



AFC
FUTSAL
CHAMPIONSHIP
CHINESE TAIPEI 2018



TECHNICAL REPORT AND STATISTICS

ONE ASIA • ONE GOAL



FOREWORD FROM AFC PRESIDENT

Dear friends

On behalf of the Asian Football Confederation I congratulate the Islamic Republic of Iran for their continued dominance of futsal in Asia - winning their 12th title in the AFC Futsal Championship.

This marks a remarkable record for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the pages of this technical report will reflect on their success as well as identify the new and exciting trends that are developing in this fast-growing part of the game.

Congratulations must also go to the beaten finalists Japan as well as the third and fourth placed Iraq and Uzbekistan who all showed great skill and commitment to reach the latter stages of this competition.

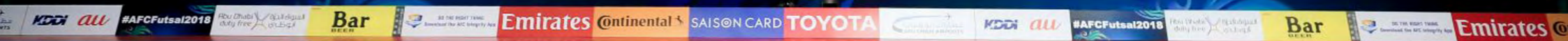
Chinese Taipei must also be congratulated on being outstanding hosts delivering venues and a tournament worthy of the

AFC's stated ambition of staging world class competitions to encourage the game to grow.

It is also gratifying that the Chinese Taipei FA is one of the newer hosts for a major AFC competition and this reflects our desire to spread the message of football to every corner of this great continent.

We must thank the Member Associations for their continued support of AFC Competitions as well as the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, the AFC Competitions Committee and AFC Referees' Committee as well as the AFC Technical Department and the AFC Technical Study Group for their hard work in compiling this report.

Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa
AFC President



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COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The AFC Futsal Championship Chinese Taipei 2018 was successfully held in Taipei City from February 1 - 11, 2018. Being the 15th edition of the AFC Futsal Championship, there was a marked improvement in the overall level of competition with the majority of the teams showing great progress, resulting in high tempo matches.

Sixteen teams participated in this tournament which was eventually won by IR Iran, defeating Japan in the final. Third place went to Uzbekistan, with Iraq grabbing the fourth spot. In total, 32 matches were played and a total of 203 goals were scored by various teams. The overall top scorer was Hossein Tayebibidgoli from IR Iran who scored 14 goals.

The Most Valuable Player of the competition title was awarded to IR Iran's Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh who had a major influence on his team's matches and the overall competition. For collecting the most Fair Play points in the competition, Iraq were awarded the Fair Play Award. Overall, it was an exciting and competitive tournament, with good sportsmanship and team work all around.





MATCH REPORTS





MATCH REPORTS

SUMMARY OF THE TOURNAMENT

GROUP A

Vietnam bounced back from an opening day 2-1 loss to Malaysia, to register wins over Bahrain (2-1) and hosts Chinese Taipei (3-1) to claim top spot in Group A. Bahrain, however, upset the hosts to finish second in the group with a superior goal difference with four points. The West Asians kicked off their campaign with a 2-2 draw against Chinese Taipei, lost 1-2 to Vietnam on Matchday Two, but scored a convincing 3-1 win over Malaysia to make a first-ever appearance in the knockout stage.

Group B

Japan were perfect as they won Group B with comprehensive wins over Tajikistan (4-2), Korea Republic (5-2) and 2016 runners-up Uzbekistan (4-2). The Uzbeks beat Korea Republic 13-2 and followed that up with a 4-2 win over Tajikistan but fell to three-time champions Japan on Matchday Three to finish as group runners-up.

GROUP C

Islamic Republic of Iran showcased a dominant performance in Group C, claiming three wins in three matches, scoring 30 goals and only conceding four. The eventual champions started their campaign in spectacular fashion with 14-0 win over tournament debutants Myanmar. China PR were able to avoid a whitewash with Xu Yang finding the back of the net in the 20th minute but IR Iran were still relentless as they won 11-1 win, before beating Iraq 5-3. Iraq finished second in the group with six points after wins over China PR (4-2) and Myanmar (3-2).

GROUP D

Lebanon were impressive in their journey to the quarter-finals, having started their Group D tie with a 2-2 draw with Kyrgyz Republic but made headlines after beating ASEAN champions Thailand 5-2, before coming back from a goal down to secure a 2-1 win over Jordan to finish as group winners. Thailand began their campaign with a 5-1 victory over Jordan but had their last eight hopes in jeopardy after a 5-2 loss to the Lebanese. They eventually found their rhythm on Matchday Three to score an 8-1 win over Kyrgyz Republic to finish as group runners-up.



QUARTER-FINALS

LEBANON vs IRAQ

In the quarter-final against Lebanon, Iraq goalkeeper Zaher Mahdi was the star of the show when he judged correctly to parry away a spot-kick as Iraq won 9-8 on penalties, following a 2-2 draw after extra time to make their first-ever appearance in the semi-finals for a meeting with Japan.

IR IRAN vs THAILAND

Technically gifted, Iran's impressive 9-1 victory over Thailand in the quarter-finals proved that they are in a class of their own. The defending champions took a five-goal lead in the first half with strikes from Ahmed Esmaeilpour, Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh and Hossein Tayebi. Jirawat Sornwichian found one back but further goals from Mahdi Javid, Mohammad Shajari and Tayebi, sealed a comprehensive win for Iran.

JAPAN vs SAUDI ARABIA

Bruno Garcia's men were physically strong and had experience on their side as they comfortably dispatched Bahrain 2-0 to march into the last four. Just seven minutes into the match, Japan took the lead after Koichi Saito finished smartly and 21-year-old Shimizu Kazuya sealed their win and a 14th semi-final appearance.

VIETNAM vs UZBEKISTAN

Uzbekistan edged gritty Vietnam for a semi-final spot after a 3-1 win. Mashrab Adilov gave Uzbekistan the lead in the first half, while Davron Choriev doubled their lead after the break but Vietnam responded with Phung Trong Luan's strike, only for Ilhomjon Hamroev to score in the final minute, which meant a date with Iran for their final four tie.



MATCH REPORTS

SEMI-FINALS

IRAQ vs JAPAN

Japan displayed their brilliance as they advanced to the final after defeating Iraq 3-0, with three first half goals from Kaoru Morioka, Ryosuke Nishitani and Yuki Murota sealing a ninth AFC Futsal Championship final appearance.



too etched their names on the scoresheet in the first half. They continued to display strength in the second half as the captain and eventual tournament top goalscorer Tayebi each scored again to seal a 13th final appearance.

3rd/4th PLACE PLAY-OFF

IRAQ vs UZBEKISTAN

Uzbekistan clinched third place after defeating Iraq 2-1 in a penalty shoot-out after the exciting play-off ended 4-4. It was a back-and-forth affair as both sides virtually took turns scoring, and Hassan Dakheel looked to have ended the game with his 35th minute



IR IRAN vs UZBEKISTAN

The tie between the two was a repeat of the 2016 final, but IR Iran flexed their muscles to beat Uzbekistan 7-1, and inched closer to defending the title. Javid scored a hat-trick, while skipper Hassanzadeh and Tayebi



strike but Uzbek captain Artur Yunusov earned his second of the game a minute from time to push the game to penalties. Akmaljon Khazratulov made the difference, becoming Uzbekistan's hero as he fended off shots from Dakheel and Zainal Abdeen to ensure his team won the shoot-out.



FINAL

JAPAN vs IR IRAN

IR Iran were simply unstoppable as they secured their 12th AFC Futsal Championship title after beating Japan 4-0. Hassanzadeh gave IR Iran the lead in the first half, and further goals from Farhad Tavakoli, Tayebi and Hassanzadeh secured them a second consecutive title. Japan had their moments of brilliance, coming dangerously close numerous times, but the Central Asians defence stood strong.





MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 1

GROUP A: VIETNAM 1-2 MALAYSIA

Mohamad Awalluddin Nawi struck with just 2.5 seconds remaining on the clock as Malaysia sealed a dramatic 2-1 win over Vietnam in Group A of the AFC Futsal Championship Chinese Taipei 2018.

It was an end to end encounter between the two Southeast Asian sides, with Vietnam finding the back of the net late in the first half, before Awalluddin equalised for Malaysia in the 36th minute and then turning hero with the winner.

Vietnam had the better start with several shots on target, but after racking up three fouls in just two minutes, they had to take their aggressive play down a notch which gave Malaysia some room to breathe.

Malaysia had very few opportunities to cross over into opposition territory, and had to make the best of every chance and came close in the sixth minute but goalkeeper Ngo Dinh Thuan pulled off a superb double save from Syed Aizad Daniel and Yazid Kamaruzan to deny Malaysia an early advantage.

In the 14th minute, Vietnam moved on a counter with Phung Trong Luan surging down the middle before a swift through pass found Vu Duc Tung in the box, but his shot was slightly off the mark.

A minute from half-time, Vietnam's dynamic duo was at it again as Trong Luan's pass found Duc Tung on the right

flank and he made no mistake with his twist and turn strike into the bottom right of the net to take the lead.

Thirty minutes in, Malaysia seemed to have found their momentum with their quick and accurate passes but Duc Tung's prodding of the backline kept Chiew Chun Yong's side alert and cautious of making any risky plays. Looking for an opening day win, Malaysia opted for the power play with five minutes left on the clock, pushing Vietnam into a defensive position for the first time.

The strategy paid dividends a minute later when Khairul Effendy's pinpoint pass found Awalluddin in the box for an easy tap in to level the scores.

Just when a draw looked to be the outcome, Awalluddin scored his second when Vietnam goalkeeper Dinh Thuan failed to hold on to the ball.

GROUP A: CHINESE TAIPEI 2-2 BAHRAIN

Bahrain scored two minutes from time to share the points with Chinese Taipei as the two teams opened their AFC Futsal Championship 2018 Group A campaign with a 2-2 draw at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

Mohamed Abdulla opened the scoring for Bahrain in the second half, but Chinese Taipei rebounded with goals from Huang Tai-Hsiang and Lin Chih-hung, only for Ali Saleh to score the equaliser two minutes from time.

In a match between equals, Chinese Taipei's first real

chance came only 10 minutes into the match when a quick backpass found Chi Sheng-fa just outside the box but his shot struck the upright.

Bahrain showed that they were fearsome with their set-pieces, but the hosts were disciplined and safely guarded their goalmouth.

A minute into the second half, Chinese Taipei came close to taking the lead with Chi's through pass into the box but Huang Po Chun failed to connect and the ball was pushed away by goalkeeper Sayed Mohamed.

In the 27th minute, a quick counter led to a one-on-one with Chinese Taipei's Chiang Hsin Wei but despite sidestepping the keeper, Saleh Anan missed a golden opportunity as he released the ball too late.

Bahrain eventually took the lead when they were awarded a free-kick in the 27th minute, which Mohamed Al Sandi swiftly took and Abdulla's finishing touch did the trick.

Chinese Taipei kept their composure, and responded with a goal of their own with Chi's pass into the box saw Huang finding the back of the net with his shot to the top right at the half hour mark.

Jose Adil Amarante's charges continued to pile on the pressure and six minutes later, Bahrain lost possession after being heavily pressed and Lin, who was unguarded near the halfline mark, hit home for Chinese Taipei to take the lead.



MATCH REPORTS

As the match reached its final two minutes, Bahrain activated the power play which immediately bore fruit with Saleh equalising with a near range effort.

GROUP B: UZBEKISTAN 13-2 KOREA REPUBLIC

A dominant display from Uzbekistan saw them get their AFC Futsal Championship 2018 campaign off to a winning start in Group B with a comprehensive 13-2 win over Korea Republic.

They took a deserved lead in the third minute when Artur Yunusov fired home past Seo Jung-woo from the right hand side of the goal.

Straight from the kick-off, Uzbekistan won the ball back and within 10 seconds of his first, Choriev had added a second and Uzbekistan's lead was extended to three.

Such was Uzbekistan's dominance that Korea Republic were denied any clear chances and resorted to the powerplay, effectively having five outfield players for extended periods of time.

It took just over 60 seconds in the second half for Uzbekistan to add a seventh courtesy of a fine finish from a tight angle by Khusniddin Nishonov, before Dilmurod Shavkatov made it eight just two minutes later.

Two goals from Ilhomjon Hamroev and Dilshod Rakhmatov took Uzbekistan into double figures, before Anaskhon Rakhmatov made it 11-1 after 37 minutes.

Jang scored his second of the match two minutes later,

but a brace in the final minute by Mashrab Adilov put the exclamation mark on a thoroughly dominant performance.

GROUP B: JAPAN 4-2 TAJIKISTAN

Japan overcame a determined Tajikistan to register a 4-2 win in their opening Group B encounter at the AFC Futsal Championships 2018.

The Samurai Blue couldn't have asked for a better start when they opened the scoring after just five seconds, thanks to a thunderous strike from Kazuya Shimizu on the right touch line.

Despite the early setback, Tajikistan regrouped and drew level five minutes later when Fayzali Sardorov pounced on a sloppy turnover by Kaoru Morioka and slid the ball past Higor Pires in the Japanese goal.

Japan showed their fighting spirit by hitting back almost straight away, going ahead again in the ninth minute when Kazuhiro Nibuya fired home from the right.

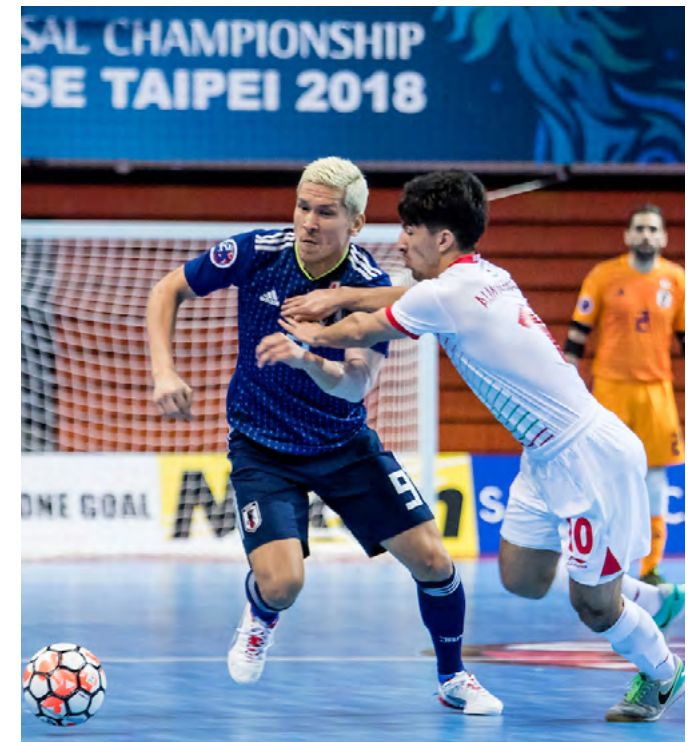
Two minutes later and Japan's lead was extended to 3-1 with arguably the goal of the game, with Japan's incisive one-touch passing from their own half producing the perfect counter attack, with Tomoki Yoshikawa placing the ball on a platter for Shota Hoshi.

Just when Japan looked comfortable Tajikistan hit back again when Dilshod Salomov finished from an acute angle to bring it to 3-2 as the teams headed to the half time break.

Both sides continued to attack in the second half, with Japan in particular having a number of chances to add to their three goals from the first half.

It took until the 37th minute, when Tajikistan had deployed the powerplay, for Japan to get the better of Tajikistan's resolute defence and put the game beyond doubt.

Playing up in midfield, goalkeeper Firuz Bekmurodov's pass was intercepted and Morioka made no mistake from inside his own half to seal the three points for Japan.





MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 2

GROUP C: IRAQ 4-2 CHINA PR

Iraq came from two goals down at half time to defeat China PR 4-2 in an entertaining and drama-filled Group C match to kick off their AFC Futsal Championships 2018 campaign.

Looking to exact revenge for their 6-1 loss to Iraq at the same stage of the competition two years ago, China PR started on the front foot and took the lead in the sixth minute when Gu Haitao smashed home a left-footed effort from the edge of the area.

They doubled their lead five minutes later after a defensive blunder from the Iraqi goalkeeper. After a set play from a free-kick, Li Jianjia's shot could only be parried by Yahya Abdulnoor, falling into the path of Zhao Liang to tap home.

Iraq mounted attack after attack to finish the half, but China PR's defence held firm ensuring they went into the break with their 2-0 lead intact.

It took only three minutes in the second half for Iraq to pull a goal back, albeit in fortunate circumstances. Salim Faisal's long range effort had plenty of power, but was heading wide until it hit the body of Hasan Ali and deflected into the net.

Iraq's pressure finally saw them draw level after 28 minutes when Hasan's long range free-kick deflected off the leg of goalkeeper Zhu Bei and Zhang Yameng's

attempted goal line clearance instead found the back of the net.

Hasan thought he had his hat-trick in the 32nd minute when he headed into an open net after a failed powerplay attempt from China PR, but the referee instead penalised him for a foul for a shove on Zhao Liang.

China PR were temporarily reduced to four men after Zhang Yameng was shown a second yellow with six minutes left to play, and had another man sent off with two minutes remaining after Li Jianjia was adjudged to have handled the ball in the area.

From the resulting penalty Hasan Dakheel made no mistake, smashing the ball past Zhu Bei to give Iraq the lead for the first time in the match.

Iraq's win was secured when Rafid Hameed headed into an open net in the last second after China PR had enacted the powerplay and thrown players forward.

GROUP D: KYRGYZ REPUBLIC 2-2 LEBANON

Kyrgyz Republic and Lebanon had to be satisfied with a share of the points after they played to a 2-2 draw in their AFC Futsal Championship Group D tie.

Kyrgyz Republic took the lead in the first half through Maksat Alimov's effort, but Lebanon bounced back with Ahmad Kheir El Dine scoring two goals, only for Adilet Imanbekov to equalise in the 35th minute.

Kyrgyz Republic nearly had a dream start though as less than a minute in, Adilet Kultaev's shot rocked the crossbar.

As the match progressed, neither side had total control or majority of possession, with both sharing almost equal opportunities on target but Kyrgyz Republic had to reduce their aggression after mounting five fouls 15 minutes into the game.

But that didn't keep them in their half and in the 16th minute, Alimov latched onto a deflected ball to find the bottom right of the net for Kyrgyz Republic to take the lead. Two minutes later, Lebanon had a chance to draw level when Kyrgyz Republic accumulated a sixth foul but Hassan Zeitoun's shot from the second penalty mark missed to the left.

Lebanon returned more composed in the second half and quick passes between Karim Abou Zeid and El Dine saw them break through the Kyrgyz backline with ease and El Dine made no mistake with a close range effort to level the scores in the 22nd minute.

In the 28th minute, El Dine scored his second goal when he was left unmarked to hit home from the middle, but Kyrgyz Republic equalised seven minutes later through Imanbekov's strike.

GROUP C: IR IRAN 14-0 MYANMAR

Defending champions Islamic Republic of Iran



MATCH REPORTS

underlined their title credentials with a comprehensive 14-0 victory over Myanmar in their Group C opener.

