



Barwa Bank unites to celebrate National Sports Day

Doha, February 13, 2013 - Barwa Bank, Qatar's fastest growing Shari'ah compliant banking service provider, celebrated National Sports Day with the Barwa Bank Group (BBG) 2k Fun Run and interdepartmental six-a-side football finals, with family and friends invited to join together and show their support, at Qatar Sports Club on Tuesday.

The day got off to an energetic start as BBG running club members gathered at the starting lines for a keenly fought 2k running race. Cheered on by enthusiastic supporters, Keith Bradley, GM and Head of Banking Group finished in first place in the over 45 years category, while Amgad Younes, COO was the runner up followed by Maharoof Kohinoor, Head Of Business Audit. In the 30-45 years category, Amin Awad, from Operations took first place, followed by Wael Al Haddad from First Finance Company and Siva Ramesh of General Services. The under 30 race was won by Ibrahim Omar, son of Omar Ali from Barwa Bank, while first runner up was Mukhtar Abdel Lateef from Internal Controls and second runner up Sultan Maraghi from Human Resources Department.

The activities then saw the culmination of a football tournament, launched earlier this year for all BBG employees and their sons under 18 years old, with the finalist Credit team v's First Finance Company battling it out for first place. Credit won the tournament, with four goals to two from First Finance Company who was named winner: first runner up. This was followed by Operations in third and Retail in fourth place. The tournament's Top Scorer was Sultan Abdullah Al-Maraghi and Best Goalkeeper, Muhammed Safwat Taha.

Side activities arranged for BBG staff and their children included a bouncy castle, face painting and other games with prizes.

Steve Troop, Barwa Bank CEO commented on the day's proceedings, "Today has been a great success and we're delighted to see our employees' and their families join together in the uniting spirit of sport. Healthy, motivated staff are good for the bank and good for our customers. We've seen individual effort and teamwork today - both are things that we encourage in the office and life in general."

BBG has taken National Sports Day as the opportunity to launch a comprehensive staff fitness program intended to engage all employees in year round sports and encourage regular physical activity both in and outside the workplace. It is also sponsoring Ziyad Rahim, Head of Market Risk at Barwa Bank in his Marathon Grand Slam as he prepares to complete a marathon on all seven continents of the world and the North Pole.

Barwa Bank's commitment to supporting sports in Qatar has been evident in its CSR activities since its debut; organising the first Ramadan indoor football championship in Qatar in collaboration with Qatar Charity, as well as sponsoring a local Squash tournament in its continued collaboration with the Qatar Squash Federation.