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KLSS breeze through



RESULTS AND FIXTURES			
DIVISION TWO SEMI-FINALS			
MSS KELANTAN	3	POLITEKNIK KPT	3
(Kelantan win 4-3 in sudden-death extra time)			
KL SPORTS SCHOOL	5	ANDERSON JUNIORS	1
TOMORROW			
THIRD PLACING: Anderson Juniors vs Politeknik KPT (5pm)			
FINAL: MSS Kelantan vs KL Sports School (7pm)			
(Both matches at Pitch 2, National Hockey Stadium, Bukit Jalil)			

Out of my way: MSS Kelantan's Mohammad Fitri Zaidi (right) vying for the ball with Politeknik KPT players during their Division Two semi-final at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil yesterday. — SHAHRUL FAZRY ISMAIL / The Star

City boys have it easy but Kelantan do it the hard way

By AFTAR SINGH

KUALA LUMPUR: MSS Kelantan and Kuala Lumpur Sports School (KLSS) booked their berths in the NSC-Milo-MHC Junior Hockey League Milo Cup quarter-finals after scoring contrasting wins in their Division Two semi-finals.

Kelantan, who won the Division Two title in 2008, fought back from two goals down to beat Politeknik KPT in the sudden-death after both teams were tied at 3-3 in regulation time at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil yesterday.

Kelantan midfielder Mohd Ashraf Mohd Noor was flashed the red card for hitting Politeknik player Mohd Kamarul Ariffin Kamaruddin on the forehead with a hockey stick in the 72nd minute.

In the other Division Two semi-final, KLSS outplayed Anderson Juniors 5-1 at the adjacent pitch.

The Division Two final and third placing matches will be held tomorrow at the same venue.

KLSS and Kelantan have already won promotion to Division One next year.

They will compete in the quarter-finals with the top six teams from Division One – Tengku Mahkota Ismail Sports School (SSTMI)-Thunderbolt, Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ), Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), MBI-Anderson, SSTMI Juniors and Malacca High School.

The top four teams – SSTMI, MBPJ, UniKL and Anderson – are seeded while the other four will draw lots on Monday to determine their opponents.

In the first semi-final, Politeknik took the lead with goals by Kamarul Ariffin (11th) and Arif Ibrahim (28th).

Kelantan then hit back to score three goals through Shahrul Akhimullah (32nd), Fitri Zaidi (35th) and Fitri Zairi (49th).

Kamarul then equalised in the 55th to take the match into the extra time.

Saufian Othman became the hero for Kelantan when he nailed the extra time winner in the

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82nd minute, off a penalty corner set piece. MSS Kelantan coach Hamzi Shaari praised his players for coming back from two goals down. "It was a hard-fought match ... but I am sad that we won't have the services of Ashraf for the final.

"He lost his cool and hit the player ... I hope he can play in the knockout stage (which begins on Feb 22)," said Hamzi.

In the other semi-final, KLSS powered to victory with goals by Nur Faiz Rosli (3rd, 46th), Jagveen Singh (34th), Adib Zahiruddin (42nd) and Zulhazwan Hashim (55th). Najme Ahmad scored Anderson Juniors' lone goal in the 60th minute.