IR Iran wasted little time asserting their authority with two goals inside the first minute to immediately take control of the match.

The first came within seconds of the kick-off when IR Iran forced a turnover and AFC Futsal Player of the Year Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh slid the ball across for a simple tap in for Mahdi Javid.

Thirty seconds later, they had their second of the evening courtesy of Hassanzadeh, who added Iran's third and his second a further three minutes later.

Iran then proceeded to go on a scoring spree, adding five goals in the space of three minutes, which included a run of three goals in a minute, to put the match beyond doubt half way through the first half.

Myanmar's defence solidified in the final 10 minutes of the first half, with Yan Paing Hein making some wonderful saves, to restrict Iran to just one further goal for the half, which saw them head in at half time with a 9-0 lead.

In the opening 10 minutes of the second half Myanmar's defence held firm, with IR Iran scoring only once - in the 22nd minute when Javid scored his third of the evening.

But a flurry of late goals - a further four in the final 10 minutes - added some extra icing on the cake for Iran. In the end, Hassanzadeh and Javid ended with four goals apiece, while Hossein Tayebi tallied a hat-trick.

GROUP D: THAILAND 5-1 JORDAN

Thailand kicked off their AFC Futsal Championship Group D campaign with a comprehensive 5-1 win over Jordan.

Thailand ended the first half with three goals from Apiwat Chaemcharoen and Jirawat Sornwichian, while Musa Abu Shaikha found the back of the net for Jordan in the second half, but further goals by Jetsada Chudech and Kritsada Wongkaeo were enough to secure all three points.

From the beginning, both sides were cautious about making mistakes and adopted a guarded approach.

Thailand, however, almost had free reign of the ball, as Jordan kept to their half and looked to pounce on the counter and one such move in the seventh minute saw them making their first attempt.

However, it backfired as Suphawut Thueanklang neatly intercepted a pass and surged down the other end with Chaemcharoen to set up a two-on-one against goalkeeper Majed Mahmoud Alhafi, who had no chance against Chaemcharoen's close range effort.

Three minutes later, Samer Naser was shown the red card for denying a goal scoring opportunity with a hand ball, and Sornwichian duly converted the penalty to give Thailand a two-goal advantage.

Jordan had a few close attempts of their own, but Thailand had their own share of moving on the counter, and two minutes from half-time Chudech broke into a

sprint before passing to Chaemcharoen, who was on the left flank to hit home at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

Less than 20 seconds into the second half, Jordan reduced their deficit when Abu Shaikha sidestepped Chaivat Jamrajang in front of the box before unleashing a superb strike to the top left corner.

Thailand upped their tempo and in a counter attack in the 33rd minute, Chudech regained their two-goal lead with a close range shot, before skipper Wongkaeo etched his name on the scoreboard a few minutes later, courtesy of Thueanklang's pass into the box.





MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 3

GROUP B: KOREA REPUBLIC 2-5 JAPAN

Four goals from Kaoru Morioka helped Japan advance to the quarter-finals following a 5-2 win over Korea Republic in Group B.

Morioka opened the scoring in the first half but Park Young-jae leveled soon after as Korea proved resilient opposition to go into the interval all square.

The Japanese frontman then scored twice in quick succession either side of Chun Jin-woo's equaliser, before teeing up Manabu Takita for Japan's fourth and then rounding off the scoring late on as Korea Republic were eliminated.

Having suffered a 13-2 defeat at the hands of Uzbekistan in their opening fixture, Korea Republic got off to a better start against their East Asian rivals at University of Taipei Gymnasium as they withstood the early pressure from one of the tournament favourites.

The Koreans then could have gone ahead eight minutes in but Chun was denied by goalkeeper Higor Pires as the tie remained firmly in the balance.

Kazuhiro Nibuya fired wide for Japan midway through the first half, before the three-time winners finally broke the deadlock a minute later when Morioka held off the Korea defence, turned and drilled his shot past Seo Jung-woo.

Quick thinking by Lee Min-yong helped Korea level the scores in the 13th minute as the captain's kick-in found Park just a yard from goal to tap home.

As an end-to-end game ensued, Seo proved a solid last line of defence, denying Japan on a number of occasions, and it was Korea who could have gone into the interval in front but Lee was narrowly off target after being teed up by Lim Yeung-seung.

Kazuya Shimizu almost put Japan back in front early in the second half when he was just inches away from connecting with Tomoki Yoshikawa's dinked cross.

Substitute goalkeeper Yushi Sekiguchi was then called into action to save from Jung Soo-in and Cho Byung-girl in quick succession as Korea grew in belief that they could cause a major upset.

Morioka then fired Japan back in front with a fine effort from distance, only for Korea to equalise almost immediately after through Chun to spark jubilant celebrations on the sidelines.

But Japan retook the lead midway through the second half as Morioka completed his hat-trick with a simple tap-in as a gripping contest unfolded.

Japan opened up a two-goal lead for the first time when Morioka found Takita, who made no mistake in firing past Seo with five minutes remaining.

Yoshikawa then set up Morioka for his fourth of the game to seal victory and Japan's place in the last eight as Korea's second successive defeat confirmed their elimination.



GROUP A: BAHRAIN 1-2 VIETNAM

Vietnam kept their hopes of qualifying for the quarter-finals alive after a 2-1 win over Bahrain at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

Vietnam had suffered a last second 2-1 defeat to Malaysia on Matchday One, while Bahrain had settled for a 2-2 draw with hosts Chinese Taipei.

Goals from Nguyen Dac Huy and Phung Trong Luan in the first half proved to be enough to secure three points for Vietnam in the Group A tie and a fighting chance to reach the knockout phase.



MATCH REPORTS

Vietnam kept to the same intensity displayed in their opening match against Malaysia, knowing defeat meant they had no chance of progressing, and Bahrain used that to their advantage.

When in possession, the West Asians pulled Vietnam into their half before launching long range crosses, hoping to catch their opponents by surprise but Miguel Rodrigo's charges were quick on their feet and reacted fast to smother the Bahrain plans.

Ali Saleh and captain Mohamed Al Sandi were Bahrain's dangermen as they had several close attempts on goal which either struck the framework or were pushed away by goalkeeper Ngo Dinh Thuan.

Against the run of play, Dac Huy opened the scoring for Vietnam in the 18th minute, courtesy of Co Tri Kiet's pass with Dac Huy steering the ball into the bottom right corner.

It didn't break Bahrain's spirit and less than 20 seconds after the restart, Mohamed Abdulla's shot bounced between the two bars but was adjudged to have not crossed the line.

A minute to the break, Trong Luan doubled Vietnam's advantage from a set-piece with a close range shot which gave custodian Sayed Mohamed no chance to react.

Adel Marzooq's charges returned in the second half more passionate and reduced the deficit in the 29th

minute when Chu Van Tien deflected Al Sandi's shot into the net.

In the last four minutes, the tempo of the game increased and Bahrain committed their sixth foul but Pham Duc Hoa's shot from the second penalty spot was deflected by Sayed Mohamed onto the upright.

Power play was next on the list for Bahrain, with Jassam Saleh as the extra man but the goal they needed eluded them.

GROUP B: TAJIKISTAN 2-4 UZBEKISTAN

Uzbekistan made it two wins from two as a 4-2 victory over Tajikistan in Group B saw them edge closer to a spot in the quarter-finals.

After an even opening period to the game at University of Taipei Gymnasium, it was Uzbekistan who struck first in the ninth minute when Konstandin Svidirov squared a free-kick for Dilshod Rakhmatov to finish.

The 2016 runners-up then doubled their advantage in the 12th minute through Davron Choriev, whose cheeky backheel deflected off goalkeeper Firuz Bekmurodov and into the back of the net.

But the Tajiks pulled one back three minutes before the interval when Rahmonali Sharipov slipped in Umed Kusiev to side-foot home as the sides went into the break with just a goal separating them.

Having pushed Japan all the way in their opening



fixture, Tajikistan then started the second half brightly as they sought their first points of the campaign, although it was Uzbekistan who almost stretched their lead when Ilhomjon Hamroev's effort was cleared off the line by Dilshod Salomov.

Sobirdzhon Gulyakov then struck the woodwork for Tajikistan and saw his follow-up effort saved by 'keeper Rustam Umarov, before the Uzbeks opened up a two-goal cushion once more as Choriev found Mashrab Adilov, who made no mistake with his finish.

With Tajikistan pushing forward in an attempt to get back into the game, they almost pulled one back through the most unlikely of sources as goalkeeper Bekmurodov dribbled the length of the pitch, only to see his goalbound effort blocked by Umarov.

Uzbekistan then all but secured the three points when Choriev took advantage of Bekmurodov's advanced



MATCH REPORTS

position to finish from the edge of the Uzbek penalty area.

The Tajiks scored their second with just over a minute left on the clock when Salomov fired home a penalty after Nekruz Alimakhmadov had been upended by Artur Yunusov, but it proved too little too late as Uzbekistan held out to claim back-to-back wins.

GROUP A: MALAYSIA 4-5 CHINESE TAIPEI

Lin Chih-hung's 39th minute goal gave Chinese Taipei a lifeline as they claimed a 5-4 win over Malaysia to top Group A.

Chinese Taipei had taken a two-goal lead going into the break, but Malaysia came back from 4-1 down to draw level only for Chih-hung to seal the win in the final seconds of the match.

After enjoying an opening day win, Malaysia started patiently, taking their time to move down the final third, but Chinese Taipei did well to intercept their passes and react on the counter.

In one such instance in the eight minute, Lin Chien-hsun surged down the right flank and unleashed a shot which struck the bar, but Lai Ming-hui latched onto the rebound and made no mistake from close range to give Chinese Taipei the lead.

Chih-hung doubled their advantage with a superb strike in the 13th minute, and Chinese Taipei were given another chance when goalkeeper Azrul Hadee



Taufiq committed a back pass foul two minutes later, but Huang Po-chun failed to convert the indirect free-kick.

Chinese Taipei did not let up on their aggression after the break, and less than a minute in, Chi Sheng-fa etched his name on the scoresheet with a fine shot from a corner set play.

In the 27th minute, Malaysia reduced the deficit when Mohd Azwann Ismail latched on to a stray ball and slid it in with ease, but Chinese Taipei regained their three-goal lead five minutes later after moving on a counter

with Ming-hui finding the back of the net, courtesy of Chien-hsun's pass.

Chiew Chun Yong's side immediately utilised the power play, and Mohamad Awalluddin Nawi scored his third goal of the tournament a minute later, before the pressure of a five-man Malaysian side caused the host nation to concede an own goal in the 35th minute.

Power player, Mohn Khairul Effendy found the equaliser for Malaysia a few minutes later but Chih-hung hit home for Chinese Taipei a minute from time to take the win.



MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 4

GROUP C: MYANMAR 2-3 IRAQ

Iraq, close having defeated China PR 4-2 on Matchday One, would have been reassured of, at least, second place in the group with a win over Myanmar.

Iraq changed their approach, pressing Myanmar early following their slow start against China PR.

Both teams were evenly matched, trading blows in the opening minutes with Iraq's Hasan Ali Jabbar coming close to scoring only to find Myanmar goalkeeper Zwe Pyae Sone up to the task. With five minutes left on the clock, Iraq took the lead following Ko Ko Lwin's dismissal for handling the ball in the penalty box as Waleed Khalid Fahem made no mistake from the spot to give Haitham Abbas Bawei's side the advantage.

Iraq continued to apply pressure on their opponents but Rafid Hameed Eesa was dispossessed in his half and Myanmar's Khin Zaw Lin equalised following Myo Myint Soe's assist.

Iraq's plan worked in the second half as they took the lead through Hasan Ali Jabbar's header in the 28th minute after Zwe fumbled collecting a cross.

Myanmar replied four minutes later after an unmarked Pyae Phyo Maung tapped into an empty net following an indirect free-kick to level the score.

But Iraq were ahead again moments later, Fahem's sitter flying into an empty net to make it 3-2.

GROUP D: JORDAN 1-3 KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Kyrgyz Republic inched closer to the quarter-finals after beating Jordan 3-1 at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

Maskat Alimov and Uulu Manas Abdrasul gave Kyrgyz Republic a two-goal lead in the first half, with Qais Shabib reducing Jordan's deficit in the 27th minute. However, it was shortlived hope for Jordan as Adilet Kultaev found the back of the net to confirm three points for his side.

Kyrgyz Republic had played to a 2-2 draw with Lebanon on Matchday One while it was Jordan's second defeat, having lost 5-1 to Thailand in their opening tie.

Kyrgyz Republic asserted their dominance from the get-go with Emil Kanetov firing off an early warning shot which struck the bar with just 20 seconds gone.

Jordan, however, could keep up with the high tempo despite playing without key player Samer Naser, who received a red card in their opening match against Thailand.

Alimov opened the scoring in the ninth minute when he sidestepped Jordan skipper Ahmed Arab and found the top left of the net, before Kultaev easily intercepted a back pass and set Manas Abdrasul to score from close range three minutes later.

After amounting five fouls, Amirzhan Mukanov's charges then played more cautiously but Jordan failed to



capitalise on the space and the score stayed at 2-0 going into the break.

Saleh Abu Jafer's side returned in the second half more passionate, and Shabib made sure Jordan got on the scoreboard when he surged down the right flank and let fly a superb shot in the 27th minute.

Kyrgyz Republic regained their two-goal lead when Kultaev was left unguarded in the box to tap the ball in with ease, courtesy of Adilet Imanbekov's neat pass.



MATCH REPORTS

GROUP D: LEBANON 5-2 THAILAND

Lebanon produced a dominant performance as they scored a 5-2 win over Thailand to surge to the top of Group D.



Lebanon needed a win to have a fighting chance of reaching the knockout phase after playing to a 2-2 draw with Kyrgyz Republic in their opener, and pressed the issue from the beginning, while Thailand, who enjoyed a 5-1 win over Jordan, moved patiently with the ball.

However, it didn't take long for Lebanon to take the lead, as Mohammad Kobeissy found the back of the net from a corner set play in the third minute, before Ahmad Kheir El Dine intercepted a pass and beat goalkeeper Kanison Phoonpun to double their advantage three minutes later.

Lebanon were definitely more coordinated in their attacks, with quick one-two touches that kept Thailand's

backline under pressure, and despite Jose Maria Pazos changing their tactics with multiple flying substitutions, Thailand's best chances came from counter-attacks but the West Asians were too quick on their feet.

Ali Tneich furthered their advantage with a simple tap in when Phoonpun failed to hold the ball in the 23rd minute, and two minutes later, Thailand activated the power play which backfired immediately with Hassan Zeitoun sending a long range shot into an empty goalmouth.

Thailand maintained their five-man approach which eventually paid dividends as Jetsada Chudech's shot deflected off the Lebanese defence and into the goalmouth in the 27th minute, before Suphawut Thueanklang shot from close range to make it 4-2 in the 29th.

Even when they were forced into a defensive position, Lebanon looked dangerous and 30 seconds from time, Ali El Homsis's shot bounced into an unguarded goal to seal the win.

GROUP C: CHINA PR 1-11 IR IRAN

Reigning champions Islamic Republic of Iran advanced to the quarter-finals after defeating China PR 11-1 in a Group C tie. China PR held firm for the first three minutes but a defensive error proved costly as Iran took the lead courtesy of Hossein Tayyebi's strike.

IR Iran continued to control the match, firing two more goals seven minutes later through Farhad Tavakoli and Mahdi Javid. Javid added his second four minutes later before Mohammad Shajari and Tayyebi's strike made

it 6-0. China PR, however, did not give up as Xu Yang pulled one back when he found an opening following an assist by Shen Siming for a 6-1 score at halftime.

IR Iran wasted no time after the break as they picked up the pace, firing five more goals with Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh scoring two under three minutes.

Ahmad Esmaeilpour hit IR Iran's ninth while Tavakoli's second three minutes later gave Team Melli a commanding 10-1 lead before Tayyebi put the icing on the cake, completing his hat-trick with three minutes left to play.





MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 5

GROUP B: UZBEKISTAN 2-4 JAPAN

Japan headed into the quarter-finals as Group B winners after they maintained their 100 percent record with a 4-2 win over runners-up Uzbekistan.

With both teams coming into the tie at the University of Taipei Gymnasium on the back of consecutive wins the action began in closely-fought fashion, before Uzbekistan opened the scoring within the third minute. Farkhod Abdulmaylanov was found on the left by goalkeeper Rustam Umarov and the No 8 tricked his way past Rafael Henmi before curling the ball past Japan custodian Higor Pires into the far corner of the goal.

Koichi Saito went close to a swift reply with long range rocket that rattled Umarov's left-hand upright and, with a little over 10 minutes of the first half remaining, Ryosuke Nishitani was inches away from sliding home Kaoru Morioka's low cross, before Kazuya Shimizu also hit the woodwork with a flick from close range.

Japan, though, needed less than a minute of the restart to draw parity as Morioka slammed home his sixth goal of the tournament from the edge of the area after Dilshod Rakhmatov was penalised for a back-pass. Another set-piece saw Japan take the lead three minutes later as Shota Hoshi turned in Shimizu's ball into the box.

The Japan keeper then almost gave Uzbekistan a golden opportunity to level when his wayward pass

landed at the feet of Davron Choriev but the forward's lofted effort clattered off the top of the upright.

Nevertheless the White Wolves sustained pressure did result in an equaliser on 27 minutes, Uzbekistan captain Artur Yunusov prodding home after Pires could only parry the initial effort.

The back-and-forth nature of the match continued and with six minutes remaining, Hoshi headed in to add his second and Japan's third of the night.

Uzbekistan resorted to the power play for the final minutes of the game, but were further punished as Ryosuke Nishitani drilled home from the halfway line into an unguarded net as Japan made it three wins out of three.

GROUP B: TAJIKISTAN 7-0 KOREA REPUBLIC

Tajikistan ended their campaign on a high note after beating Korea Republic 7-0.

Both sides, who had suffered two successive losses earlier, had no chance of advancing to the knockout phase, and were playing for pride. Tajikistan finished third in Group B, while Korea Republic finished bottom of the standings.

Tajikistan had the lion's share of possession in the opening minutes with several shots on target, while Korea Republic defended resolutely and played on the counter.

However, the Central Asians eventually broke the deadlock in the 11th minute when goalkeeper Seo Jung-woo neatly deflected Umed Kuziev's shot but Shavqat Halimov was in the box to hit home for Tajikistan, before Bahodur Khojaev doubled their lead a minute later.

Dilshod Salomov gave Tajikistan a comfortable lead going into the break when he sidestepped Lee Doo-yong before firing a stunning shot into the top right 20 seconds before the half-time whistle at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

After the restart, Korea Republic played with more intensity but couldn't maintain possession as Tajikistan did well to intercept their passes.

Huseyn Shodyev's charges continued to impress with a string of goals from Rahmonali Sharipov (23rd), Rustam Hamidov (25th), Iqbol Vositzoda (27th) and Umed Kuziev (39th).

