

Radhi Shenaishil announces 38-man preliminary squad for WCQ



There are three notable absences from Radhi Shenaishil's recently announced preliminary squad. Osama Rashid, who recently moved to the Portuguese second division, was expected by many to be given a chance in midfield but Radhi has continued to leave him out of the set-up.

Ayman Hussein, whose goal qualified Iraq for the Olympics last year, is the top scorer of the Iraqi League this season and is on fire - but he misses out after picking up an injury recently. The third absentee isn't a surprise, but it still continues to be talked about by Iraqi fans and that is Yaser Kasim. Iraq's best player just two years ago is now nowhere to be seen in the national team and Radhi has stated that Yaser does not have the passion to play for the country anymore.

Radhi has called up a number of players who have been playing well in the Iraqi League, such as young prodigy Hussein Ali and defender Ahmed Abdul-Ridha, while there are recalls for attackers Hammadi Ahmed and Amjad Kalaf and a questionable first call-up for Dutch fourth division player Ali Akla.

This 38-man squad will soon be cut down to 23 players in time for the Australia and Saudi Arabia games. Here is the preliminary squad in full:

Name	Position	Club
Mohammed Gassid (captain)	Goalkeeper	Al-Zawraa
Mohammed Hameed	Goalkeeper	Al-Shorta
Ali Abdul-Hassan	Goalkeeper	Al-Talaba
Jalal Hassan	Goalkeeper	Naft Al-Wasat
Fahad Talib	Goalkeeper	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Ali Yaseen	Goalkeeper	Al-Naft
Ahmed Ibrahim	Defender	Emirates Club (UAE)
Rebin Sulaka	Defender	Elverum Fotball (Norway)
Saad Natiq	Defender	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Mustafa Nadhim	Defender	Al-Minaa
Ali Lateef	Defender	Al-Shorta
Ali Faez	Defender	Caykur Rizespor (Turkey)
Dhurgham Ismail	Defender	Caykur Rizespor (Turkey)
Ali Adnan	Defender	Udinese (Italy)
Ali Bahjat	Defender	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Waleed Salem	Defender	Al-Shorta
Alaa Mhawi	Defender	Al-Zawraa
Hussam Kadhim	Defender	Al-Naft
Ahmed Abdul-Ridha	Defender	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Saad Abdul-Amir	Midfielder	Al-Ahli (Saudi Arabia)
Brwa Nouri	Midfielder	Ostersunds SK (Sweden)
Ahmed Yasin	Midfielder	Muaitheer SC (Qatar) on loan from AIK (Sweden)
Bashar Rasan	Midfielder	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Mazen Fayadh	Midfielder	Al-Naft
Amjad Attwan	Midfielder	Naft Al-Wasat
Hussein Ali	Midfielder	Al-Zawraa
Justin Meram	Midfielder	Columbus Crew (USA)
Ali Husni	Midfielder	Al-Arabi (Kuwait)
Osama Ali	Midfielder	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Amjad Kalaf	Midfielder	Al-Zawraa
Mahdi Kamil	Midfielder	Al-Shorta
Humam Tariq	Midfielder	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Mohammed Jabbar Shokan	Forward	Al-Minaa

Name	Position	Club
Abdul-Zahra		
Mohanad Abdul-Raheem	Forward	Al-Zawraa
Hammadi Ahmed	Forward	Al-Quwa Al-Jawiya
Ali Akla	Forward	VV IJsselmeervogels (Netherlands)
Jassim Mohammed	Forward	Al-Shorta