



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

Description

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 Nguyễn Hải Long and Nguyễn Quang Hải handed Kim Sang-sik's side a two-goal cushion to carry into Wednesday'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 Vietnam's bench changed the game. Nguyễn Hải Long broke the deadlock in the 62nd minute, and Nguyễn Quang Hải 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-sik's side, who booked their place in the final after [edging past their semi-final opponents](#) earlier in the tournament.

Fixture Final, Leg 2

Vietnam v Thailand, MÃ»nh National Stadium, Hanoi Wednesday, 26 August, 8pm local time (1pm GMT). Vietnam lead 2-0 on aggregate.

A milestone edition

This year'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 [Nguyễn Quang Hải](#) 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.

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

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