Korea Republic had their moments of brilliance and came close to finding a goal but goalkeeper Murodullo Alikulov denied every attempt, before Umed Kuziev sealed their win with a fine strike in the 39th minute.

GROUP A: MALAYSIA 1-3 SAUDI ARABIA

An extraordinary last-gasp goal from captain Mohamed Al Sandi helped secure Bahrain a historic AFC Futsal Championship quarter-final place after they defeated Malaysia 3-1 to take the runners-up place on goal difference in Group A.



MATCH REPORTS

Having only won just one match in their entire AFC Futsal Championship history, Bahrain – playing in just their second edition of the tournament – booked their place in the last eight along with Group A winners Vietnam, with their opponents on the night, and hosts Chinese Taipei missing out.

All four sides from Group A had a chance to qualify for the knockout stages ahead of the final round of ties, but Bahrain put themselves in the driving seat at University of Taipei Gymnasium after taking the lead inside the opening three minutes, as Ahmed Abdulnabi back-flicked in an acrobatic volley from Mohamed Al Sandi's headed cross from the left.

And the same player repeated the trick to double the advantage, latching onto a long, high ball forward from the back to direct an angled drive across Firdaus Razli into the opposite corner.

Needing at least a point to remain in the quarter-finals' reckoning, Malaysia responded but Bahrain goalkeeper Sayed Mohamed was resolute as the score remained 2-0 at the interval.

The Southeast Asians cranked up the pressure on Mohamed's goal after the restart and Yazid Kamaruzuan hit the base of the Bahrain upright four minutes into the second half.

It was not all one-way traffic, though, and Firdaus had to be on his toes to perform a fine double save from Al Sandi and then a third block to keep out Falah Abbas on the rebound.

Bahrain then suffered a blow with 12 minutes remaining as their custodian, who had been among their stand-outs in the match, was stretchered off with an injury to be replaced by Sayed Fadhel.

With time ticking down, Malaysia turned to the power play in an attempt to reduce the deficit and the move paid dividends as on the 33rd minute, Syed Aizad rocketed home a fierce drive into the top right-hand corner of the net.

But the outfield man advantage also ultimately proved their undoing, albeit in spectacular fashion as with less than a minute to go, the ball broke to Al Sandi just outside his own area and the number 8 sent a powerful, looping effort all the way into the unguarded net to spark frenzied celebrations amongst the Bahrain players.

And just 30 seconds later there was even greater scenes of joy for the West Asians with the final whistle bringing news of Vietnam's 3-1 win over Chinese Taipei and with it the knowledge of a maiden quarter-final appearance.

GROUP A: CHINESE TAIPEI 1-3 VIETNAM

Vietnam beat Chinese Taipei 3-1 to clinch top spot in Group A and advance to the quarter-finals. It was a remarkable achievement for Vietnam as they had lost 2-1 to Malaysia on Matchday One, before bouncing back to beat Bahrain 2-1.

Huang Po Chun gave the hosts the lead in the first half, but Vietnam replied in emphatic fashion with

goals from Vu Duc Tung, Pham Duc Hoa and Nguyen Dac Huy to seal the win. Coupled with Bahrain's 3-1 win over Malaysia, Chinese Taipei finished third and missed out on the knockout phase.

With their qualification hopes on the line, both sides entered the match looking for the win and played a high tempo, tight marking game.

The two were nearly identical in their approach to the game, but Vietnam just edged it in terms of possession.

After some scintillating action, Huang found the back of the net with a long range strike from a corner set play to give Chinese Taipei the lead just 40 seconds from the break.

The back-and-forth encounter continued in the second half but Vietnam's eagerness and persistence would eventually pay off with Duc Tung's twist and turn kick into the top right, courtesy of Phung Trong Luan's pass at the half-hour mark, before Duc Hoa doubled their advantage when he latched on to a back pass and made no mistake from close range a minute later.

A goal down and four minutes left on the clock, Chinese Taipei opted for the power play and Vietnam were finally pressed into a defensive formation, but it backfired on the hosts with Dac Huy firing into an unguarded goalmouth.



MATCH REPORTS

MATCHDAY 6

GROUP C: IRAQ 3-5 IR IRAN

Defending champions Islamic Republic of Iran edged Iraq 5-3 to win Group C in a match that proved the first real test of the holders' credentials.

Both IR Iran and Iraq had already qualified for the quarter-finals ahead of the match at University of Taipei Gymnasium but, nevertheless, it was to be a hard-fought and intriguing contest to see who would top the standings.

With IR Iran having netted double figures in both previous ties against Myanmar and China, Iraq shocked the defending champions by taking the lead with seven minutes played as Waleed Khalid burst up the field on the counter to fire across Alireza Samimi into the far corner.

But Iraq's joy was cut-off in less than a minute. Hossein Tayebi bravely challenged flying Iraq goalkeeper Zaher Mahdi for Farhad Tavakoli's chipped ball forward, and his header looped into the unguarded net.

And with just over eight minutes remaining, IR Iran completed the turnaround with Ali Hassanzadeh notching his seventh of the tournament after his shot took a wicked deflection off Hasan Ali to wrong-foot Mahdi.

Iraq were determined to restore parity before the break, though, and Samimi needed to be on his toes to keep out several efforts, including a firmly-struck

shot from Salim Faisal that needed a particularly agile parry, while at the other end Mahdi bravely smothered at the feet of Tayebi.

It was a closely fought affair after the restart and it took over five minutes before the next goal was scored, Moslem Oladghobad tapping home Tayebi's cross at the back post to double IR Iran's lead.

Firas Mohammed reduced the deficit to 3-2 by converting Khalid's cross with a little over 10 minutes remaining but, as before, the Iraq goal triggered an immediate response from their opponents with Tavakoli side-footing in a fine strike to restore the two-goal advantage.

The back-and-forth nature of the game continued with Mohammed adding his second and Iraq's third of the night as he headed home after a three-on-one counterattack.

But it was Tayebi who had the final say in the game as he took the outright lead in the top goalscorers standings with his second of the night and eighth overall to give IR Iran the 5-3 victory.

GROUP C: CHINA PR 5-3 MYANMAR

China PR came from a goal down to secure a 5-3 win against Myanmar, finishing third in Group C.

Both sides were out of contention for the knockout phase after suffering defeats to Islamic Republic of

Iran and Iraq, but were looking to end their campaign with a win.

Tournament debutants Myanmar applied heavy pressure from the start, and it didn't take long for them to open the scoring with Nyein Min Soe's close range strike, courtesy of Pyae Phyo Maung's cross into the box.

China PR were undaunted and used Myanmar's aggressiveness to their advantage, as they looked to hit on the counter.

In one such instance in the 11th minute, Shen Siming surged down the middle, dribbled past the Myanmar defence before finding the back of the net with a left-footed strike to level the scores.

Four minutes later, Zhang Yameng gave China PR the lead when he was left unguarded on the left and let loose a superb shot.

Thirty seconds from the half-time break, Kaung Chit Thu received a yellow card for a bad tackle on Xu Yang, and it proved to be costly as Gu Haito doubled China PR's advantage with a simple tap in from the free-kick set piece.

Sergio Gargelli's charges were dangerous in their set-plays, and less than a minute into the second half they were given another opportunity with Xu Yang sliding the ball in from close range.



MATCH REPORTS

The East Asians continued to press for another goal, but were forced into their half when Myanmar opted for the power play in the 28th minute.

After six minutes of probing, they failed to find a breakthrough and, instead, it was China PR who widened their lead with Zhang shooting into an empty goalmouth.

Pyae, however, completed his hat-trick with goals in the 36th and 38th minutes, but it was too little too late as China PR held firm.

GROUP D: THAILAND 8-1 KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Jose Maria Pazos' side had suffered a shock defeat to Lebanon in Group D and faced a must-win tie against the Central Asians at University of Taipei Gymnasium, but responded in style to ensure qualification for the last eight.

Suphawut Thueanklang gave the ASEAN side the lead a little over two minutes into the match, crisply volleying Jirawat Sornwichian's corner past Kirill Ermolov and in off the inside of the post.

And the same player went close to doubling the advantage for Thailand with four minutes of the half remaining after he controlled a long ball upfield on his chest and, in one motion, swiveled and fired a stunning volley onto the crossbar.

Iuldashbai Salimbaev went close to restoring parity with a header that went narrowly wide of Kanison Phoopun's right-hand post, but in an immediate response Thailand

went not just two goals ahead but three, with both scored by the same player.

First Apiwat Chaemcharoen burst down the left, beating a defender, before steering a smart shot across Ermolov, and then moments later a Thailand corner saw Jetsada Chudech's ball into the area directed past Ermolov by Apiwat for his second of the night.

Thailand maintained their momentum after the interval with Suphawut adding his second and his team's fourth from a set-piece less than a minute into the second half before Nattavut Madyalan struck the foot of the Kyrgyz Republic post.

Suphawut could have had his hat-trick with just over 10 minutes of the match remaining but Ermolov did well to turn the Thai star's penalty onto the post.

But shortly after the Kyrgyz Republic custodian was picking the ball out of his net for a fifth time, when Nattavut burst clear to beat him at his near post from close range.

Former AFC Futsal Player of the Year Suphawut did finally complete his hat-trick, successfully converting from the spot and then seeing his third penalty of the night hit the post, before Jetsada made it 7-0 with a shot from outside the area that beat Ermolov.

Salimbaev did net a consolation for the Central Asians after pouncing on a rebound with just over three minutes remaining but Jetsada ensured it was Thailand who rounded off the scoring and advanced to face a huge quarter-final match-up with the holders.

GROUP D: LEBANON 2-1 JORDAN

Lebanon fought back from a goal down to score a 2-1 win over Jordan and claim top spot in Group D.

Lebanon's reward was a quarter-final tie with Iraq. Iraq finished second in Group C.

Jordan took the lead with Abdel Samara finding the back of the net in the 13th minute, but Lebanon bounced back with Ali El Homsy finding the equaliser before the half-time whistle and Ali Tneich sealed their win with a close range effort.

Lebanon knew a win would secure them a spot in the quarter-finals, and played with the same intensity they had shown in their win against Thailand, dominating possession while Jordan looked to hit on the counter.

Samara and Mu'Taz Mohammad displayed great synergy between them, and in the 13th minute, they combined beautifully on a counter attack with Samara intercepting a pass, sending it to his teammate in the attacking third, before getting the ball back to finish sweetly to open the scoring.

It was shortlived joy however, as El Homsy seized a golden opportunity and fired a superb strike into the top right to equalise two minutes later, while Tneich came close just moments later to giving Lebanon the lead but struck the woodwork.

Shahab Sofalmanash's side had almost a free reign of the ball, and six minutes into the second half, Tneich's shot hit the crossbar again but a minute later, he made no mistake from close range to make it 2-1 for Lebanon.



MATCH REPORTS

QUARTER-FINALS

QF1: IR IRAN 9-1 THAILAND

Islamic Republic of Iran beat Thailand 9-1 in the first quarter-final at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

The defending champions produced a dominant performance, taking a five-goal lead in the first half with strikes from Ahmed Esmaeilpour, Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh and Hossein Tayebi.

Thailand's Jirawat Sornwichian found one back but further goals from Mahdi Javid and Mohammad Shajari, sealed a comprehensive win for Iran.

Iran took the lead just 10 seconds into the match with Hassanzadeh's long range pass finding Esmaeilpour, who made no mistake with a left-footed shot.

It was just the beginning for the title holders as Esmaeilpour scored his second in the fourth minute when he intercepted a pass and surged down the middle, before hitting home.

Hassanzadeh turned goalscorer less than 30 seconds after the restart from a set-play, tapping the ball in from close range, before Tayebi made it 4-0 in the sixth minute, courtesy of Farhad Tavakoli's swift pass.

ASEAN champions Thailand's first real chance came in the 10th minute with Madyalan aiming for the top left but Ali Reze Samimi palmed the the ball away.

Thailand conceded again in the 17th minute with

Tayebi's superb ground shot to the bottom right corner. There was to be no respite for the Southeast Asians as Javid etched his name on the scoresheet two minutes into the second half, but Thailand's five-man assault team avoided a whitewash with Sornwichian finding the back of the net moments later.

Shajari restored Iran's six-goal lead in the 25th minute with a simple tap in, and as Thailand piled on the pressure in search of goals, they were hit again.

Tayebi completed his hat-trick in the 36th minute, before Shajari struck the final goal of the match.

QF 2: LEBANON 2-2 IRAQ 2-2 A.E.T 8-9 PENALTY SHOOT-OUT

Iraq sealed their first-ever appearance in the AFC Futsal Championship semi-finals after a 9-8 penalty shootout win over Lebanon following a 2-2 draw at University of Taipei Gymnasium.

Goalkeeper Zaher Mahdi was Iraq's hero saving the match-ending penalty with a smart dive to his right to deny Mustafa Rhyem.

Having appeared in 10 editions of the competition, the Iraqis finally broke new ground in reaching the final four, progressing from the quarter-final phase at their third attempt.

Although Lebanon controlled the tempo for the opening periods, it was Iraq who took the lead from a route one play.

Starting goalkeeper Yahya Abdulnoor's long throw upfield caught Lebanon's backline out as Salim Faisal lost his marker to volley past 'keeper Hussein Hamadani. The scores were drawn level midway through the half, though, as Lebanon captain Kasem Koussam polished off a quick-fire move involving Ahmad Kheir El Dine and Ali El Homsy with an assured finish.

Abdulnoor then had to stretch out a leg to turn Karim Abou Zeid's low shot around the post as the Lebanese finished on top at the interval.

The Cedars didn't let up after the break and Ali Tneich put his side 2-1 up just a minute and a half into the second half. The number 10 was found on the right flank by Mohamad Kobeissy and his shot deflected past a wrong-footed Abdulnoor.

Iraq responded to going behind and Kobeissy had to be on his toes to clear at the feet of Waleed Khalid, before Zainal Abdeen hit the post.

But the Iraqi pressure eventually told with Faisal adding his second of the night with an assured finish to tie the scores.

Kheir El Dine had a golden chance to re-take the lead for Lebanon with just over a minute remaining but Abdulnoor was equal to his close-range effort, and the Iraq custodian continued to deny Lebanon with a series of saves as the white-shirted side tried in vain to find the winner in regulation time.



MATCH REPORTS

In extra-time, Kheir El Dine could have broken the deadlock when he evaded Faisal and rounded Abdulnoor but he couldn't steer his shot into the unguarded net from an acute angle. And the goalkeepers continued to remain on top for the duration of the additional 10 minutes with the tie going to penalties.

Kheir El Dine failed to convert Lebanon's first penalty but Hasan Dakheel failed to take advantage when 2-1 up in what would have been the match-winner.

From then on, every player that stepped up successfully converted until Rhyem, the 20th penalty-taker of the tie, was the most unfortunate man on the pitch as his spot-kick was saved to send Iraq into the semi-finals.

QF 3: JAPAN 2-0 BAHRAIN

The Bahrainis were appearing in their first-ever knockout stage tie at the continental tournament and coach Adel Abdulrahman and his team had previously spoken of the challenge they faced against the three-time champions from East Asia.

As such, the West Asian nation set their stall out early, looking to sit back and play on the counter, but with six minutes gone Japan took the lead after Koichi Saito finished smartly from Shota Hoshi's pass across from the left.

The Samurai Blue, who controlled proceedings for large spells in the first half as Bahrain defended deep and invited pressure, had further chances through Yuki Murota, but goalkeeper Sayed Fadhel was equal to his efforts.

On the occasions Bahrain attacked, usually taking the direct route, captain Mohamed Al Sandi worked hard to create opportunities for his side and Jassam Saleh tested Higor Pires on several occasions.

After the restart, though, Japan came out in force looking to extend their slim advantage and with seven minutes of the second half played they found their second. Kazuya Shimizu received a pass from Tomoki Yoshikawa with his back to goal, spun Ahmed Abdulnabi, and beat Fadhel with a low shot at his near post.

In an attempt to reduce the deficit, Bahrain resorted to the power play but were unable to carve out much in the way of clear-cut chances, despite the outfield advantage. After their shock failure to reach the competition's final four two years ago in Uzbekistan, Japan were able to play out the remainder of the tie in some comfort and sealed their 14th semi-final appearance, facing Iraq, who had earlier defeated Lebanon on penalties.

QF 4: UZBEKISTAN 3-1 VIETNAM

Uzbekistan sealed a spot in the semi-finals after edging Vietnam 3-1.

Mashrab Adilov gave Uzbekistan the lead in the first half, while Choriev doubled their lead after the break but Vietnam responded quickly with Phung Trong Luan's strike, only for Ilhomjon Hamroev to score in the final minute.

One of Vietnam's key players, Pham Duc Hoa, missed out on the action after accumulating two yellow cards

in the group stage, but the Southeast Asians were not discouraged and played with aggression from the get-go.

However, the 2016 runners-ups were unfazed, and Adilov even came close to opening the scoring for Uzbekistan in the fourth minute with his header after latching onto Davron Choriev's deflected shot but it bounced off the upright.

The duo were at it again in the ninth minute, as Choriev launched a long range cross to the attacking third that caught Vietnam off guard, connecting with Adilov who easily beat 'keeper Ngo Dinh Thuan to give Uzbekistan the lead.

Vietnam were more in control in the second half, pushing Uzbekistan into a defensive position, but despite their numerous shots on target, custodian Rustam Umarov was unbeatable.

In the 29th minute, Choriev doubled Uzbekistan's lead when Dinh Thuan failed to clear his area and the No 10 neatly chipped the ball into the net, but Vietnam bounced back almost immediately with Trong Luan's superb strike to make it 2-1.

With five minutes left, power play was next on the cards for Vietnam but after three minutes of prodding, it backfired as Hamroev neatly intercepted a pass and fired into an empty goalmouth to seal the win.



MATCH REPORTS

SEMI-FINALS

SF 1: JAPAN 3-0 IRAQ

Japan displayed their brilliance as they advanced to the final after defeating Iraq 3-0 at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

Three first half goals from Kaoru Morioka, Ryosuke Nishitani and Yuki Murota proved to be enough to seal a ninth AFC Futsal Championship final appearance for Japan.

The three-time champions kicked off the game in a spectacular fashion, with Morioka finding the back of the net with a right footed volley, courtesy of Manabu Takita's corner, in the first 40 seconds.

Japan doubled their lead in the sixth minute when they won another corner and Nishitani made no mistake from close range, sliding the ball home from the set-play.

Iraq's best opportunities were from counter-attacks, and in the 11th minute, the West Asians closest attempt came when Waleed Khalid neatly intercepted 'keeper Higor Pires' pass but his shot went off the mark.

After accruing five fouls by the 12th minute, Haitham Abbas's charges were forced to play with a little more caution, and 20 seconds from the half-time whistle, Pires took advantage of that and threw the ball upfront to Katsutoshi Rafael Henmi, who passed to Murota for an easy tap in.



Iraq returned in the second half more in control but couldn't find an opening.

They came close numerous times but Pires was rock solid as he saved every shot to secure Japan's place in the final.

