

Singapore U17s open AFC U17 Asian Cup qualifiers against Guam in Kuala Lumpur today

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Singaporeâ??s Under-17 boys open their AFC U17 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2027 qualifying campaign against Guam at 3.30pm today, 8 November 2026, at the Kuala Lumpur Football Stadium. Head coach Ashraf Ariffin takes a 23-player squad, named by the Football Association of Singapore, into four matches between 8 and 20 November, and only the group winner advances.



The 23-player Singapore Under-17 squad list for the AFC U17 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2027 qualifiers, released on 5 November 2026. Graphic: Football Association of Singapore

One winner, no second chances

Singapore are in Group E with Guam, India, Palestine and hosts Malaysia. The group is played as a single round robin in a centralised format in Kuala Lumpur, and only the group winner goes through to the Finals in May 2027.

Kick-off times are Singapore time. The opener is at the Kuala Lumpur Football Stadium:

- Sunday 8 November: Guam v Singapore, 3.30pm

- Wednesday 11 November: Singapore v India, 9pm
- Saturday 14 November: Malaysia v Singapore, 9pm
- Friday 20 November: Singapore v Palestine, 3.30pm

A squad built on Lion City Sailors

Fourteen of the 23 players are from Lion City Sailors, including all three goalkeepers, Ilhan Rezal, Naqeeb Shawaluddin and Safyn Sahar. Geylang International supply three, defender Lura Allessandro, midfielder Putera Irfan and forward Lura Rafael, and Tampines Rovers one, midfielder Arfan Khafiz.

The other five play their club football away from the Singapore system: defender Joel Tan at DAV Santa Ana, midfielder Aymann Aris at Sport Clube Salgueiros, midfielder Krishav Ram at Leixoes Sports Club, and midfielder Lai Keng Lum and forward Aidan Irfan, who are both at Club Madrid City.

Nine of the squad are students at St Josephâ??s Institution (International). Seven played at the AFF U17 Championship in April, so 16 are new to this level of international football with the team.

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Under-17 squad member Aufa Sutrisno, pictured during the FIFA U-15 World Cup and Festival 2026 in October 2026. Photo: Football Association of Singapore

Ashrafâ??s brief

â??Our objective is clear â?? we want to be competitive in every match and give ourselves the best possible chance of qualifying for the Finals. We will take it one game at a time,â?• Ashraf said on 7 November.

â??We may be up against teams with strong credentials, but we must not be daunted by the occasion,â?• he said when the squad was named on 5 November. â??We want the players to embrace the challenge, learn from these experiences and show what they are capable of as a team.â?•

Ashraf also led Singaporeâ??s Under-15s at the inaugural FIFA U-15 World Cup and Festival in Baku, where they played 10 eight-a-side matches across seven days in a 189-team field.

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Head coach Ashraf Ariffin with Singaporeâ??s Under-15s at the FIFA U-15 World Cup and Festival in Baku, October 2026. Photo: Football Association of Singapore

After Guam, Singapore play India on Wednesday at 9pm, the second of their four Group E fixtures.

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