

Lion City Sailors ACL Two Preview: Record 5-0 Win and the Trip to BG Pathum United

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The Lion City Sailors ACL Two campaign has found a fierce rhythm. Mark Jacksonâ??s side thrashed Adelaide United 5-0 at Jalan Besar on 5 November, their biggest-ever win on the continental stage, and now head to BG Pathum United for Group F Matchday 5 on Thursday 26 November 2026.

Lion City Sailors ACL Two form: a record 5-0 and seven straight wins

The numbers are dizzying. The Sailors have now won seven consecutive matches in all competitions and kept six consecutive clean sheets. The 5-0 beat their previous best continental margin, a 4-0 win over Thailandâ??s Muangthong United in February 2025, and it came after a 90-minute delay for the Lightning Warning System before kick-off. Not that the delay slowed anyone down.

Matthias PhaÃ«ton scored in the fifth minute with a stunning solo run through the Adelaide backline, then added a second in the 75th. Bailey Wright pounced on a rebound in the 18th minute for his first ACL Two goal since the 2024/25 campaign, Kyoga Nakamura scored his first Sailors goal in the 41st minute, and Ilhan Fandi tapped in a rebound in the 71st after Ryhan Stewartâ??s pass. PhaÃ«ton even had a chance at a hat-trick from the spot, only to miss the penalty, the one blemish on a near-perfect night.



Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

How the Sailors reached the top of Group F

It did not start smoothly. The Sailors opened Group F with a 1-1 home draw against BG Pathum United, then won away at Tai Po in Hong Kong and again at Adelaide United, before the 5-0 return fixture. That is ten points from four games, enough to sit top of the group heading into a rematch with the Thai side.

The Adelaide double

The 2-0 win in Australia a week earlier was historic in itself, and Jackson made just one change for the reverse fixture, with Lennart Thy getting his first start of the season in place of Antonio Mance. Thy was involved in the build-up to Nakamuraâ??s goal, a flick that fell perfectly for the midfielder. Jackson called the display â??clinicalâ?•, and admitted the team was getting used to long pre-match delays.



Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

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Defensively, the picture is just as encouraging. Adelaide, who arrived with a youthful squad after a heavy run of travel, managed few real chances beyond a Juan MuÃ±iz effort in the 27th minute that Victor Aznar denied, and Aznar later stopped Fabian Talladira from close range in the 83rd. Jacksonâ??s team has also been beating opponents with patience: the Sailors had to wait out the delay, stay switched on and then score five. That composure will be tested in Thailand, where the home crowd will expect a response to the earlier draw. It is the sort of away test that will show whether this run is a streak or a genuine step up in Asia.

The Singapore core behind the run

Singapore fans will notice how many Lions are driving this success. Ilhan Fandi and Ryhan Stewart combined for the fourth goal, and club captain Hariss Harun came on after Wright went off. Ten Sailors were also called up for the national teamâ??s Paraguay and Brazil friendlies at the National Stadium this month, among them Hariss, Ryhan, Ilhan, Hami Syahin, Kyoga Nakamura, Song Uiyoung, Lionel Tan, Glenn Kweh, Farhan Zulkifli and Shawal Anuar. Our Singapore v Brazil preview covered that Lions camp in more detail.


Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

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What to watch at BG Pathum United

- **The rematch:** BG Pathum United were the only side to stop the Sailors in this group, in that 1-1 draw at Jalan Besar on Matchday 1.
- **Clean-sheet streak:** Victor Aznar is chasing a seventh straight shutout.
- **PhaÃ«tonâ??s form:** seven goals in his first 11 Sailors appearances, and a point to prove after the penalty miss.
- **Fixture congestion:** the Sailors host Geylang International in the Singapore Premier League on Sunday 22 November, then face Young Lions on 29 November. Read our Lion City Sailors v Geylang International preview for that one.

A result in Thailand would keep the Sailors firmly in the knockout race. For more local football, see our Shopee Cup preview and the full Little Big Red Dot Sports section.

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