SF 2: IR IRAN 7-1 UZBEKISTAN

Islamic Republic of Iran cruised into the final after beating Uzbekistan 7-1.

Iran piled on the pressure from the beginning, keeping Uzbekistan in their half, and it paid off early with Mahdi Javid finding the back of the net with his strike to the bottom left corner in the third minute.

A minute later, Uzbekistan crossed to the attacking third without their full force and were punished when Ahmad Esmaeilpour regained possession and surged down the flank before passing it off to skipper Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh for a fine finish to double their lead.

The 11-time champions showed their prowess once again with their quick ability to move down the pitch, and in the 11th minute, Hassanzadeh turned provider as his blind pass into the box found Hossein Tayebi for a close-range strike.

Hassanzadeh and Javid formed Iran's dynamic duo, as the captain earned two more assists to his name in the 16th minute with Javid completing his hat-trick with back-to-back goals in similar fashion.

In the second half, Uzbekistan returned with aggression and were more synergised in their movements and passes, which limited Iran's opportunities on target.

Mohammad Nazemasharieh's side showed that they were formidable in set-pieces as well, and Hassanzadeh earned his second with a simple tap in to make it 6-0 in the 31st minute, before Tayebi also scored his second of the match four minutes later.

Anaskhon Rakhmatov scored a consolation goal in the last 20 seconds of the game, courtesy of Farkod Abdumavlyanov's pass, but it was too little too late as Iran sealed a 13th final appearance.



MATCH REPORTS

3rd/4th PLACE MATCH

IRAQ 4-4 UZBEKISTAN A.E.T. 1-2 PENALTY SHOOT-OUT

Uzbekistan secured third place in the AFC Futsal Championship 2018, defeating Iraq 2-1 in a penalty shoot-out after the exciting play-off ended 4-4 at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.

In the opening minutes, both sides played cautiously and only looked to apply pressure when necessary, and in one such instance in the third minute, Dilshod Rakhmatov intercepted Zaid Ali's pass, before Davron Choriev beat goalkeeper Yahya Abdulnoor for Uzbekistan to take an early lead.



Iraq then began to pile on the pressure and had more control over the ball, but with Uzbek custodian Rustam Umarov guiding his backline, the West Asians had few opportunities on target.

However in the 15th minute, Ali rectified his earlier mistake by dispossessing Rakhmatov in front of the box, and fired off a firm shot to the bottom right to equalise for Iraq.

Haitham Abbas' charges returned in the second half more passionate and 20 seconds in, Waleed Khalid found the back of the net with a superb volley from a corner set-play, before Salim Faisal doubled their advantage two minutes later when his shot bounced in between the framework and into the goal.

Uzbekistan, who finished third in 2005, 2007 and 2014 and were runners-up two years ago, were hardly demoralised despite the two-goal deficit, and in the 26th minute skipper Artur Yunusov neatly converted from a corner.

Riding on that momentum, the Central Asians continued to press on, and just two minutes later, Ilhomjon Hamroev levelled the scores with a simple tap in from close range, courtesy of Choriev's pass.

The Iraqis never-say-die attitude paid off in the 35th minute when they were awarded a free-kick 10 metres from the post and Hassan Dakheel let loose a sizzling strike to regain the lead.

With two minutes left on the clock, a goal down and pride on the line, Uzbekistan introduced their flying goalkeeper, and were rewarded with Yunusov earning his second a minute from time.

Moments later, Konstantin Sviridov could have almost ended the proceedings, when Uzbekistan were awarded a spot-kick from the second penalty mark after Iraq accrued their sixth foul, but his shot flew high, sending the game into a penalty shoot-out.

Bakhodir Akhmedov's decision to bring in Akmaljon Khazratulov made the difference as the No 12 goalkeeper became Uzbekistan's hero as he fended off shots from Dakheel and Zainal Abdeen to ensure his team won the shoot-out 2-1.





MATCH REPORTS

THE FINAL

IR IRAN 4-0 JAPAN

Islamic Republic of Iran were crowned the AFC Futsal Championship winners for the 12th time after beating Japan 4-0.

Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh gave Iran the lead in the first half, and further goals from Farhad Tavakoli, Hossein Tayebi and Hassanzadeh again secured them a second consecutive title.

The battle between the Continent's two futsal giants began as expected, with both sides playing a high pressure game with intense marking from the first blow of the whistle, and Mahdi Javid came dangerously close for Iran in the opening minutes when his effort struck the goal frame.

Japan head coach Bruno Garcia kept his players fully charged with flying substitutions which forced Iran to constantly adapt to the changing formations.

Both sides were evenly matched and had their fair share of possession, but Japan had the upper hand in shots on target, and after 17 minutes of play, Ryosuke Nishitani came closest for the East Asians with his effort from a difficult angle rocking the bar.

But a minute from the half-time whistle, Tavakoli intercepted Japan goalkeeper Higor Pires' long range pass, and surged down the left flank before sending a neat pass to skipper Hassanzadeh for a fine shot to the bottom right to break the deadlock at the Xinzhuang Gymnasium.



Just 20 seconds into the second half, Iran threatened with Javid's cross into the box but Ahmad Esmailpour just failed to connect but two minutes later, Tavakoli made no mistake from close range to double their lead.

Esmailpour displayed spectacular individual skill when he moved on the counter in the 29th minute, dribbling through the Japanese defence before passing it to Hassanzadeh, who finished superbly.

Japan were impressive in moving the ball between tight spaces, but the Iranian defence seemed almost impenetrable, and with five minutes left, they opted for the power play with Kaoru Morioka coming in as their fifth attacking force.



Despite numerous attempts, it backfired with Tayebi shooting into an unguarded goalmouth in the final minute to claim a convincing victory.





RESULTS & STATISTICS

CHINESE TAIPEI 2018





RESULTS & STATISTICS

GROUP A

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
VIETNAM	3	2	0	1	6	4	2	6
BAHRAIN	3	1	1	1	6	5	1	4
CHINESE TAIPEI	3	1	1	1	8	9	-1	4
MALAYSIA	3	1	0	2	7	9	-2	3

MATCH	SCORE
VIETNAM vs MALAYSIA	1-2
CHINESE TAIPEI vs BAHRAIN	2-2
BAHRAIN vs VIETNAM	1-2
MALAYSIA vs CHINESE TAIPEI	4-5
MALAYSIA vs BAHRAIN	1-3
CHINESE TAIPEI vs VIETNAM	1-3

GROUP B

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
JAPAN	3	3	0	0	13	6	7	9
UZBEKISTAN	3	2	0	1	19	8	11	6
TAJIKISTAN	3	1	0	2	11	8	3	3
KOREA REPUBLIC	3	0	0	3	4	25	-21	0

MATCH	SCORE
JAPAN vs TAJIKISTAN	4-2
UZBEKISTAN vs KOREA REPUBLIC	13-2
KOREA REPUBLIC vs JAPAN	2-5
TAJIKISTAN vs UZBEKISTAN	2-4
UZBEKISTAN vs JAPAN	2-4
TAJIKISTAN vs KOREA REPUBLIC	7-0



RESULTS & STATISTICS

GROUP C

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	3	3	0	0	30	4	26	9
IRAQ	3	2	0	1	10	9	1	6
CHINA P.R.	3	1	0	2	8	18	-10	3
MYANMAR	3	0	0	3	5	22	-17	0

MATCH	SCORE
IRAQ vs CHINA P.R.	4-2
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs MYANMAR	14-0
MYANMAR vs IRAQ	2-3
CHINA P.R. vs ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	1-11
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs IRAQ	5-3
CHINA P.R. vs MYANMAR	5-3

GROUP D

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
LEBANON	3	2	1	0	9	5	4	7
THAILAND	3	2	0	1	15	7	8	6
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	3	1	1	1	6	11	-5	4
JORDAN	3	0	0	3	3	10	-7	0

MATCH	SCORE
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC vs LEBANON	2-2
THAILAND vs JORDAN	5-1
JORDAN vs KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	1-3
LEBANON vs THAILAND	5-2
THAILAND vs KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	8-1
LEBANON vs JORDAN	2-1



RESULTS & STATISTICS

QUARTER-FINALS

Match	Score
LEBANON vs IRAQ	2-2 (8-9 penalty shoot-out)
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs THAILAND	9-1
JAPAN vs SAUDI ARABIA	2-0
VIETNAM vs UZBEKISTAN	1-3

SEMI-FINALS

Match	Score
IRAQ vs JAPAN	0-3
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs UZBEKISTAN	7-1

THIRD/FOURTH PLACE

Match	Score
IRAQ vs UZBEKISTAN	4-4 (1-2 penalty shoot-out)

FINAL

Match	Score
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs JAPAN	4-0



RESULTS & STATISTICS

TEAM RANKING

	Team	Ranking
Final	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	1
Final	JAPAN	2
3rd/4th Placing	UZBEKISTAN	3
3rd/4th Placing	IRAQ	4
Quarter Finals	LEBANON	5
Quarter Finals	VIETNAM	6
Quarter Finals	BAHRAIN	7
Quarter Finals	THAILAND	8
Group A	CHINESE TAIPEI	9
Group D	KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	10
Group B	TAJIKISTAN	11
Group C	CHINA P.R.	12
Group A	MALAYSIA	13
Group D	JORDAN	14
Group C	MYANMAR	15
Group B	KOREA REPUBLIC	16

FAIRPLAY REPORT

Team	Ranking
IRAQ	55.21
UZBEKISTAN	54.96
JAPAN	54.75
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	54.63
VIETNAM	37.00
THAILAND	36.75
LEBANON	36.66
BAHRAIN	33.04
CHINESE TAIPEI	28.00
TAJIKISTAN	27.89
KOREA REPUBLIC	26.76
MALAYSIA	26.75
MYANMAR	26.62
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	26.50
JORDAN	25.11
CHINA P.R.	23.75



TEAM PROFILES





TEAM PROFILES

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN



Head Coach
**MOHAMMAD NAZEM
ALSHARIE**
Nationality
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

- No. 10 **HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI** - Scored two goals and set up a third. Good technique and mobility
- No. 13 **FARHAD TAVAKOLI ROOZBAHANI** - Outstanding in 1 v 1 attack. Raised intensity of team's performance
- No. 7 **ALI ASGHAR NAVLIGHE (C)** - Instigated many attacks and scored two goals
- No. 14 **MAHDI JAVID** - Good goalscoring ability
- No. 3 **AHMAD ESMAEILPOUR** - Excellent vision in distribution and strong in defence
- No. 4 **MOSLEM OLADGHOBAD** - Strong dribbler and in 1v1



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	SEPEHR MOHAMMADI (GK)	20	20	20	0	20	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	2	5	7	0	0	0
2	ALIREZA SAMIMI (GK)	20	20	20	40	20	40	160	0	0	0	2	0	8	9	0	23	15	9	0	0	0
3	AHMAD ESMAELIPOUR	13	16	12	18	19	20	98	3	15	3	12	4	15	16	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	MOSLEM OLADGHOBAD	11	7	14	6	11	6	55	2	2	0	5	2	10	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	ALIREZA RAFIEI POUR	7	11	6	4	11	0	39	0	4	0	4	0	5	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	MOHAMMADREZA SANGSEFIDI	8	11	11	18	12	17	77	0	4	0	2	3	15	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	ALI ASGHAR NAVLIGHE (C)	19	21	24	20	22	29	135	12	16	0	10	5	22	21	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	ABOLGHASEM OROUJI	13	11	8	4	7	6	49	0	6	0	2	0	11	5	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	SAEID AHMAD ABBASI	7	4	7	5	8	3	34	1	13	0	5	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
10	HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI	16	17	20	24	17	19	113	14	30	3	8	6	4	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
11	MEHRAN ALIGHADR	14	9	10	6	7	0	46	1	3	0	4	1	12	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	MOHAMMAD SHAJARI	14	14	10	12	19	11	80	3	11	1	5	3	8	8	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
13	FARHAD TAVAKOLI ROOZBAHANI	20	15	24	27	9	28	123	4	15	2	4	8	16	11	8	0	0	0	1	0	0
14	MAHDI JAVID	18	24	14	16	18	21	111	10	24	4	18	9	21	13	5	0	0	0	1	0	0

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Fit enough to press for the whole game
- Able to defend as a team
- Plenty of shooting from outside penalty area
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

STYLE OF PLAY

- Play 1-1-2-1 & 1-4-0 looking to play to the pivot & support quick from behind
- Excellent coordinated movement with excellent individual understanding
- Press Man on Man & 1-1-2-1
- Excellent 1 v 1 defensive abilities
- Show good individual strength in both attack & defence
- Good understanding of when to change pace & direction



TEAM PROFILES

JAPAN



Head Coach
BRUNO GARCIA
Nationality
SPAIN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 9 MORIOKA KAORU - Strong desire to win all balls, strong mentality and goalscoring ability

No. 6 YOSHIKAWA TOMOKI - Good movement, vision and passing skill

No. 2 HIGOR PIRES - Good saves and distribution

No. 7 HENMI KATSUTOSHI RAFAEL - A big influence in attack, marshaled defence well

No. 8 TAKITA MANABU - Strong in defence, hardworking



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	SEKIGUCHI YUSKI (GK)	0	20	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
2	HIGOR PIRES (GK)	40	20	40	40	40	36	216	0	2	1	1	0	21	20	0	33	16	25	0	0	0
3	MUROTA YUKI	16	15	11	12	16	12	82	1	14	0	3	0	19	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
4	SAITO KOICHI	3	9	7	8	5	1	33	1	10	1	4	1	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	AKIRA MINAMOTO (C)	14	9	6	11	19	17	76	0	10	1	7	1	20	10	7	0	0	0	1	0	0
6	YOSHIKAWA TOMOKI	19	18	21	23	22	24	127	0	11	0	4	5	33	18	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	HENMI KATSUTOSHI RAFAEL	18	18	19	21	19	20	115	0	23	1	9	1	23	11	10	0	0	0	2	0	0
8	TAKITA MANABU	12	9	18	16	23	13	91	1	4	1	8	1	15	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	MORIOKA KAORU	13	6	13	16	10	14	72	7	20	0	4	1	25	12	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
10	NIBUYA KAZUHIRO	11	14	8	8	0	13	54	1	10	1	6	0	15	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	HOSHI SHOTA	18	22	14	13	10	17	94	3	11	1	4	1	19	11	6	0	0	0	1	0	0
12	SHIMIZU KAZUYA	20	17	15	11	8	12	83	2	25	1	16	1	15	10	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	TOMOAKI WATANABE	3	9	9	0	9	5	35	0	6	0	1	0	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	NISHITANI RYOSUKE	13	14	19	21	19	16	102	2	9	0	9	4	12	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Fit enough to press for the whole game
- Able to defend as a team
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

STYLE OF PLAY

- Apply 1-3-1 or 1-4-0 offensive in own half
- Always look to open up space down the flanks for pass to runner into the space
- Good speed & movement with the ball
- Play short pass and penetrate in middle court
- Pressed constantly in 2 formations - Man on Man or 1-2-2
- Strong in 1 v 1 contests
- Play as a team tactically to attack and defend
- Flexible players grouping and use time out
- Attempts to change tactics according to the opponent's attacking play



TEAM PROFILES

UZBEKISTAN



Head Coach
BAKHODIR AKHMEDOV
Nationality
UZBEKISTAN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

- No. 11 **ARTUR YUNUSOV (C)** - Controlled the team well and possessed good technique
- No. 8 **ABDUMAVLYANOV FARKHOD** - Control & Shielding the ball as Pivot
- No. 10 **DAVRON CHORIEV** - Good technique and flexible play
- No. 3 **MASHRAB ADILOV** - Good movement and good intention
- No. 7 **DILSHOD RAKHMATOV** - Good and quick judgement and passing skill



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS					
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC	
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO				
1	RUSTAM UMAROV (GK)	20	40	37	40	40	39	216	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	0	25	28	25	0	0	0	
2	ANASKHON RAKHMATOV	8	0	0	0	4	5	17	2	1	0	1	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	MASHRAB ADILOV	16	16	16	20	20	16	104	4	6	1	3	2	23	14	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	IKHTIYOR ROPIEV	8	0	0	9	4	5	26	1	1	0	1	1	0	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	
5	DILMUROD SHAVKATOV	8	0	0	6	4	5	23	1	2	0	1	1	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	ILHOMJON HAMROEV	16	18	19	23	22	17	115	3	4	1	1	1	16	24	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	DILSHOD RAKHMATOV	16	22	21	10	14	18	101	2	16	2	11	1	18	19	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	
8	FARKHOD ABDUMAVLYANOV	16	23	21	15	15	17	107	2	13	1	8	4	14	12	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	DAVRONJON ABDURAKHMONOV	16	15	18	13	19	17	98	0	9	1	10	4	18	12	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	DAVRON CHORIEV	16	15	22	24	24	19	120	7	15	1	7	4	40	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	
11	ARTUR YUNUSOV (C)	16	24	22	18	13	18	111	4	11	0	14	0	28	12	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	
12	AKMALJON KHAZRATKULOV (GK)	20	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6	3	2	0	0	0	
13	KHUSNIDDIN NISHONOV	8	0	0	0	4	5	17	1	2	0	3	2	6	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14	KONSTANTIN SVIRIDOV	16	25	24	22	17	19	123	0	9	0	11	1	20	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Sat back in own half to defend
- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Like to use some long passes
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

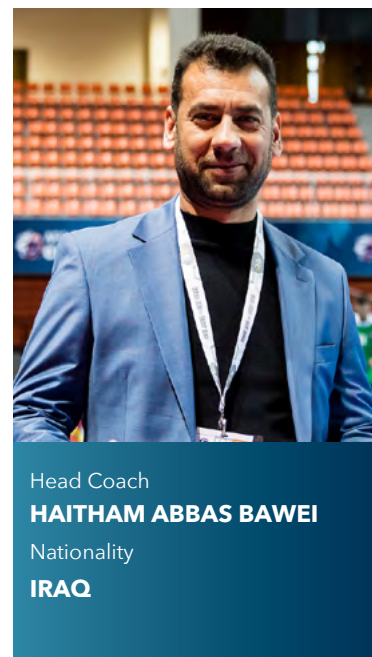
STYLE OF PLAY

- Played 1-4-0 when under extreme pressure and 1-1-2-1 & 1-2-2 when able to get out of pressure
- Always looked to open up space down the right flank for a pass to runner over the top or through the space
- 1-1-2-1 and 1-2-2 depending on the position of the ball
- Content to hold position in own half and looked to mark space rather than follow runners
- Good 1 v 1 in defence but always have cover
- Press when opportunity arose



TEAM PROFILES

IRAQ



Head Coach
HAITHAM ABBAS BAWEI
Nationality
IRAQ

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 3 FIRAS MOHAMMED ABED - Scored 2 goals to keep his team in the contest

No. 9 HASAN ALI JABBAR - Strong at Pivot and gave many instructions on the court - did get under the skin of the anchors that were marking him

