young Player: Ali Mohammadi of Guelph AFC
7. Best Goal Keeper: Faisal Ayubi of Balkh FC

#### BASKETBALL

1. **Kabura** (Toronto)
2. **Pashtana Ballers** (Toronto)
3. **Steel City Warriors** (Hamilton)
4. **Ka-Bulls** (Toronto)
5. **Afghan Invaders** (Toronto)
6. **Afghan Titans** (Toronto)
7. **Ottawa Lions** (Ottawa)
8. **Afghan RBG** (Guelph)

Each team played 3 games in the first round of the competition. After the first round, the top 4 teams made it to the semi-finals. The top team in group A was Steel City Warriors followed by Kabura (2<sup>nd</sup> place). The top team in group B was Ottawa Lions followed by Afghan Invaders (2<sup>nd</sup> place).

#### SEMI FINALS:

1. Afghan Invaders defeated Steel City Warriors
2. Ottawa Lions defeated Kabura

## FINALS:

Ottawa Lions defeated last year's champion Afghan Invaders to get the title of the Canadian Afghan Cup 2011 Basketball Champions.

**Congratulations to the undefeated team Ottawa Lions.**

## THE AWARDS:

1. First place team: Ottawa Lions
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> place team: Afghan Invaders
3. Most Disciplined team: Steel City Warriors
4. Most Valuable Player: Abdullah Tahiri of Afghan Invaders
5. Best Young Player: Omid Nadi

## VOLLEYBALL

1. **Kabura**
2. **Ottawa**
3. **Brotheraan**
4. **Shaheen e Afghan**
5. **Overkill**
6. **Arya**
7. **Omed e Afghan**
8. **Pamir**
9. **Upsling**
10. **Gulestani**

Each team played 3 games (each game consisted of best of 3 games) in the first round of the competition. After the first round, the top 4 teams made it to the semi-finals.

1. Kabura won all their games
2. Ottawa won all their games
3. Shaheen won 2 out of 3
4. Upsling won 2 out of 3

## SEMI FINALS:

1. Kabura defeated Upsling
2. Ottawa defeated Shaheen

## FINALS:

Last year's 2<sup>nd</sup> place team Ottawa defeated 3 times Canadian Afghan Cup Champion Kabura 3-2 (best of 5 games).

**Congratulations to undefeated team Ottawa for becoming the champion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Afghan Cup 2011 – Volleyball.**

**THE AWARDS:**

1. First place team: Ottawa
2. Second place team: Kabura
3. Most Valuable Player: Shabir Sakha of Ottawa

NOTE: Nothing in the world is perfect, but what we all can do is to make it better. There were some teams that were not fully satisfied with the event, the rules and regulations, and timing, much more. Yet those teams need to realize that we can not have 10 champions if we have 10 participating teams.

For more information, please join CASA's fan page (Canadian Afghan Sports Association) or visit our website at <http://www.CanadianAfghanSports.org>

The next upcoming event:

- Canadian Afghan Cup 2011 - Indoor Soccer & Basketball (Dec 24, 25, 2011)
- Afghan Tennis Tournament (TBA)
- Afghan Bowling Tournament (TBA)
- Afghan Pool/Billiard Tournament (March 2012)
- Afghan Chess Tournament (March 2012)
- Canadian Afghan Gold Cup – Indoor Soccer (April 7, 8, 2012)
- Canadian Afghan Cup 2012 – Outdoor (August 31 – September 3, 2012)