ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 Final: Vietnam Seize 2-0 First-Leg Lead Over Thailand

Description

default watermark

Defending champions Vietnam have taken a commanding step towards retaining the ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 final crown, beating Thailand 2-0 in the first leg at Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok on Saturday night.

Two second-half strikes from substitutes Nguyá» n Hai Long and Nguyá» n Quang Háº£i handed Kim Sang-sikâ??s side a two-goal cushion to carry into Wednesdayâ??s return leg in Hanoi, leaving seven-time champions Thailand with a mountain to climb if they are to reclaim the regional title.

How the first leg unfolded

The tie stayed goalless through a cagey opening hour before Vietnamâ??s bench changed the game. Nguyá» n Hai Long broke the deadlock in the 62nd minute, and Nguyá» n Quang Háº£i doubled the lead just seven minutes later to silence the Bangkok crowd.

Action from the ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 final first leg in Bangkok. Photo: SPORTFIVE

Player of the Match and the road to Hanoi

Vietnam goalkeeper Patrik Le Giang was named Hyundai Player of the Match after a composed display that kept Thailand at bay. It caps a strong run for Kim Sang-sikâ??s side, who booked their place in the final after edging past their semi-final opponents earlier in the tournament.

Fixture â?? Final, Leg 2

Vietnam v Thailand, Má»¹ Ä•Ã¬nh National Stadium, Hanoi â?? Wednesday, 26 August, 8pm local time (1pm GMT). Vietnam lead 2-0 on aggregate.

A milestone edition

This yearâ??s tournament, which set up the Vietnam-Thailand final, marks the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN Hyundai Cup, the jewel in the crown of Southeast Asian football. Playmaker Nguyá» n Quang Háº£i will again be one to watch as Vietnam look to close out the tie on home soil.

Vietnam need only avoid a heavy defeat in Hanoi to lift the trophy, while Thailand must overturn a two-goal deficit against a side that has yet to concede a goal that mattered in this final.

default watermark

Photos: SPORTFIVE, free to publish with coverage of this media release.

Date Created
23/08/2026
Author
jadeyeo