No. 10 HASAN ALI DAKHEEL - Good technique and strong shot

No. 7 SALIM FAISAL ABED - A lot of movement and dedicated play

No. 2 MUSTAFA BACHAY HAMZAH - Good in defence and mentally strong



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES

NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	YAHYA ABDULNOOR RAHEEM (GK)	29	40	20	40	29	40	198	0	0	0	1	1	21	14	0	20	18	21	0	0	0
2	MUSTAFA BACHAY HAMZAH	32	32	2	25	32	26	149	0	15	1	9	0	35	17	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
3	FIRAS MOHAMMED ABED	0	4	21	18	5	14	62	2	3	0	1	0	11	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	TAREQ ZEYAD SULAIMAN	3	0	15	14	5	2	39	0	2	0	2	0	7	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	HUSSEIN ABD ALI MOHAMMED AL-ZUBAIDI (C)	9	10	13	5	2	18	57	0	3	0	2	1	20	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	ZAID ALI AL-HAKEEM	0	0	18	6	21	8	53	1	2	0	3	0	14	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	SALIM FAISAL ABED	21	15	18	15	21	12	102	3	20	2	14	2	16	17	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	GHAITH RIYADH ARAB	0	0	9	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	HASAN ALI JABBAR	25	25	20	25	12	23	130	3	20	0	9	0	25	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	HASAN ALI DAKHEEL	15	13	15	0	14	21	78	2	15	1	13	1	14	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	RAFID HAMEED EESA	25	34	NE	27	17	6	109	1	18	0	4	1	23	19	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ZAINAL ABDEEN ABDALE	0	0	15	1	12	3	31	0	5	1	3	0	5	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	ZAHER MAHDI HADI (GK)	11	0	20	0	2	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	0	6	4	1	0	0	0
14	WALEED KHALID FAHEM	30	27	14	24	28	27	150	4	20	0	12	1	37	8	7	0	0	0	1	0	0




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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Fit enough to press for the whole game
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence
- Struggled at times to deal with pressure from opposition
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Build-up from the back slow at times
- Like to use some long passes
- Sat back in own half to defend

STYLE OF PLAY

- Applied 1-3-1 or 1-2-2 offensive in own half as they were constantly under pressure
- Zone defence 1-1-2-1 or 1-2-2 depending on the position of the ball
- Always aimed for the long ball, whether a pass or throw in
- Played as a team in both attack and defence
- Good 1 v 1 defensive abilities
- Played on strong individual defence



TEAM PROFILES

LEBANON



Head Coach
SHAHAB SOFALMANESH
Nationality
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 10 ALI TNEICH - Good movement with and without the ball in attack and good passing ability

No. 5 AHMAD KHEIR EL DINE - Showed good strength in the pivot position

No. 12 KARIM ABOU ZEID - Very strong in defence with 4 IP's & 4 DP's



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES

NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	HUSSEIN HAMADANI (GK)	40	40	5	40			125	0	1	0	0	0	10	7	0	12	11	7	1	0	0
2	GHADI ABI AKL (GK)	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	MOHAMMAD ABOU ZEID	1	0	0	3			4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	MOUSTAFA SERHAN	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	AHMAD KHEIR EL DINE	29	30	27	29			115	3	26	2	23	0	10	10	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	ALI EL HOMSİ	18	16	24	20			78	2	7	0	0	1	13	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	HASSAN ZEITOUN	15	12	17	4			48	1	3	0	6	1	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	KASSEM KOUSSAN (C)	15	15	16	13			59	1	1	0	5	0	7	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	MOUHAMMAD HAMMOUD	7	0	3	0			10	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	ALITNEICH	29	33	28	32			122	3	31	2	27	1	18	17	6	0	0	0	1	0	0
11	MOHAMAD KOBEISSY	25	26	24	31			106	1	16	0	7	3	10	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	KARIM ABOU ZEID	21	28	21	29			99	0	13	0	13	3	7	16	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	KARIM JOUEIDI (GK)	0	0	35	0			35	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	2	4	1	0	0
14	FADI GREIJ	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Legend:
 IP: Intercepted Pass | DP: Dispossessed Opponent | CS: Completed Save | NCS: Non Completed Save | DO: Deflected Out of the pitch



TEAM PROFILES



● Goal Conceded ● Goal Scored → Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Like to use some long passes
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

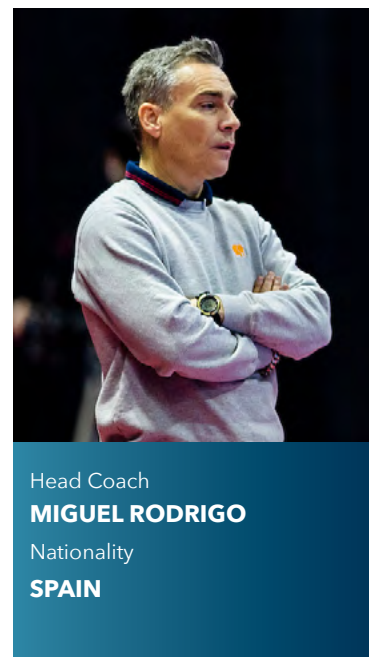
STYLE OF PLAY

- Applied 1-3-1 or 1-4-0 offensive in own half and looked for space to attack
- Applied 1-2-1 in opponent's half at times
- Played as a team in both attack and defence
- Liked to dribble 1 v 1
- Pressed man on man when had the option
- 1-1-2-1 and 1-2-2 in zonal defence
- Good individual 1 v 1 defensive skills
- Once up to speed, their defence was capable of dominating their opposition



TEAM PROFILES

VIETNAM



Head Coach
MIGUEL RODRIGO
Nationality
SPAIN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 10 VU DUC TUNG - excellent at shielding the ball, good strength & willing to shoot at all times

No. 7 PHUNG TRONG LUAN - Instrumental in lifting his teammates every time he entered the court. Had good 1 v 1 skills in attack & defence & never gave up. Rewarded with a goal

No. 8 VU QUOC HUNG - Worked hard in both attack & defence



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	NGO DINH THUAN (C) (GK)	40	40	40	38			158	0	1	0	1	0	6	0	1	13	4	6	0	0	0
2	NGUYEN VAN HUY (GK)	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	LE QUOC NAM	18	13	4	13			48	0	5	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	CO TRI KIET	16	14	5	12			47	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	NGO NGOC SON	15	15	16	24			70	0	2	0	5	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	PHAM DUC HOA	24	16	20	NE			60	1	5	0	6	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
7	PHUNG TRONG LUAN	16	11	17	23			67	2	3	1	4	1	5	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	VU QUOC HUNG	19	16	22	21			78	0	3	0	11	0	8	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	TRAN THAI HUY	11	12	13	9			45	0	3	0	7	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	VU DUCTUNG	24	13	18	13			68	2	5	0	4	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
11	CHU VAN TIEN	0	13	11	9			33	0	1	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	KHONG DINH HUNG	0	11	5	9			25	0	2	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	DINH VAN TOAN	3	12	14	19			48	0	3	0	2	0	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	NGUYEN DAC HUY	14	14	15	10			53	2	2	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Good physical condition
- Able to defend as a team
- Plenty of shooting from outside penalty area
- Build-up from the back slow at times
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack

STYLE OF PLAY

- 1-3-1 and 1-1-2-1
- Played 1-3-1 with either #10 or #14 as pivot
- First 4 players pressed from the start (1-1-1-2) and next 4 players employed 3/4 press with alternation to 1/2 court zonal (1-2-2)
- Played as a team in both attack and defence



TEAM PROFILES

BAHRAIN



Head Coach
**ADEL ABDULRAHMAN
MOHAMED MARZOOQ**
Nationality
BAHRAIN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 8 MOHAMED RADHI ALSANDI (C) - Captain had a stellar game marshaling his defence and scoring from long range

No. 10 JASSAM SALEH ANAN - Always read the game well in defence, intercepted several passes and created many chances with good incisive passes

No. 4 FALAH ABBAS YUSUF - Was the rock in defence, intercepting several passes

No. 11 AHMED ABDULNABI HAMAD - scored 2 goals in the first half, both great finishes



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING							
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SCORE	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			SANCTIONS		
										SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO	YC	2YC	RC	
1	SAYED FADHEL MAHFOODH (GK)	0	0	12	38			50	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	9	3	6	0	0	0	
2	YUSUF ABDULLA SALEH (GK)	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	ALI AHMED ALMALKI	4	1	0	5			10	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	FALAH ABBAS YUSUF	34	35	38	35			142	0	1	0	3	1	19	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5	SAYED HASHEM SHARAF	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	ALI SALEH ALSALEH	24	12	0	12			48	1	2	0	2	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	ABDULLA MOHAMED ALMALKI	0	3	0	0			3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8	MOHAMED RADHI ALSANDI (C)	27	31	37	37			132	2	3	0	5	2	19	13	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	
9	MOHAMED ABDULLA ALI	16	17	22	0			55	1	10	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
10	JASSAM SALEH ANAN	34	33	33	36			136	0	14	0	7	0	35	22	6	0	0	2	1	0	0	
11	AHMED ABDULNABI HAMAD	21	23	14	20			78	2	3	1	8	0	5	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12	SALMAN MAULA MUHAMMAD	0	3	12	7			22	0	6	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
13	AHMED ABDULJALIL DARWISH	0	3	4	10			17	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14	SAYED MOHAMED ABBAS (GK)	40	39	28	0			107	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of shooting from outside penalty area
- Build-up from the back slow at times
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack

STYLE OF PLAY

- Applied 1-3-1 or 1-1-2-1 offensive in own half and looked to play to the pivot with quick support from behind
- When pressured, always looked for the long ball but with mixed results
- Lacked speed in rotation as players took too many touches
- Played zonal defence unless an opportunity arose to press
- Did press when behind or when opposition implemented the power play



TEAM PROFILES

THAILAND



Head Coach
JOSE MARIA PAZOS MENDEZ
Nationality
THAILAND

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

- No. 7 KRITSADA WONGKAE0 (C) - Played with plenty of energy and led his team well
- No. 14 APIWAT CHAEMCHAROEN - Scored 2 goals in the first half and was a constant threat
- No. 10 NATTAVUT MADYALAN - Had great impact when he was on the court
- No. 9 SUPHAWUT THUEANKLANG - Showed great strength on the ball and showed smart distribution



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS				
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	KANISON PHOOPUN (GK)	40	29	40	31			140						1	3		18	12	15	1		
2	PEERAPOL SATSUE	2	0	4	0			6		1				1	1					1		
3	SUTTIROJ NATTHAPON	19	13	18	18			68		2		1		5	5	1						
4	NAWIN RATTANAWONGSWA	4	0	6	3			13		1		2		2	2							
5	RONNACHAI JUNGWONGSUK	3	0	4	0			7		1		2		2	1							
6	JIRAWAT SORNWICHIAN	18	18	18	22			76	1+1 PK	6		5		11	4	3						
7	KRITSADA WONGKAE0 (C)	21	19	20	21			81	1	2		3	2	11	6	3						
8	JETSADA CHUDECH	10	19	8	10			47	3	7		7	2	7	2	4						
9	SUPHAWUT THUEANKLANG	20	24	18	22			84	4	12	3	13	2	9	5	8						
10	NATTAVUT MADYALAN	17	20	14	21			72	1	7	2	3	1	8	2	3				1		
11	MUHAMMAD OSAMANMUSA	10	12	15	16			53		8		7		4	6	3						
12	KATAWUT HANKAMPA (GK)	0	0	0	0			0														
13	CHAIWAT JAMGRAJANG	17	6	21	17			55		11		6		9	6	1						
14	APIWAT CHAEMCHAROEN	19	23	14	19			75	4	4		2		9	10	2				1		

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack

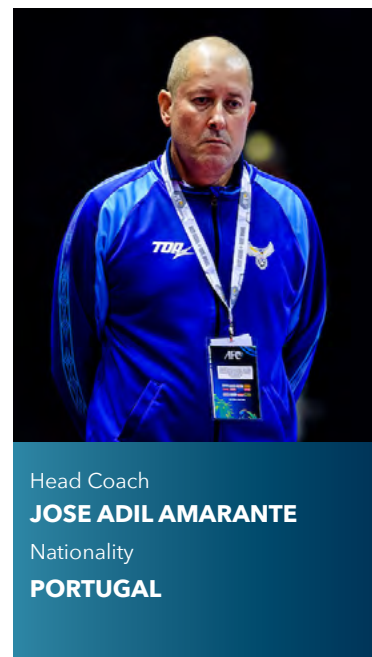
STYLE OF PLAY

- Always looking to hit their pivot upfront and run off whenever possible
- Applied 1-3-1 attack when they had time on the ball or used the 1-4-0 attack in their own half when under pressure
- Played short passes and penetrated through the middle court
- Played as a team when attacking and defending
- Usually press from the start and zone up once breached



TEAM PROFILES

CHINESE TAIPEI



Head Coach
JOSE ADIL AMARANTE
Nationality
PORTUGAL

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

- No. 7 **CHANG CHIEN-YING (C)** - Worked tirelessly in defence and led by example
- No. 13 **LIN CHIEN-HSUN** - Very strong and held up ball well at pivot
- No. 10 **CHI SHENG-FA** - Showed good ability in intercepting passes and was smart in defence



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS			
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	CHIANG HSIN WEI (GK)	40	40	37				117	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	25	3	11	0	0	0
2	WANG KUN-WEI	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	CHOU I TE	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	HUNG KAI-CHUN	0	0	0				0	0	4	0	3	2	7	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	HUANG PO CHUN	22	17	23				62	1	12	2	7	0	0	18	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
6	HUNG WEI-TENG	3	11	16				30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	CHANG CHIEN-YING (C)	26	31	24				81	1	4	1	4	0	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	HUANG TAI-HSIANG	23	23	21				67	0	4	0	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	LIN CHIH-HUNG	26	22	22				70	1	5	0	2	2	7	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	CHI SHENG-FA	31	21	23				75	3	10	0	10	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	LAI MING-HUI	14	16	14				44	2	4	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	CHEN WEI-CHUN	0	22	0				22	0	4	2	1	2	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	LIN CHIEN-HSUN	15	19	20				54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	CHEN CHING-HSUAN	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Good physical condition
- Like to use some long passes
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Able to defend as a team

STYLE OF PLAY

- Played 1-1-2-1, 1-3-1 or 1-2-2 and always looked to play to the pivot & support was quick from behind
- When zoning alternatively between 1-2-2, 1-1-3 or 1-1-2-1 based on position of the ball
- Pressed man on man when chance arose
- Played long passes with mixed results
- Showed good individual strength
- Had good 1 v 1 defensive traits



TEAM PROFILES

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



Head Coach
AMIRZHAN MUKANOV
Nationality
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 10 BAIGAZY UULU ULANBEK - Strong on the ball and a good defender. Creative on the ball, showed good technique and dummy shots

No. 9 MAKSAT ALIMOV - Showed good technique

No. 3 IULDASHBAI SALIMBAEV - Strong shooting was his trait



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES

NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS						
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC		
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO					
1	KIRILL ERMOLOV (GK)	40	40	39				119		1		1			7	3			18	8	9			
2	AKTILEK ESENALIEV (GK)	0	0	1				1							1									
3	IULDASHBAI SALIMBAEV	23	21	25				69	1	10		11			5	8								
4	ARSTANBEK TURSUNOV	0	1	3				4		2														
5	KELKEL ANARBEKOV	0	0	4				4		1														
6	ABDRASUL UULU MANAS	17	19	13				49	1	6		5			2	7	1							
7	DASTAN RYSBEKOV	0	0	4				4		1					1	2								
8	ADILET IMANBEKOV	4	16	14				34	2	2					6	3	1							
9	MAKSAT ALIMOV	27	22	24				73	2	10	2	7			11	6	5							
10	BAIGAZY UULU ULANBEK	25	26	21				72		2		5			12	16	11						1	1
11	ADILET KULTAEV	22	20	18				60		4		5	2		4	4	1							
12	AKTAI TASHTANOV	10	5	7				22		1		1			3	2	1					1		
13	MIRLAN ZHOLDUBAEV	17	20	15				52		10	1	7			7	8	3							
14	EMIL KANETOV (C)	16	19	12				47		4	1	4			8	6	1					1		

Legend:
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TEAM PROFILES



● Goal Conceded ● Goal Scored → Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

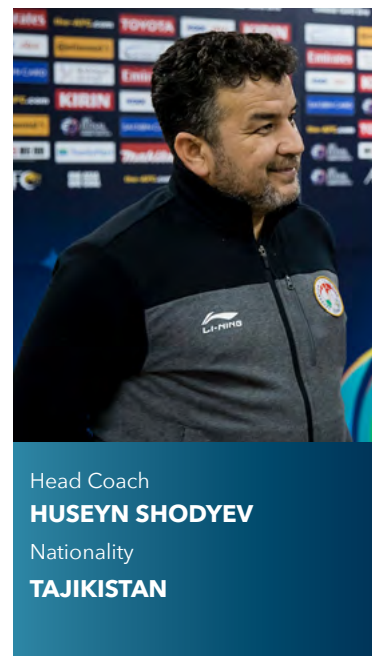
STYLE OF PLAY

- Liked to pull opposition defence to one side of the court to open up the opposite flank
- Rotations were too slow
- Relied a lot on pressing to create turnovers and goal scoring opportunities
- Played as team to attack and defend
- Looked for individual dribbling down the flank once chances had been created
- Preferred to zone in defence but pressed when opportunity arose, especially if facing weaker opposition



TEAM PROFILES

TAJIKISTAN



Head Coach
HUSEYN SHODYEV
Nationality
TAJIKISTAN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 14 **DILSHOD SALOMOV (C)** - Strong with good skills, speed and aggressive play, good mentality

No. 9 **FAYZALI SARDOROV** - Strong with good skills, speed and aggressive play, good mentality

No. 7 **RUSTAM HAMIDOV** - Good speed and scored vital goals



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS			
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	FIRUZ BEKMURODOV (GK)	40	40	20				100	0	3	0	2	0	19	0	0	13	6	13	0	0	0
2	MURODULLO ALIKULOV (GK)	0	0	20				20	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	9	5	4	0	0	0
3	VOSITZODA IQBOLI	0	0	3				3	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	BAHODUR KHOJAEV	0	0	3				3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	SOBIRDZHON GULYAKOV	20	19	17				56	0	4	1	6	0	6	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	RAHMONALI SHARIPOV	33	30	30				93	1	4	0	1	1	11	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	RUSTAM HAMIDOV	4	2	11				17	1	2	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	SHAVOAT HALIMOV	16	18	15				49	1	6	0	6	0	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	FAYZALI SARDOROV	28	25	22				75	1	26	0	5	1	6	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	NEKRUZ ALIMAKHMADOV	15	22	11				48	1	4	0	0	0	4	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
11	FIRUZ SANGOV	0	4	4				8	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	UMED KUZIEV	9	7	10				26	2	5	0	2	1	6	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
13	MUHAMADJON SHARIPOV	3	2	7				12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	DILSHOD SALOMOV (C)	32	31	27				90	2	9	3	4	0	16	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

Legend:
 IP: Intercepted Pass | DP: Dispossessed Opponent | CS: Completed Save | NCS: Non Completed Save | DO: Deflected Out of the pitch



TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Fit enough to press for the whole game
- Able to defend as a team
- Plenty of shooting from outside penalty area
- Very strong 1 v 1 and 2 v 1 marking
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Like to use some long passes
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Average individual skill not at highest level
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

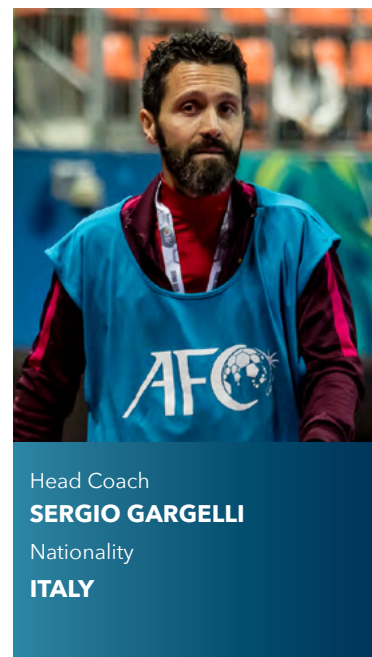
STYLE OF PLAY

- Played solo plays throughout the game or relied on long passes
- Some players had quick transition with good technique and physical presence
- Individual ability was good, but there was no change in tactics and flexibility, and were unable to play as a team in defence
- Very fast attacks and transition due to good stamina and physique, Mentally strong and had strong shots
- Attempted many shots, regardless of distance.



