

Sailors beat BG Pathum 3-0 to win ACL Two Group F

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Sailors beat BG Pathum 3-0 in Pathum Thani on Thursday night to win Group F and book a place in the AFC Champions League Two Round of 16, with a game to spare. Ilhan Fandi, Hugo Gomes and Matthias Phaeton scored as Singaporeâ??s champions made history.



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The Sailors celebrate a ninth straight win in all competitions. Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

Sailors beat BG Pathum 3-0: how the win was built

The Lion City Sailors arrived at the True BG Stadium on 26 November 2026 needing a result to seal top spot in Group F, and left having delivered their ninth straight win in all competitions. It was also the Sailorsâ?? eighth consecutive clean sheet, a number that tells you how well drilled Mark Jacksonâ??s side now are.

Ilhan Fandi scores against his old club

There was a late change to the line-up. Ilhan Fandi only learnt he would lead the line when Lennart Thy picked up an injury in the warm-up. The Singapore international made the most of his opportunity, meeting a low cross from Diogo Costa and firing into the bottom corner with his second touch after just five minutes. The strike silenced the home crowd of 5,517 and came against the club where Ilhan scored seven goals in all competitions in the 2024/25 season.

â??When I went into the dressing room, I was asked if I was ready and you always have to be when called upon,â?• Ilhan said. He added that the team needed to stay humble and keep its foot on the gas.

The hosts push, but the Sailors hold firm

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BG Pathum showed their threat. Bailey Wright, who recently became the latest Sailors centurion, made a last-ditch challenge to deny Chanathip Songkrasin in the 13th minute, and Marin Jurina was close to turning in a low cross. In first-half stoppage time Matheus Costa finally got past Jorge Karseladze, who had been in control for most of the half, and Jurina hit the base of the post. The Sailors went in a goal to the good.

After the restart, newly appointed BG Pathum head coach Peerapong Pichitchotirat made changes, and Jurina thought he had marked his birthday with an equaliser in the 65th minute, only for the offside flag to go up. The Sailors responded. Ryhan Stewart came on for the shoulder-troubled Diogo and nearly made an immediate impact with a delivery to Matthias, and in the 73rd minute the lead was doubled.



The bench joins in the celebrations in Pathum Thani. Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

Hugo and Matthias seal Singaporeâ??s night in Thailand

Hugo Gomes rose to meet a Giovanni Haag corner and powered a header past goalkeeper Saranon Anuin. It was the centre-backâ??s fourth goal in nine appearances across all competitions, and he ran straight to the dugout to celebrate with the substitutes and staff, a neat snapshot of the unity in this squad.

Shawal Anuar replaced Ilhan in the closing stages and drew a good save from Saranon in the 85th minute, before Giovanni curled a free-kick narrowly wide. Then, in the 90th minute, Matthias Phaeton settled the contest with a thunderous strike for his fourth ACL Two goal of the campaign. The Guadeloupe international was named Man of the Match, and he nearly added another in stoppage time when his effort hit the woodwork. At the other end, Victor Aznar saved with his legs to deny Raniel and keep the clean sheet.

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Sailors players celebrate a goal in Thailand. Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

History for Singapore football, and what comes next

The victory made the Sailors the first Singaporean club to win all three away matches in an ACL Two group stage. They are also the only side in the East Zone to do so this season. Jackson pointed out that the first meeting with BG Pathum, back in September, ended 1-1, and said the progress since has been technical, tactical and physical. â??The teamâ??s unrecognisable now,â?• he said, adding that good performances come â??by designâ?•, not by coincidence.

We previewed this tie in our BG Pathum United v Lion City Sailors preview, where Ilhanâ??s return to his old club was the headline. It turned out to be the plot of the night.

There is no time to rest. The Sailors look for a tenth straight win in all competitions when they host Young Lions at the Jalan Besar Stadium on Sunday 29 November. The champions are already flying high after their 5-0 win over Geylang International, and the SPL table is tight at the top, as outlined in our SPL Matchweek 8 preview. For more local sport, head to the LBRD Sports section.

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