

Umairah Hamdan named Lionesses captain as Ishida picks 28 for the Bangladesh friendlies on 1 and 5 December

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Umairah Hamdan will captain Singaporeâ??s womenâ??s national team in two friendlies against Bangladesh next month, after head coach Mihoko Ishida named a 28-player squad on 20 November. The Lionesses meet Bangladesh behind closed doors at Bishan Stadium on Tuesday 1 December, then again at Jalan Besar Stadium on Saturday 5 December at 7.30pm, the one fans can watch.

A defender with the armband

Umairah is a 24-year-old Lion City Sailors defender with 36 caps. She led the side at the AFF Womenâ??s Cup in July, where the Lionesses finished third and booked a place at the 2027 ASEAN Womenâ??s Championship. Ishida had already seen her captain her club and made the call after talking it through with her staff.

â??At the AFF Womenâ??s Cup, she always communicated the teamâ??s ideas clearly and played a very important role for us,â?• Ishida said.

Umairah called the appointment an honour. â??I learnt that being a captain is not just about leading when things are going well, but also about lifting the team during challenging moments,â?• she said.

New faces, recalls and a return

More than two-thirds of the squad played at the AFF Womenâ??s Cup. The rest were picked from last monthâ??s Womenâ??s Premier League All-Stars sessions, the national U16 side that played the AFC U17 Womenâ??s Asian Cup on home soil in October, and footage of players based overseas.

- New faces: defender Kylie Loo of So Cal Blues in the United States, IMG Academy midfielder Aria Romano, who holds an Unleash The Roar! scholarship, and Sailors forward Amelia Tan. Romano and Tan were both born in 2011.

- Recalls: goalkeeper Talia Sachet, midfielder Raudhah Kamis and forward Lila Tan, back in the national set-up for the first time in three years.
- Back after two years: Putri Syaliza, 23, who has been medically cleared to play. She has signed for West Torrens Birkalla in South Australia and joins them after this window.
- Abroad: goalkeeper Izairida Shakira, 19, has signed for Chonburi FC in Thailandâ??s Womenâ??s League 1. She was the match-winner when Singapore beat Cambodia in Julyâ??s third-place play-off.

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The 28-player Lionesses squad for the Bangladesh friendlies, by position. Chart: Little Big Red Dot

Farhanah Ruhaizat is the most capped player in the group with 54, and Danelle Tan of Japanâ??s Nippon TV Tokyo Verdy Beleza has the most goals, 14 in 32 games.

A tough benchmark

Bangladesh sit 106th in the FIFA Womenâ??s World Ranking, against Singaporeâ??s 151st, and both games count towards the ranking. The two sides last met in Dhaka in December 2023, when Bangladesh won 3-0 and 8-0. These are also the Lionessesâ?? first home matches of the year, and Ishidaâ??s first in charge at home.

â??The biggest theme for us is to be brave, take risks and not be afraid of making mistakes,â?• Ishida said. The ASEAN Womenâ??s Championship in April 2027 and the SEA Games in Malaysia in September 2027 come next.

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Singaporeâ??s goalkeeper celebrates during the AFF Womenâ??s Cup 2026 third-place play-off against Cambodia in July 2026. File photo, not from the Bangladesh friendlies. Photo: Football Association of Singapore

The 1 December game at Bishan is closed to the public, so 5 December is the only chance to see the new-look squad in person. Tickets cost S$15 for adults and S$7.50 for concessions, plus a S$1 fee,

and are sold online only, with no sales at the stadium on match day. Our ticket guide for the 5 December match has the full details.

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