TEAM PROFILES

CHINA PR



Head Coach
SERGIO GARGELLI
Nationality
ITALY

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 6 XU YANG - Good physique, aspiration and desire

No. 7 ZHAO LIANG - Controlled the team well and good in defence

No. 8 LI JIANJIA - Very focused defensively and quick to react to situations



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING							
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			SANCTIONS			
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO	YC	2YC	RC	
1	ZHU BEI (GK)	37	19	37				93	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	0	10	21	10	0	0	0	
2	ZHANG BIN	8	2	0				10	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	LI SHUNYING	10	16	14				40	0	3	0	0	0	6	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	LI ZHIHENG	2	18	11				31	0	2	0	1	0	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	ZHUANG JIANFA	22	21	18				61	0	9	2	2	0	7	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
6	XU YANG	6	22	11				39	2	6	0	6	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
7	ZHAO LIANG	24	21	19				64	1	3	0	2	1	12	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
8	LI JIANJIA	26		22				48	0	0	0	4	1	10	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
9	GU HAITAO	17	24	21				62	2	6	0	2	1	6	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
10	LIN YUCHEN	3	9	0				12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	SHEN SIMING	18	12	13				43	1	6	0	2	1	6	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
12	ZHOU FAN (GK)	0	20	0				20	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	5	3	6	0	0	0	0
13	PENG BOYAO	13	16	14				43	0	1	0	1	1	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	ZHANG YAMENG	14		20				34	2	7	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Legend:
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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Struggled at times to deal with pressure from opposition
- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Like to use some long passes
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Like to use some long passes
- Physically strong, won many 1 v 1 duels especially in defence

STYLE OF PLAY

- Utilised 3-1 or 1-2-1 offensive patterns in own half and looked for space to attack
- Applied 3-1 occasionally in opponent half with #6 Pivot
- Played as a team to attack and defend
- Understanding level was good in defence in own half but need more endurance physically
- Seldom relied on individual dribbling



TEAM PROFILES

MALAYSIA



Head Coach
CHIEW CHUN YONG
Nationality
MALAYSIA

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 14 YAZID KAMARUZUAN - Good movement in attack and showed good vision

No. 7 MOHD KHAIRUL EFFENDY - Was instrumental in turning the game around during the Power Play. Never stopped working and gave maximum effort

No. 5 MOHAMAD AWALLUDDIN NAWI -He was able to keep possession well and his commitment gave his team hope

No. 9 MOHD AZWANN ISMAIL - Peppered the opponent's goalmouth with many shots



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING								
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SCORE	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			SANCTIONS			
										SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO	YC	2YC	RC		
1	MOHD FIRDAUS RAZALI (C) (GK)	0	0	11				11						2	2		1		1					
2	ABU HANIFFA BIN HASAN	NE	23	24				47		9		1		4	6	1								
3	MUHAMMAD NURASYRAAF	0	0	0				0																
4	MUHAMMAD FARIKH RAHMAN	0	0	0				0																
5	MOHAMAD AWALLUDDIN NAWI	19	23	22				64	3	8		1		2	1	3								
6	MOHD RIDZWAN BAKRI	24	16	19				59		7	2	4		10	7	2					1			
7	MOHD KHAIRUL EFFENDY	22	23	26				71	1	14		7	1	10	6	1					2			
8	SAIFUL AULA AHMAD	20	0	9				29						2	1	1					2			
9	MOHD AZWANN ISMAIL	20	21	23				64	1	14	1	11	1	13	6	4					2			
10	SYED AIZAD DANIEL	21	21	22				64	1	12	1	4	1	6	5	1								
11	MUHAMMAD AIDIL SHAHRIL BIN ROSLI	4	5	1				10			1	1		1										
12	AZRUL HADEE TAUFIQ (GK)	39	40	21				100						5	3	2	11	22	5	1				
13	SAIFUL NIZAM ALI	17	14	9				40		2		1		3	1	1					2			
14	YAZID KAMARUZUAN	14	14	13				41		2	1			3	5	2								

Legend:
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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Build-up from the back slow at times

STYLE OF PLAY

- Utilised 3-1 or 1-2-1 offensive patterns in own half and looked for space to attack
- Applied 3-1 occasionally in opponent half with #6 Pivot
- Played as a team to attack and defend
- Understanding level was good in defence in own half but need more endurance physically
- Seldom relied on individual dribbling



TEAM PROFILES

JORDAN



Head Coach
**SALAH (MOH'D YOSRI)
SALEH ABU JAFER**
Nationality
JORDAN

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

- No. 6 MUTAZ MOH'D MUSA ABU - Strong in defence and had good technique
- No. 2 MAJDI WALEED FAIQ - Tireless worker around the court and showed good vision
- No. 7 AHMED ABDELALRHMAN MOHAMMAD ARAB (C) - Strong in defence and had a high work rate



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES




NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED							ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS					
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC	
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO				
1	YUSEF AHMAD YUSEF AY (GK)	0	36	0				36	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	11	5	4	1	0	0	
2	MAJDI WALEED FAIQ	34	26	0				60	0	4	0	1	0	6	10	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	QAIS MOHAMMAD SHABIB	3	14	21				38	1	4	1	4	0	3	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
4	MU'TAZ MOHAMMAD ABDULRAHEEM	0	0	8				8	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	AHMAD AMER SAMARA	18	28	23				69	1	8	0	4	0	9	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	MUTAZ MOH'D MUSA ABU	27	34	27				88	1	11	2	16	0	8	11	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
7	AHMED ABDELALRHMAN MOHAMMAD ARAB (C)	32	27	15				74	0	2	2	3	0	3	6	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
8	YOUSEF ABDALLAH MAHMOUD	8	10	11				29	0	9	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	IBRAHIM AZMI FAEK QANDEEL	14	11	1				26	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	SAMER SAMIH (M. WAHEED) NASER ALDEEN	10	NE	35				45	0	3	0	8	0	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
11	AMJED MOHAMMAD E'LAYAN ALQOROM	5	13	18				36	0	4	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ALEDRES HASAN RAYYASH (GK)	0	0	40				40	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	1	3	0	0	0	0
13	WESAM WALEED ABED ASHOUR	9	1	1				11	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	MAJED MAHMOUD ALHAFI (GK)	40	0	0				40	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	6	1	3	0	0	0	0

Legend:
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TEAM PROFILES



 Goal Conceded  Goal Scored  Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Good physical condition
- Like to use some long passes
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Struggled at times to deal with pressure from opposition

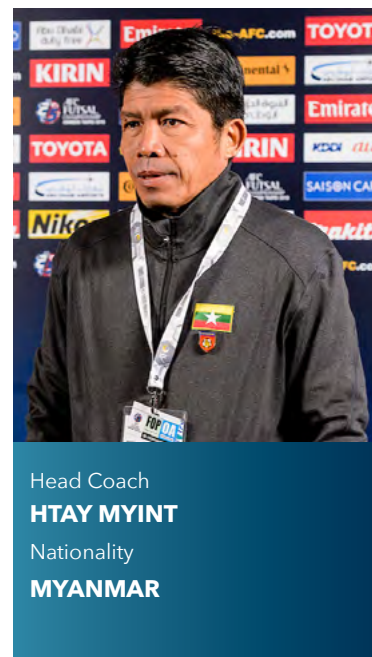
STYLE OF PLAY

- Lack of movement meant limited chances
- Looked for long ball most of the time
- Played zonal 1-1-2-1 and Man on Man in defence, usually sitting half court and dropping to 1/3 of the court
- Played as team to attack and defend
- Looked to dribble once in opponent's half



TEAM PROFILES

MYANMAR



Head Coach
HTAY MYINT
Nationality
MYANMAR

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 1 **YAN PAING HEIN** - Showed good skills and mentality

No. 5 **HEIN MIN SOE** - Good in defence as Anker. Strong desire to win all balls and good mentally

No. 9 **PYAE PHYO MAUNG (C)** - Led team as captain with good mental strength



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES

NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING							
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SCORE	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			SANCTIONS		
										SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO	YC	2YC	RC	
1	YAN PAING HEIN (GK)	30	36	30				96	0	0	0	0	0	13	3	0	15	10	20	0	0	0	
2	ZWE PYAE SON (GK)	10	0	0				10	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	
3	KO KO LWIN (K K LWIN)	11	9	0				20	0	0	0	0	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
4	KAUNG CHITTHU	16	20	20				56	0	5	0	7	0	6	9	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
5	HEIN MIN SOE	16	11	13				40	0	3	1	2	0	9	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	NAING YE KYAW	10	23	23				56	0	4	0	1	0	10	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	
7	MYO MYINT SOE	15	7	14				36	0	2	0	1	1	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8	SAI PYONE AUNG	12	0	6				18	0	1	0	2	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	PYAE PHYO MAUNG (C)	12	13	0				25	0	6	0	5	3	6	11	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	KHIN ZAW LIN	14	14	20				48	1	3	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
11	NYEIN MIN SOE	13	26	24				63	1	3	1	8	0	7	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
12	YE LIN TUN	15	7	18				40	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
13	AUNG ZIN OO	14	8	5				27	0	2	0	3	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14	PYAE PHYO MAUNG	11	26	27				64	3	5	0	2	1	6	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	

Legend:
 IP: Intercepted Pass | DP: Dispossessed Opponent | CS: Completed Save | NCS: Non Completed Save | DO: Deflected Out of the pitch



TEAM PROFILES



KEY POINTS

- Struggled at times to deal with pressure from opposition
- Plenty of rotations to create space
- Good physical condition
- Strong team unit with individual flair
- Able to defend as a team
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Like to use some long passes
- Sat back in own half to defend
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack

STYLE OF PLAY

- The balance between attack and defence was good
- The defence was not solid, and the attacks lacked variation
- Counterattacks by individual or combinations was intermittent but threatening



TEAM PROFILES

KOREA REPUBLIC



Head Coach
LEE SANG-JIN
Nationality
KOREA REPUBLIC

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

No. 11 CHUN JIN-WOO -Strong challenging spirit

No. 10 LEE MIN-YONG (C) - Showed strong leadership qualities, good mental strength.



TEAM PROFILES

APPEARANCES

NO	PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED								ATTACKING						DEFENDING			SANCTIONS			
		MATCH 1	MATCH 2	MATCH 3	MATCH 4	MATCH 5	MATCH 6	TOTAL	SHOTS				PASSES		OUTFIELD PLAYER		GOALKEEPER			YC	2YC	RC
									SCORE	SAVED	POST	OUT	ASSIST	MISS	IP	DP	CS	NCS	DO			
1	SEO JUNG-WOO (GK)	33	37	37				107	0	1	0	1	0	21	1	0	10	20	20	0	0	0
2	JANG YEONG-CHEOL	10	9	11				30	2	1	0	5	0	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	PARK YOUNG-JAE	14	14	13				41	1	4	0	2	0	3	7	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
4	KIM JUN-HO (GK)	6	0	0				6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	LIM YEONG-SEUNG	15	11	10				36	0	2	0	0	0	9	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
6	LEE DOO-YONG	15	16	17				48	0	6	0	3	0	14	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	KIM MIN-KUK	16	20	19				55	0	10	0	2	0	8	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	JUNG SOO-IN	13	18	17				48	0	3	0	5	0	11	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
9	CHO BYUNG-GIRL	15	17	15				47	0	2	1	2	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	LEE MIN-YONG (C)	19	16	16				51	0	9	0	6	1	15	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	CHUN JIN-WOO	10	9	11				30	1	2	0	3	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	LEE AHN	14	9	9				32	0	2	0	1	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	YOU SANG-YUN	10	9	11				30	0	2	0	5	0	9	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	PARK HAN-UL	10	15	14				39	0	2	0	2	0	7	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	0

Legend:
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TEAM PROFILES



● Goal Conceded ● Goal Scored → Attacking Direction

KEY POINTS

- Look for the opportunity to launch the quick counter attack
- Fit enough to press for the whole game
- Plenty of shooting from outside penalty area
- Strong mentality, good fighting spirit
- Build-up from the back slow at times
- Like to use some long passes
- Pretty strong in 1 v 1 duel
- Looked for opportunity to launch a quick counter-attack
- Like to use some long passes

STYLE OF PLAY

- Tried to block opponent's attacks with physical strength when in opposing half
- The desire of the players was strong
- 3-1 Tried using target man but lacked finishing
- 4-0 The system was tried intermittently, but the players' understanding was somewhat lacking.
- Should have attempted more counter attacks through GK and defenders



GOALSCORING ANALYSIS





GOALSCORING ANALYSIS

HOW GOALS WERE SCORED

NO.	GOAL TYPE	GOALS
1	Ala Play - on left side	24
2	Ala Play - on right side	14
3	Defence-splitting pass	41
4	GK Distribution	5
5	Solo effort	44
6	Defensive error	11
7	Rebound	16
8	5 Player attack (Power Play)	10
9	After a corner kick - left side	5
10	After a corner kick - right side	4
11	Direct from a free-kick	3
12	Following from a free-kick	2
13	Kick-in	11
14	Penalty 10m	2
15	Penalty 6m	3
TOTAL		203

WHEN GOALS WERE SCORED

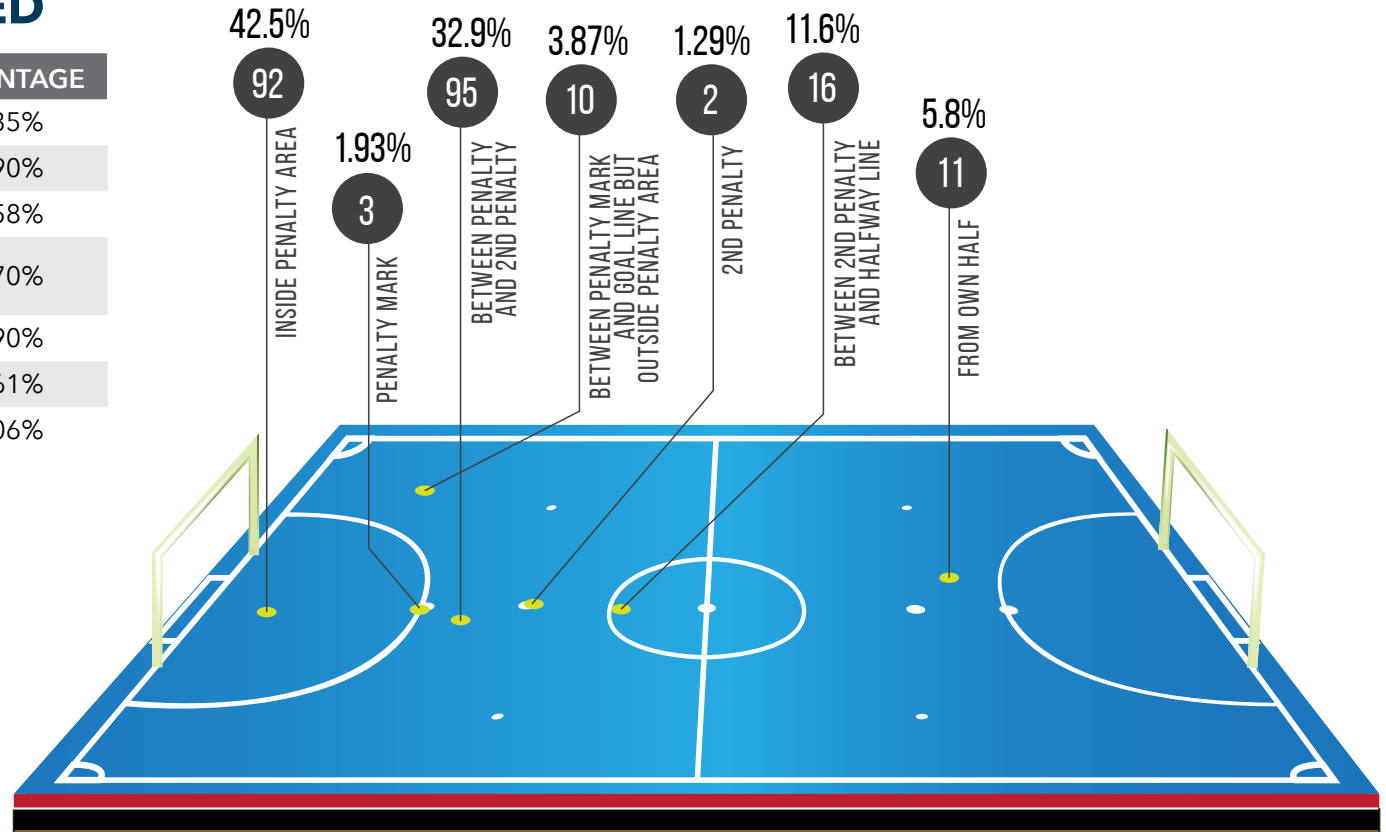
OVERALL	[32 MATCHES]
1st and 5th minutes	18
6th and 10th minutes	27
11th and 15th minutes	23
16th and 20th minutes	20
21st and 25th minutes	26
26th and 30th minutes	28
31st and 35th minutes	20
36th and 40th minutes	39
TOTAL	203



GOALSCORING ANALYSIS

WHERE GOALS WERE SCORED

WHERE GOALS WERE SCORED	GOALS	PERCENTAGE
Penalty mark	3	1.935%
2nd Penalty	2	1.290%
Inside penalty area	92	42.58%
Between penalty mark and goal line but outside penalty area	10	3.870%
Between penalty and 2nd penalty	95	32.90%
Between 2nd penalty and half line	16	11.61%
From own half	11	5.806%





