



Singapore Lions ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026: Squad, Fixtures and the Road to Glory

Description

The wait is almost over. In less than a week, Singapore’s Lions begin their campaign at the **ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026**, the 30th edition of Southeast Asia’s premier international football tournament. With a battle-hardened squad fresh from a demanding Japan training camp, Gavin Lee’s men head into Group A with one goal: reach the knockout rounds and go all the way to glory. Here is everything you need to know.

Singapore Lions ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026: The Squad and Key Players

Head coach **Gavin Lee** has named a focused 24-man squad for the tournament after a centralised training camp that has pushed every selected player to their physical and tactical limits. The group returned from Japan buoyed by the quality of opposition and the clarity of the system. There is real belief in this squad – earned belief, not hollow confidence.

At the heart of Singapore’s midfield sits the indomitable **Hariss Harun**, the nation’s most capped player and its most reliable presence in the engine room. Hariss brings experience, leadership and an ability to dominate the physical contests that Southeast Asian football demands. Alongside him, the creative burden falls on players who have matured significantly over the past 18 months of competitive football.

Up front, the Lions will look to **Ilhan Fandi** to provide the spark in the final third. The young striker has shown his quality at both club and international level and carries the hopes of a nation whenever he pulls on the red and white. Four times winners of this tournament – in 1998, 2004, 2007 and 2012 – Singapore know what it takes to lift the trophy. The question is whether this squad has the collective quality to end a 14-year wait for a fifth title.

Singapore Lions ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 squad preparation vs Mongolia

Singapore Lions in action during their May 2026 friendly against Mongolia, part of their ASEAN Hyundai Cup preparation. Source: Football Association of Singapore official website (fas.org.sg)

Group A Fixtures: Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia Await

Singapore have been drawn in Group A alongside defending champions **Vietnam**, a resurgent **Indonesia** side and **Cambodia**. The group also includes the winner of the play-off between Timor-Leste and Brunei Darussalam. Here are the Lions's key dates:

24 July 2026 vs Singapore vs Cambodia (Away): The Lions open their campaign on the road against Cambodia. A win here is expected and essential. Cambodia have improved in recent tournaments but remain the group's most accessible opponent. Singapore must take maximum points to put pressure on Vietnam and Indonesia from the outset.

31 July 2026 vs Vietnam vs Singapore (Away): The marquee group-stage fixture. Vietnam, the 2024 champions and one of the region's most consistent powers in recent years, host Singapore in what promises to be an atmospheric, high-stakes contest. Kim Sang-sik's side will be driven by the home crowd and the desire to protect their crown. For Singapore, a positive result here – even a draw – could prove decisive in the race for the knockout spots.

7 August 2026 vs Indonesia vs Singapore (Home): The group concludes at home for Singapore, facing an Indonesia side that has never won the ASEAN Championship despite six runners-up finishes. They came close again in 2024, and this year they are widely tipped as one of the favourites. A sold-out atmosphere in Singapore would give the Lions a genuine boost in what could be a winner-takes-all finale to the group stage.

Singapore Lions ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 Group A draw Vietnam Indonesia Cambodia
The ASEAN Hyundai Cup 2026 Group Stage draw places Singapore in Group A. Source: Football Association of Singapore official website (fas.org.sg)

Can Singapore Go All the Way?

The honest answer is: it will not be easy, but it is absolutely possible. Vietnam are the benchmark – organised, experienced and playing with the confidence of champions. Indonesia are dangerous and determined, with a generation of talented young players who have impressed in the Asian World Cup qualifiers. Cambodia cannot be underestimated.

But Singapore have something that matters: momentum. The Japan camp – where they trained against high-quality opposition in demanding conditions – has sharpened this squad in ways that will only become apparent when the tournament kicks off. Gavin Lee has a clear tactical plan, a set of leaders who can manage the game in the crucial moments, and a hunger that has been building since the group stage exit in 2024.

The ASEAN Hyundai Cup is, at its core, about pride. For Singapore fans, it is the tournament that matters most – the one that defines a generation of Lions. Follow [the Lions's Japan camp preparation story](#) and the earlier [Group A analysis](#) for full context, and stay with the [Sports section](#) for

match previews, live updates and full reports throughout the tournament.

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