Palestine 3-2 Afghanistan in AFC Beach Soccer Championship

KARL - Afghanistan suffered defeat against Palestine who claimed a narrow 3-2 victory in AFC Beach Soccer Championship in Thailand on Saturday. With the win, Palestine entered quarter-finals stage of the tournament as the first group A team. Afghanistan must pick up points in their next game which will be against Thailand.

The first goal of the game was scored by Afghan captain Sami Mohammad, who broke the deadlock with a classy diving header, just 10 seconds before the break. Palestine’s Fad Al Aawi hit the equaliser in the 20th minute. Real Madrid hit the post with a superb inventive 20-minute backheel on the volley, then popped up another minute to toe Afghan who slammed the ball past Palestian keeper Fakry to make it 2-1 to Palestine.

Palestine won minutes away from defeat, but Mohammad Hassan gave them a lifeline when he fired the ball home from close range to squelch the 33rd minute, before Al Na’im dramatically sealed all three points when he drilled home a low free-kick with just over one minute remaining.

“This game was good, it was also difficult for us and I congratulate the Palestine team. The game was good today in terms of quality, but I also knew we could win. We have shown the level of performance and fighting spirit of the Afghan forces and prove that Afghan forces and the people of Afghanistan would continue to this mission.”

On his turn, President Ghani bailed Gen. Votel for services for Afghanistan and support of the United States with the Afghan government in various field.

The president also noted that the flight against terrorism would continue to end the 40 years of crisis in Afghanistan and... (More on P.118)