



Sweden secure comfortable win over Tunisia

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Sweden v Tunisia: Group F - FIFA World Cup 2026 | REY MEXICO - JUNE 14: Viktor Gyokeres

Sweden opened their [World Cup campaign](#) with a ruthless performance, easing past Tunisia 5-1 in a match that underlined the attacking depth Graham Potter has built. It was not flawless â?? but what mattered was control, clarity and a front line that looked sharp from the first whistle.

GyÅ¶keres strikes early

Viktor Gyokeres and Alexander Isak, the two strikers Sweden have long hoped would peak at the same time, delivered exactly what Potter wanted: movement, power, and goals. Between them, they set the tone for a night that rarely drifted from Swedish hands.

Tunisia had their moments, especially early on, but once Sweden settled, the gulf in quality became obvious.

Sweden started with a touch of tension, misplacing passes and allowing Tunisia to press high. But the breakthrough came quickly enough to settle things down.

Gyokeres, drifting into the left channel, burst past his marker and finished low across the keeper. It was a goal that summed up his performance â?? direct, decisive, without hesitation. Sweden needed that early punch, and he delivered it.

From there, the rhythm changed. Sweden began to play with more patience, more width, and more confidence. Tunisia, who had looked lively in the opening minutes, suddenly found themselves chasing shadows.

Tunisia strike back

If Gyokeres brought the aggression, Isak brought the calm. His goal was Sweden's second and it came from a move that Potter will have been delighted with. It was quick combinations, midfielders stepping between the lines, and Isak finishing with the kind of composure that makes everything look simple.

He didn't need power. He didn't need to force anything. One touch to set himself, one touch to guide the ball into the corner. Sweden were 2-0 up and playing with a freedom that Tunisia struggled to disrupt.

Isak's influence went beyond the goal. He dropped deep, linked play, and created space for Gyokeres to run into. It was the kind of partnership Sweden have been waiting years to see consistently.

Tunisia pulled one back with a well-worked move that exposed Sweden's right side. It was a reminder that Potter's team is still a work in progress, still learning the defensive demands of tournament football.

But the response was immediate. Sweden didn't panic, didn't retreat. They moved the ball with more care, and patiently waited for the next opening. It came through Gyokeres again, a header this time, powered in from close range. Sweden took a cushion and never looked back.

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Midfield balance holds

Much of the conversation will focus on the forwards. However, Sweden's midfield deserves credit for the way the game unfolded. The balance was right – one sitter, one passer, one runner – and they kept Tunisia from building any sustained pressure.

Potter has spoken often about wanting a team that can adapt within games, and this was a good example. When Tunisia pressed, Sweden played around it. When Tunisia dropped, Sweden pushed their fullbacks higher and stretched the pitch.

In the second half, Sweden didn't chase the game. They managed the tempo, waited for Tunisia to tire, and struck again. Isak added another, guiding in a low finish after a neat passing move. The fifth came late, a scrappy goal that summed up Tunisia's frustration as much as Sweden's persistence. By then, the contest was settled. Sweden had taken charge.

This was the kind of performance that reflects a manager's influence. Potter spent months trying to blend Sweden's traditional strengths – organisation, discipline, physicality – with a more fluid attacking style. Against Tunisia, the balance looked right.

The pressing was coordinated. The transitions were sharp. And the team played with a confidence that suggested they believe in the plan. There will be tougher tests ahead, but this was a strong opening marker.

Endgame

A 5-1 victory in a World Cup opener is more than just three points. It gives Sweden momentum, belief, and a platform to build from. It also sends a message to the rest of the group: this is a team with goals in it, a team that can hurt opponents in different ways.

For Tunisia, the scoreline will sting. They competed in spells but couldn't match Sweden's efficiency in both boxes. Their tournament is far from over, but they will need a response.

In the end, the story of the night was simple: Sweden's forwards were too good. Gyokeres brought the force, Isak brought the finesse, and together they gave Sweden exactly the start they wanted.

It wasn't over-the-top or dramatic. It was a well-executed win for a team with ambitions of going deep into the tournament, which is exactly what matters.

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