GOALSCORING ANALYSIS

GOALS SCORED

NO.	TEAM	GOALS
1	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	50 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 50 (total)
2	UZBEKISTAN	27 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 27 (total)
3	JAPAN	18 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 18 (total)
4	IRAQ	14 (G), 2 (PK), 0 (Own), 16 (total)
5	THAILAND	13 (G), 2 (PK), 1 (Own), 16 (total)
6	LEBANON	11 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 11 (total)
7	TAJIKISTAN	10 (G), 1 (PK), 0 (Own), 11 (total)
8	CHINA P.R.	8 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 8 (total)
9	CHINESE TAIPEI	8 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 8 (total)

GOALS CONCEDED

NO.	TEAM	P	GOALS CONCEDED
1	KOREA REPUBLIC	3	25
2	MYANMAR	3	22
3	UZBEKISTAN	6	20
4	IRAQ	6	18
5	CHINA P.R.	3	18
6	THAILAND	4	16
7	KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	3	11
8	JAPAN	6	10
9	JORDAN	3	10
10	MALAYSIA	3	9

AVERAGE GOALS SCORED

NO.	TEAM	P	AVERAGE SCORE
1	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	6	8.33
2	UZBEKISTAN	6	4.5
3	THAILAND	4	4
4	TAJIKISTAN	3	3.67
5	JAPAN	6	3
6	LEBANON	4	2.75
7	IRAQ	6	2.67
8	CHINESE TAIPEI	3	2.67
9	CHINA P.R.	3	2.67
10	MALAYSIA	3	2.33



GOALSCORING ANALYSIS

TOP SCORERS

NO.	NAME	TEAM	GOALS
1	HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	14 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 14 (total)
2	ALI ASGHAR NAVLIGHE	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	12 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 12 (total)
3	MAHDI JAVID	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	10 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 10 (total)
4	CHORIEV DAVRON	UZBEKISTAN	7 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 7 (total)
5	MORIOKA KAORU	JAPAN	7 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 7 (total)
6	ADILOV MASHRAB	UZBEKISTAN	4 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 4 (total)
7	APIWAT CHAEMCHAROEN	THAILAND	4 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 4 (total)
8	ARTUR YUNUSOV	UZBEKISTAN	4 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 4 (total)
9	FARHAD TAVAKOLI ROOZBAHANI	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	4 (G), 0 (PK), 0 (Own), 4 (total)
10	SUPHAWUT THUEANKLANG	THAILAND	3 (G), 1 (PK), 0 (Own), 4 (total)

FASTEST GOAL

NO.	NAME	TEAM	SECONDS
1	SHIMIZU KAZUYA	JAPAN	5 Seconds
2	AHMAD ESMAEILPOUR	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	6 Seconds
3	MORIOKA KAORU	JAPAN	36 Seconds



TECHNICAL TOPICS

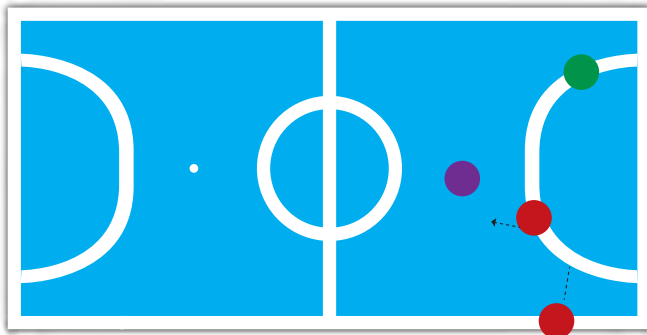




TECHNICAL TOPICS

KICK IN FROM SIDELINE IN OWN HALF

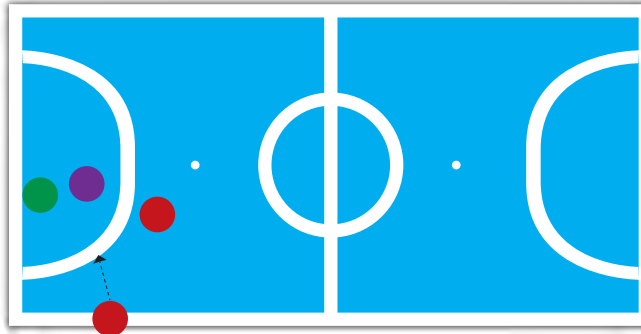
Most teams tend to position their GK on the far side of the court when the opposing team is pressing high up the court. The player in the anchor position will move toward the ball as if they want to receive it. This is just to attract the attention of the defender in the main. Once they have done this the anchor will change direction to deliberately move towards



the defender to effectively block the pathway of the defender from getting to the ball as the player taking the kick in passes it behind the anchor to the GK on the far side of the court. This alleviates the pressure almost immediately as the GK then passes long to a runner or the pivot (in the main) or can pass down the line to another attacking player.

KICK IN FROM SIDELINE WITHIN 5M OF OPPONENT'S GOAL

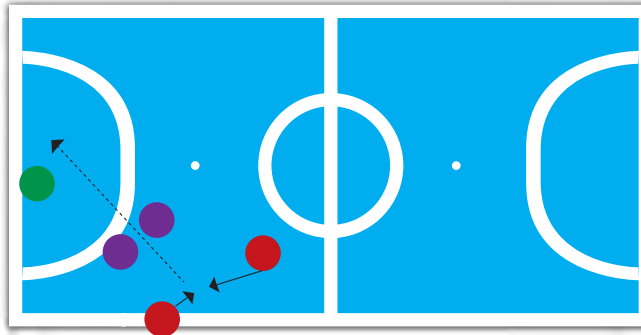
Nearly all teams attempt a shot from the sideline when no option has presented itself & the referee's count is at 3 seconds. The reason for this is try and get a deflection that may go into the opponent's goal. This kick in can



result in a deflected goal but can also easily produce a quick counter attack for the opposition if not executed properly.

KICK IN FROM SIDELINE WITHIN 10M OF OPPONENT'S GOAL

Nearly all teams attempt a shot from the sideline from this position by rolling the ball slightly into the court for an attacker running toward the ball to take the

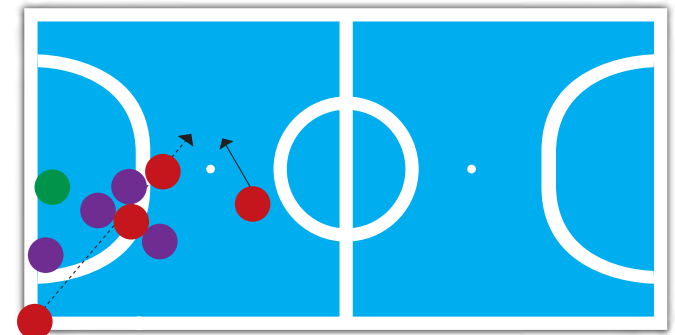


shot. Many times, this shot will go towards the back post at speed for another attacker running into the position on the back post to meet the shot and tap it

home. This can be very effective and does produce goals. The more experienced teams defending this kick in have 2 players near the ball and close down this shot before it even gets momentum.

CORNER KICK OVER THE TOP FOR A VOLLEY

Nearly all teams attempted this type of corner kick. It is not dissimilar to a throw in over the top of the defence to an attacker running around the back of the defence for



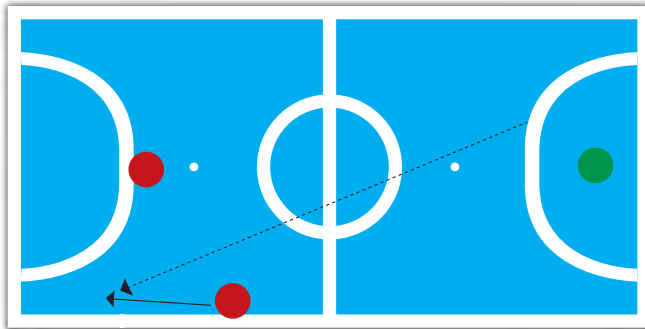
a volley shot at the opponent's goal. Notably, accuracy in the scoop pass is essential and timing is critical for an effective shot on target.

GK DISTRIBUTION

It was quite noticeable that the teams who felt under pressure most from opponents pressing high up the court would fall back on passing to their GK to play a long pass to either their pivot or a runner. These passes were played with proficiency into the opposite corners of the court as far as they could kick the ball. Of course, some GKs had tremendous



TECHNICAL TOPICS



accuracy where others lacked the finesse required to keep the ball in play. When the ball was kept in play, the team had a chance to score.

POWER PLAY

The Power Play was a common fall-back play when teams were behind and needed to score goals. This, naturally, had varying degrees of success. The more experienced teams invariably scored against the



lesser teams that were trying to implement this system while the evenly matched teams had much better success. Noted here was how effective this tactic was for Malaysia. They always looked dangerous when implementing the Power Play, especially in their first 2 games. They turned around the result in the first game against Vietnam by scoring to level and then had the momentum to grab a winner virtually on the buzzer. The second game was even more interesting as they came back from 1-4 down to level the scores but then decided to play it safe and be content with a draw, as that would have seen them safely through to the

QF. However, once they took their foot off the pedal Chinese Taipei came charging back and duly scored a 5th goal to win the game.

SHIELDING THE BALL

This technique of the game has improved immensely across the teams that are slowly bridging the gap to the top tier. The ability to shield the ball from an opponent in order to either lay off to a runner or to recycle the ball is very important in today's game. It seems obvious that this technique has been worked on in training sessions.



TALKING POINTS





TALKING POINTS

FINISHING CHANCES

This area of the game is still an Achilles heel for Asian teams. The ASEAN & East Zone teams tend to fall into this category more so than the other two zones represented in the finals. It seems they have good speed and knowledge of the game but the art of shooting, or rather, finishing, is something that needs work on. Only Japan and Thailand seem to have been able to come up with a good solution to this problem.



UNDER PRESSURE WHEN IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL

The more experienced teams under pressure were able to revert to the 1-4-0 system and give close short accurate passes to find space for a runner mainly down the flank. The less experienced teams would pass back to their GK who then passed long to a runner or the pivot (in the main) or passed down the line to another



attacking player. These were the two main ways team's coped with pressure on their defence.

COACHES

There were 11 Asian coaches as opposed to 5 foreign coaches. However there were 6 teams with coaches from different countries other than their home country. The teams with foreign coaches were the hosts, Chinese

Taipei (9th), as well as Vietnam (7th), Thailand (6th), Japan (2nd) and China (13th).

The other country who had a coach from a different country was Lebanon (5th) whose coach came from Iran. Looking at these results it shows that 3 of the top 4 teams utilised coaches from their own country with success. The question that comes up now is "Should



countries develop their own coaches in order to progress their own expertise or do they still need to rely on foreign coaches?"



PLAYERS TO WATCH

FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP
CHINESE TAIPEI 2018



Emirates

THE 100th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

TOYOTA

CHINESE TAIPEI 2018



PLAYERS TO WATCH

GOALKEEPERS



ALIREZA SAMIMI - IR Iran

With his best years still ahead of him, Alireza Samimi remains one of the best goalkeepers in Asian Futsal. Agile and quick on his feet, the Islamic Republic of Iran's shot stopper conceded just six goals - the best in the tournament and kept two clean sheets.



HIGOR PIRES - Japan

Japan's No. 2 matched IR Iran's Alireza Samimi's feat of two clean sheets. Despite conceding 10 goals in the tournament, the flamboyant Higor Pires was probably the standout keeper in the tournament with his ability to read plays and adapt quickly, making him a fan favourite.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

ANCHOR



FARHAD TAVAKOLI ROOZBAHANI - IR Iran

Farhad Tavakoli finished the tournament with four goals, one shy of his five-goal achievement in the 2016 edition. A vital member of the Iran team, the 29-year-old was instrumental in Iran's link play, often intercepting passes and disrupting opponents' attacking rhythm. He also produced seven assists throughout the tournament.



JASSAM SALEH ANAN - Bahrain

Jassam Saleh Anan was instrumental for Bahrain during qualifying as well as the Finals - where they finished eighth. With his surging runs down the flanks, Saleh Anan impressed during the Finals, especially during the group matches against hosts Chinese Taipei and Malaysia.



KRITSADA WONGKAE0 - Thailand

Kritsada Wongkaeo helped Thailand reach the quarter-finals, by finishing second in their group. Kritsada's fluid style of play helped his teammates amass 16 goals during the Finals. He finished the tournament with a goal in the opening match against Jordan and grabbing two assists.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

ANCHOR



VU QUOC HUNG - Vietnam

Vu Quoc Hung played an important role in getting Vietnam into the Finals. Vu's ability to hold up play and dictate the flow of attack allowed Vietnam to emerge as group winners. Vu was at his best especially against Chinese Taipei and Malaysia.



CHI SHENG-FA - Chinese Taipei

Chi Sheng-Fa starred for hosts Chinese Taipei in the Finals with his commanding influence and often the lynchpin for their attacks. Chi finished the tournament with a goal and an assist.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

ALA



RAFAEL HENMI - Japan

Rafael Henmi has matured as a winger since winning the 2012 AFC Futsal Player of the Year. Henmi was most effective in the semi-finals against Iraq as Japan went on to win 3-0.



TOMOKI YOSHIKAWA - Japan

Tomoki Yoshikawa has formed a formidable partnership alongside teammate Rafael Henmi. Yoshikawa was most impressive in the quarter-final as Japan beat Bahrain 2-0.



ALI ASGHAR HASSANZADEH- IR Iran

The three-time AFC Futsal Championship MVP was the most influential player for Iran during the tournament. Quick on the counter-attacks and fluid on and off the ball, Hassanzadeh scored 12 goals and contributed five assists for Iran as he bettered his tally from 2016 where he scored six.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

ALA



MAHDI JAVID - IR Iran

Mahdi Javid was the bright spark for Iran as he knocked in 10 goals, two more than his tally in 2016 and contributed nine assists - the highest in the tournament. A clinical finisher, Javid was at his best in the semi-final win against Uzbekistan - where he scored a hat-trick as Iran won the tie 7-1.



HASAN ALI JABBAR - Iraq

Hasan Ali Jabbar scored three goals in the tournament and was most effective during their come-from-behind win over China in the group stage. Ali Jabbar's two goals against China spurred Iraq to a 4-2 win. He was also instrumental in their 3-2 win over Myanmar.



TRAN THAI HUY - Vietnam

A skilful player, Tran Thai Huy helped Vietnam reach the quarter-finals after finishing top of their group.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

ALA



ARTUR YUNUSOV - Uzbekistan

Artur Yunusov scored four goals for Uzbekistan and was at his best against Iraq in the third-place playoff, where he scored two goals to keep them in the game. Uzbekistan went on to win the tie 2-1 on penalties after the match ended 4-4 after extra time.



DAVRON CHORIEV- Uzbekistan

Davron Choriev was the top scorer for Uzbekistan, netting seven goals and raking up four assists. Choriev's ability to influence the game through his goals was apparent during Uzbekistan's wins against Korea Republic, Tajikistan and Vietnam.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

PIVOT



AHMAD ESMAILPOUR - IR Iran

Arguably one of the most recognisable faces in the game, Islamic Republic of Iran's Ahmad Esmailpour finished the tournament with three goals and contributed three assists. Esmailpour was at his best in the 9-1 win against Thailand in the quarter-finals.



HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI- IR Iran

Hossein Tayebibidgoli was the top scorer of the tournament with 14 goals - one goal shy of his tally in 2016 and contributed six assists. Apart from being a prolific scorer, Tayebibidgoli also played a vital role in Islamic Republic of Iran's quest of landing title No. 12. Tayebibidgoli was at his best in games against Myanmar, China PR and Iraq.



KAZUYA SHIMIZU- Japan

Kazuya Shimizu was instrumental for Japan during the tournament. With his sublime dribbling skills, Shimizu helped Japan to the final, where they eventually lost 4-0 to Islamic Republic of Iran.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

PIVOT



KAORU MORIOKA - Japan

Despite being the oldest player in the tournament, Kaoru Morioka excelled for Japan netting seven goals and two assists making him the standout player for his country. With his ability to dictate play, the influential 37-year-old was most effective in the 4-2 win against Tajikistan and against Korea Republic - scoring four goals.



LIN CHIH-HUNG - Chinese Taipei

Lin Chih-Hung finished the tournament with three goals and was outstanding in the 5-4 win against Malaysia where he scored a double.



MAN OF THE MATCH





MAN OF THE MATCH

GROUP A

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
01 Feb, 18	VIETNAM vs MALAYSIA	VU DUC TUNG - VIETNAM
01 Feb, 18	CHINESE TAIPEI vs SAUDI ARABIA	MOHAMED RADHI ALSANDI - SAUDI ARABIA
03 Feb, 18	SAUDI ARABIA vs VIETNAM	PHUNG TRONG LUAN - VIETNAM
03 Feb, 18	MALAYSIA vs CHINESE TAIPEI	LIN CHIEN-HSUN - CHINESE TAIPEI
05 Feb, 18	MALAYSIA vs SAUDI ARABIA	MOHAMED RADHI ALSANDI - SAUDI ARABIA
05 Feb, 18	CHINESE TAIPEI vs VIETNAM	VU DUC TUNG - VIETNAM

GROUP B

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
01 Feb, 18	JAPAN vs TAJIKISTAN	MORIOKA KAORU - JAPAN
01 Feb, 18	UZBEKISTAN vs KOREA REPUBLIC	CHORIEV DAVRON - UZBEKISTAN
03 Feb, 18	KOREA REPUBLIC vs JAPAN	MORIOKA KAORU - JAPAN
03 Feb, 18	TAJIKISTAN vs UZBEKISTAN	DAVRON CHORIEV - UZBEKISTAN
05 Feb, 18	UZBEKISTAN vs JAPAN	HOSHI SHOTA - JAPAN
05 Feb, 18	TAJIKISTAN vs KOREA REPUBLIC	HAMIDOV RUSTAM - TAJIKISTAN



MAN OF THE MATCH

GROUP C

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
02 Feb, 18	IRAQ vs CHINA P.R.	HASAN ALI JABBAR - IRAQ
02 Feb, 18	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs MYANMAR	HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
04 Feb, 18	MYANMAR vs IRAQ	HASAN ALI JABBAR - IRAQ
04 Feb, 18	CHINA P.R. vs ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
06 Feb, 18	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs IRAQ	HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
06 Feb, 18	CHINA P.R. vs MYANMAR	ZHANG YAMENG - CHINA PR

GROUP D

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
02 Feb, 18	KYRGYZ REPUBLIC vs LEBANON	AHMAD KHEIR EL DINE - LEBANON
02 Feb, 18	THAILAND vs JORDAN	KRITSADA WONGKAE0 - THAILAND
04 Feb, 18	JORDAN vs KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	ALIMOV MAKSAT - KYRGYZ REPUBLIC
04 Feb, 18	LEBANON vs THAILAND	AHMAD KHEIR EL DINE - LEBANON
06 Feb, 18	THAILAND vs KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	SUPHAWUT THUEANKLANG - THAILAND
06 Feb, 18	LEBANON vs JORDAN	ALI EL HOMSI - LEBANON



MAN OF THE MATCH

QUARTER FINALS

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
08 Feb,18	LEBANON vs IRAQ	ZAHER MAHDI HADI - IRAQ
08 Feb,18	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs THAILAND	AHMAD ESMAEILPOUR - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
08 Feb,18	JAPAN vs BAHRAIN	YOSHIKAWA TOMOKI - JAPAN
08 Feb,18	VIETNAM vs UZBEKISTAN	DAVRON CHORIEV - UZBEKISTAN

SEMI FINALS

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
09 Feb,18	IRAQ vs JAPAN	HENMI KATSUTOSHI RAFAEL - JAPAN
09 Feb,18	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN vs UZBEKISTAN	MAHDI JAVID - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

3rd/4th PLACING

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
11 Feb,18	IRAQ vs UZBEKISTAN	ARTUR YUNUSOV - UZBEKISTAN

FINAL

DATE	FIXTURE	PLAYER
11 Feb,18	JAPAN vs ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	FARHAD TAVAKOLI ROOZBAHANI - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN



COACHES TALKING POINTS





COACHES TALKING POINTS

Japan had less than a week to prepare for the AFC Futsal Championship Chinese Taipei 2018, according to head coach Bruno Garcia, but the Spaniard continuously expressed his pride and confidence in the team despite the short preparation, saying: "Our squad had little time in between the F.League and the tournament but my confidence in my team is very high, and I trust my players".

