

Zimbabwe pull out of the Singlife Nations Cup, leaving the Vandas four games from Sunday at OCBC Arena

Description

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The Singlife Nations Cup goes ahead with five teams after Zimbabwe pulled out three days before the start, leaving the Singapore Vandas four round-robin games at OCBC Arena from Sunday 29 November, and a final on Saturday 5 December if they finish in the top two. Netball Singapore received formal notice of the withdrawal on 26 November, with the Zimbabwe Netball Association citing financial constraints that affected the teamâ??s ability to travel.



The Singapore Vandas at Waterfall Cavern, Mandai Wildlife West, in a photo issued with Netball Singaporeâ??s 18 November 2026 media release; the shoot date is not given. Photo: Netball Singapore

Zimbabwe, ranked 11th in the world, were one of the two headline visitors. Samoa, ranked 13th, now head the visiting field, with the UAE at 25th and Malaysia at 34th.

Daniel Ho, chief executive of Netball Singapore, called the withdrawal â??an unfortunate development, particularly so close to the start of the tournamentâ?•. Forfeitures and world ranking points are being settled with World Netball.

The new schedule

Every team now plays four games, and the Vandas have Monday off. The new schedule replaces the six-team fixtures in our 9 November preview, which had Singapore playing Zimbabwe on 30 November. Their week:

- Sunday 29 November, 3pm: Singapore v UAE, after the 2pm opening ceremony
- Tuesday 1 December, 7pm: Samoa v Singapore
- Wednesday 2 December, 7pm: Singapore v Singapore A
- Friday 4 December, 7pm: Singapore v Malaysia

Singapore A play Samoa, the UAE and Malaysia at 5pm from Sunday to Tuesday. Thursday is a rest day. On Saturday the third-place match starts at noon, the final between the top two is at 2pm and the closing ceremony follows at 3.30pm.

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Singlife
NATIONS CUP2026
FIXTURES
29.11 SUN
2pm OPENING CEREMONY
3pm Singapore vs UAE
5pm Samoa vs Singapore A
30.11 MON
5pm Singapore A vs UAE
7pm Samoa vs Malaysia
1.12 TUE
5pm Malaysia vs Singapore A
7pm Samoa vs Singapore
2.12 WED
5pm Malaysia vs UAE
7pm Singapore vs Singapore A
3.12 THU
Rest Day / Supporting Activities
4.12 FRI
5pm UAE vs Samoa
7pm Singapore vs Malaysia
5.12 SAT
12pm 3rd vs 4th
2pm 1st vs 2nd
3.30pm CLOSING CEREMONY

The revised fixtures Netball Singapore published on 26 November 2026, after Zimbabweâ??s withdrawal. Graphic: Netball Singapore

Malaysia, and three new Vandas

The Friday night game carries the most edge. Malaysia beat the Vandas in their last two meetings, at the 2025 SEA Games and at this yearâ??s Asian Netball Championships, even though Singapore went on to defend that Asian title, having also won it in 2024.

Head coach Tara Steel has named 12, led by captain Toh Kai Wei with Angelina Lim and Rachel Ling as vice-captains. Charlotte Lee, Anna Macinnes and Faithmaria Ifeoma McKevin Lawrence make their Nations Cup debuts for the Vandas after playing for Singapore A at earlier editions. Lawrence was named Most Valuable Player in the final of the 2026 Asian Netball Championships.

â??We also have another opportunity to face Malaysia, which always brings an added element of rivalry and excitement,â?• Steel said. â??After our recent results against them, the players will certainly be motivated to put in a stronger performance.â?•

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Singapore A are captained by Miki Ng, with Alexandra Wood in for the injured Sarah Lim since 11 November.

Perthâ??s West Coast Fever, the 2022 Super Netball champions, are also bringing clinics, coaching workshops, an open training session and a fan meet-and-greet, with dates still to be published.

Tickets and getting there

Single-day tickets cost S$18 for adults, S$14 for concession (students with valid ID and seniors aged 60 and above) and S$12 for children aged five to 12, rising to S$28, S$18 and S$16 on finals day. Groups of 10 or more pay S$16 a head (S$24 on Saturday). An adult season pass is S$94, which is S$24 less than buying all six match days separately.

Booking fees are S$1 a ticket under S$20 and S$3 from S$20 to S$49.99, through Ticketmaster or its hotline on +65 6018 7645. Children under five go in free on a parentâ??s lap.

Doors open an hour before play. Sundayâ??s session runs 2pm to 6.30pm, the weekday sessions 5pm to 8.30pm and finals day noon to 5.30pm. The nearest station is Stadium MRT (CC6) on the Circle Line. Roads around The Kallang will be closed for the BYD Singapore International Marathon, which runs from 4 to 6 December, so leave extra time for the Friday and Saturday sessions. For anyone who cannot get there, the tournament is broadcast locally on meWATCH.

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