Even with the little recovery time between the group stages and the quarter-finals, as well as the semis and the final, Garcia said the team had a training camp that had planned for such scenarios, which made Japan well prepared to quickly adapt.

"We were aware of the tournament schedule ahead of time, so it's something we were ready for," said the former Thai Son Nam FC coach.

However, it was not meant to be as Japan suffered heartbreak in the final, losing 4-0 to champions Islamic Republic of Iran.

Both teams were equally matched, but the East Asians conceded a goal a minute from the break and couldn't recover as Iran struck three more after the breather for a convincing win.

The 44-year-old coach acknowledged Iran's superiority and their efficiency in finishing their runs, in which the 12-time champions excelled, but Garcia vowed to return to the AFC Futsal Championship with an improved team.

"We played face-to-face against Iran and in the first half, we followed our match plan, where they only scored in the final minute, caused by one mistake we couldn't avoid.



But in the second half, they scored again, although we still kept playing well. We had our chances, but didn't score.

"The only difference, compared to our other matches, was the efficiency. Efficiency is the most important thing in a match, and in the final, Iran were more efficient compared to Japan.

"There are definitely things that we have to improve on our end. Some mistakes that we made against Iran, they were defensive mistakes. Against other teams might not be a problem, but with a team like Iran, they will take those chances to score.

"We will take note of our mistakes and we will come back again to earn more success. We need to increase our level, and we will do it. I assure you, we will do it."

The Samurai Blue introduced several young talents in the 2018 edition - Shimizu Kazuya, who starred in the 2017 AFC U20 Futsal Championship in Thailand last May - among them, and Garcia believes the young players have adapted well to the Japanese playstyle.

Garcia indicated that professional futsal players in Japan are veterans but said the Japan Football Association has a development programme to groom budding players.



COACHES TALKING POINTS

"In the futsal clubs in Japan, the average age is too high, and we need to change that, where we are making the change first in the national team.

"We need to think of the next generation of the team. We have a very clear strategic plan, where we are looking to revitalise the national team with our youth.

"For example, in the 2017 Asian Indoor Games, the average age of our team was 22.7-years-old. And we are now preparing players with short, medium and long-term plans."

IR Iran head coach Mohammed Nazemasharieh also revealed that the Central Asians already had their sights on the future, and have already begun planning for the next generation of futsal players, saying: "We have a vision, it started in 2016 which told us to pay attention to our youth, keeping them busy with development and grow them as potential national team players, even though we were ahead.

"Now, we have already trained a really good youth team, and they would, in fact, be our main players in 2020. So you'll be sure to watch a revamped team then."

Iran took the lead in the first half with skipper and Most Valuable Player Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh finding the back of the net in the 19th minute, and continued to dominate the second half with goals from Farkhad Tavakoli, Hussein Tayebi and Hassanzadeh again to seal a comprehensive win over Japan.

Nazemasharieh also attributed the victory to the aid provided by the team's technical group, saying: "I am also

proud of my colleagues in the technical group who have helped us, supporting each other like brothers. Whenever we had any problems, they would advise us."



Despite pulling off some of the best performances in the tournament, Nazemasharieh constantly pushed his charges to outdo their previous match performances, and improve on their concentration and fitness, which he believes is one of the keys to their success.

"The main thing for us is concentration, and if our players have that, they are going to perform beautifully. We also have to improve on our fitness, because that is the fundamental factor to even start comparing ourselves with the best teams, not just in Asia but in the world."

Iran finished third in the 2016 FIFA Futsal World Cup in Colombia, after beating Portugal 4-3 on penalties after a 2-2 draw, and Nazemasharieh expressed that it has been a burden for the champions as it meant having to live up



to the expectations in Asia, but he believed that their victory has placed futsal in a more prominent light in the Continent.

"More focus and attention has been given to futsal development after our achievement, and it's clear to see from the performance shown throughout the tournament that every team has improved."

There was no doubt that Nazemasharieh was proud of his side's accomplishment, saying: "I am proud of my players, proud of these boys who are obeying my game plan like soldiers. Our team is a great team.

"It was clear that we've shown a fantastic performance and proved to everybody that we're the best team in Asia. In fact, there were good reasons behind as you've seen. We had the top goal scorer, MVP and the team with the least goals conceded. That shows that our team is a little far ahead in Asia."



REFEREEING REPORT





REFEREEING REPORT

DATE OF TOURNAMENT : 1 - 11 FEBRUARY 2018
VENUE : CHINESE TAIPEI
MAIN STADIUM : XINZHUANG GYMNASIUM
2ND STADIUM : UNIVERSITY OF TAIPEI GYMNASIUM

FUTSAL REFEREE INSTRUCTORS/ASSESSORS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Abdulrahman Abdulqader Abdulla | [BHR] |
| 2. Kim Jang Kwan | [KOR] |
| 3. Porferio JR Jemenico Barlas | [PHI] |
| 4. Vadim Baratov | [TKM] |

FITNESS REFEREES INSTRUCTOR

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. Mr. Rustam Abdulloev | [TJK] |
|-------------------------|-------|

FUTSAL REFEREES

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Turner Darius Mark | [AUS] |
| 2. Husain Ali Albahhar | [BHR] |
| 3. Liu Jianqio | [CHN] |
| 4. An Ran | [CHN] |
| 5. Mahmoudreza Nasirloo | [IRN] |
| 6. Hasan Mohammed Al-Gburi | [IRQ] |
| 7. Tomohiro Kozaki | [JPN] |
| 8. Nurdin Bukuev | [KGZ] |
| 9. Kim Jong Hee | [KOR] |
| 10. Mohamad Chami | [LIB] |
| 11. Heday Idang | [MAS] |
| 12. Rey Martinez Ritaga | [PHI] |
| 13. Yuttakon Maiket | [THA] |
| 14. Azat Hajypolatov | [TKM] |
| 15. Lee Po-Fu | [TPE] |
| 16. Fahad Badir Alhosani | [UAE] |
| 17. Anatoliy Rubakov | [UZB] |
| 18. Truong Quoc Dung | [VIE] |

STAND-BY REFEREES

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Osama Saeed Idrees Sedaif | [BHR] |
| 2. Hiroyuki Kobayashi | [JPN] |



INTRODUCTION

The final round of competition: The 4 Referee Instructors/Assessors, 1 Referee Fitness Instructor, 18 Referees and 2 standby Referees appointed were from the AFC Elite list 2018. All the appointed Referees were assessed, guided and supported during this tournament and they performed very well.

ARRIVAL OF MATCH OFFICIALS

All the Futsal Referees, Referees Instructors and Referees Fitness Instructor reported on 28th January 2018.

PREPARATORY COURSE

The aim of the Preparatory Course is to ensure the referees are prepared physically and mentally to officiate the "Top" AFC Futsal Competition. Three main elements conducted during the course are:

1. Fitness-check
2. Theoretical Session
3. Practical Session



REFEREEING REPORT

FITNESS CHECK

The fitness check for Referees was conducted on 30th January 2018 at University of Taipei Gymnasium at 9.99-11.00 am. All Referees and Standby Referees passed the required time for the fitness check. The fitness check was conducted by appointed Referees Fitness Instructor Mr. Rustam Abdulloev and assisted by four Referee Assessors/Instructors. The medical team and ambulance were present to assist.

THEORETICAL SESSION

Presentations by the Instructors increased the referees' knowledge. The Preparatory Course was conducted on 29, 30 & 31 January 2018. Referees were urged to be committed, courageous and be consistent when they performed on the pitch.

The key points covered and delivered were as follows:

- 1.Consistency/Uniformity on Foul Regnasation/Degree of Foul
- 2.Protecting the Players
- 3 Letting Game Flow
- 4.Substitution Bench Control
- 5.Other related topics

PRACTICAL SESSION

Two practical sessions during the Preparatory Course were held at Xinzhuang Gymnasium on 29 January and University of Taipei Gymnasium on 31 January 2018 from 4.00 - 6.00pm. Objectives of the session were to do the inspection of the venue [check the pitch marking, facilities of the pitch etc. according to the Laws of the Game requirements] and also to familiarise the referees with the Scoreboard Control and Venue environments. On 31 January at University of Taipei Gymnasium, Referees Instructors conducted the simulation training



APPOINTMENT OF REFEREES

Appointment of referees were decided for first match days and announced 1 day before the match (after the debriefing session) and distributed to the referees. The lists of appointments were given to the Head of Delegation, Head of Administration and Match Commissioners. Subsequent appointments were distributed to the relevant officials after discussion with the Instructors for each match day. Appointments were based on the neutrality between the referees and the playing teams, referees' performance during the competition etc.

RELEASE OF MATCH OFFICIALS

After the quarter-finals stage, 2 RAs and 8 Referees were released from the competition

DAILY BRIEFING & DE-BRIEFING

Briefing and de-briefing sessions were held in the Ambassador Hotel, at 10.00am - 12.00pm. The debriefing session was to recap the referees' performance and correct or explain the referees' decision on the previous day's matches to improve further. Appointed RAs

conducted the session and they used the appropriate incidents clips which cited from the match incident clips prepared by resources staff. Team tactics from that game were also discussed for referees' consideration for the next games involving these teams.

HOSPITALITY BY LOC

On the refereeing side, the LOC did exceptionally well. The LOC and the hotel staff were very accommodating and provided good assistance and support to the referees and the instructors. The transport during training and on match days was very well coordinated. The referees were given free internet access and gym. However, the swimming pool was closed by the hotel management due to the weather condition, preventing the referees from undergoing recovery after each match day.



OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF THE REFEREES

All matches were generally played in the spirit of fair play and the players respected the decisions of the referees. Teamwork, cooperation and communication among the referees were encouraging. The overall performance of the referees was very good



STAR SELECTION





STAR SELECTION

DREAM TEAM - STARTING FIVE



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
ALIREZA SAMIMI (GK) No. 2



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
FARHAD TAVAKOLI No. 13



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
A. HASSANZADEH No. 7



JAPAN
HENMI KATSUTOSHI RAFAEL No. 7



JAPAN
YOSHIKAWA TOMOKI No. 6

DREAM TEAM - RESERVES



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
HIGOR PIRES (GK) No. 2



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
AHMAD ESMAEILPOUR No. 3



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
MAHDI JAVID No. 14



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI No. 10



UZBEKISTAN
ARTUR YUNUSOV No. 11



AWARDS





AWARDS

FAIRPLAY AWARD: IRAQ

The AFC Fair Play Award is awarded to the team which has collected the most Fair Play points in the competition. Iraq won the AFC Futsal Championship 2018 Fair Play Award after amassing 55.21 points.



FAIR PLAY AWARD CRITERIA:

Teams are assessed in five categories, with a further category relating to the behavior of the public. This is how the points are calculated.

1. Red and Yellow Card (max. 10 marks):

If a player who is on a yellow card (-1 point) commits another yellow card offence, only the red card will count (-3 points). But if a player who has already been cautioned then commits a red card offence, both cards will count (so the player will receive -4 points). This is the only section in which it is possible to receive a score below zero.

2. Positive Play (max. 10 marks):

This is designed to encourage attractive play that will increase the enjoyment of spectators and the following areas are taken into consideration:

Positive

- Using attacking tactics, not defensive
- Speeding up the game
- Efforts to gain time (e.g. bringing the ball back into play quickly even if the team is in a winning position)
- Continuing to push for goals when in a winning position

Negative

- Slowing down the game
- Time wasting
- Tactics based on foul play
- Play-acting (simulation)

3. Respect towards the opponent (max. 5 marks):

Players should respect the Laws of the Game and abide by the spirit of Fair Play. The Fair Play delegate's assessment will not double count items already covered in the 'Red and Yellow cards' category, but the seriousness of the offences punished by cards may be considered. This category will also include offences overlooked by the referee. Any single major incident between players may have a significant bearing on the final score.

4. Respect towards the referee (max. 5 marks):

Players are expected to respect the officials - including assistants - at all times. The Fair Play delegate's assessment will not double count items already covered in the 'Red and Yellow cards' but the seriousness of the offences punished by cards may be considered. Any single major incident may have a significant bearing on the score. A positive attitude, including the acceptance of doubtful decisions without protest, will be rewarded with high marks.

5. Behaviour of the officials (max. 5 marks):

Team officials, including coaches, are expected to develop the sporting, technical and tactical level of their team - and instruct players to behave in accordance with the Fair Play principles. Positive and negative aspects of the team officials' conduct will be assessed - such as whether they calm down or provoke angry players or fans and how they accept the decisions of the referee. Co-operation with the media will also be taken into account. Any single major incident may have a significant bearing on the final mark, as will breaches of the regulations governing the dugout and technical area.

For categories 1-5, the overall assessment of a team is obtained by adding up the points given for the individual categories, dividing this sum by the maximum points score (40) and multiplying it by 10.

Total Number of points (x 10 / (40*)).

In addition, there is one further category assessed by the Fair Play delegate.

6. Behaviour of the crowd (max. 5 marks):

All teams begin with a score of 5 points. A maximum of a further 5 points can be added for:

- Verbal support in acceptable form
- Covert recognition of outstanding play by the opponents

A maximum of 5 points can be deducted for:

- Persistent foul and abusive language
- Persistent abuse of the officials' decisions
- Aggressive and threatening conduct towards opposing fans



AWARDS

MVP AWARD:



ALI ASGHAR HASSANZADEH

IR Iran's Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh was crowned the AFC Futsal Championship Most Valuable Player (MVP). The 31-year-old scored four times during the competition.

MVP SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Semi-finalist Team.
2. No red card received.
3. Major impact on outcome of the match.
 - Inspiration to others

- Technical skills
- Tactical Awareness
- Physical Fitness
- Sporting Behaviour
- Fair Play

TOP GOAL SCORER AWARDS:



HOSSEIN TAYEBIBIDGOLI

Hossein Tayebibidgoli of IR Iran emerged as the AFC Futsal Championship Top Scorer with 14 goals. Assists will be included if two or more players are equal on goals scored.



VENUES





VENUE



XINZHUANG GYMNASIUM, CHINESE TAIPEI



UNIVERSITY OF TAIPEI GYMNASIUM, CHINESE TAIPEI



TECHNICAL STUDY GROUP





TECHNICAL STUDY GROUP

The AFC Futsal Championship Chinese Taipei was held successfully in Taipei City from 1 Feb - 1 Feb 2018. 16 countries competed in the Continent's premier Futsal Championship.

This was the 15th edition of the AFC Futsal Championship and the majority of the teams showed vast improvement, with most of the matches played at a high tempo. Two (2) Technical Analysts Groups (TAG) from the AFC Futsal Elite Instructors were selected by the Head of the AFC Futsal & Beach Soccer Development, alongside 12 assistants. The TAGs assistants were chosen from Taipei City to perform match analyses, data and statistic collection for future technical manual development.



TSG COORDINATOR	COUNTRY
MOHD IZZAT NAZRIN	MALAYSIA

TSG ANALYSTS	COUNTRY
SCOTT GILLIGAN	AUSTRALIA
LEE YOUNG JIN	KOREA REPUBLIC

TSG ASSISTANTS	COUNTRY
HUNG YI-YU	CHINESE TAIPEI
LIU,CHI-CHAO	CHINESE TAIPEI
YANG SHENG-WEI	CHINESE TAIPEI
TSAI CHIA-FENG	CHINESE TAIPEI
HU YA-WEN	CHINESE TAIPEI
LIN PO-CHANG	CHINESE TAIPEI
CHANG LI-CHUAN	CHINESE TAIPEI
LIU,YI-SHAN	CHINESE TAIPEI
LEE MING-YOU	CHINESE TAIPEI
KA MENG DE	CHINESE TAIPEI
LU,CHIA-HSIEN	CHINESE TAIPEI
LEE CHUN-JUNG	CHINESE TAIPEI



EXTRA-TIME





EXTRA-TIME

TOP 10 GOALS

AFC FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP - CHINESE TAIPEI 2018

BEST SET PIECES

AFC FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP - CHINESE TAIPEI 2018

POWER PLAY ACTIONS

AFC FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP - CHINESE TAIPEI 2018

TOP 10 GOALS

(Click on image for video link)

BEST SET PIECES

(Click on image for video link)

BEST POWER PLAY

(Click on image for video link)



EXTRA TIME

AFC FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP CHINESE TAIPEI 2018

DIGITAL STATS



11.45 MILLION IMPRESSIONS
7.39 MILLION REACH



1.80 MILLION IMPRESSIONS
74k ENGAGEMENT



6.99 MILLION IMPRESSIONS
5.45 MILLION REACH
691k LIKES

#AFCFUTSAL2018

Asian Football Confederation
6 February · 🌐

Fixtures for #AFCFutsal2018 quarter-finals. Who will proceed to the last 16?

QUARTER-FINALS

- LEBANON V IRAQ
- IR IRAN V THAILAND
- JAPAN V SAUDI ARABIA
- Vietnam V Uzbekistan

1,247,838 likes

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MatchHub · 📷 · Follow

#AFCFutsal2018

Scoring champions team establish themselves as the kings of Asian futsal after being crowned the #AFCFutsal2018 champions!

35,000 likes

0 - 4

#WAC2018

🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟 A great day for Ali Asghar Hassanzadeh! Scoring 2 goals in the final of the #AFCFutsal2018! Securing a 12th title for 🇮🇷! And also securing the MVP award!

29 Retweets · 17 Likes



EXTRA TIME

FUTSAL & BEACH SOCCER COMMITTEE

NAME	POSITION	COUNTRY
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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