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Deadly Firhan a major threat

FAVOURITES KL Hockey Club will have to keep an eye on Firhan Ashaari in Sunday's TNB Cup final as the Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) forward has a knack of scoring late winners.

Firhan popped a goal seven seconds from time to earn Malaysia third place in the 2011 Asian Champions Trophy in China and then scored a late equaliser for SSTMI-Thunderbolt in a come-from-behind win over UniKL Young Guns in the Milo Cup final last March.

"I never give up until the final whistle. It boils down to determination and hard work," said Firhan, also a member of the national junior team, yesterday.

"It, however, will not be easy against KLHC as they have several experienced defenders in Razie Rahim, Ahmad Kazamirul and Muhammad Imran.

"No doubt, KLHC are the favourites but we are determined to win the title. I believe our performance is on the upward trend and we are peaking at the right time."

His performance throughout the season has earned him a spot in the national training squad for the World League and the Asia Cup.

"Having worked hard to get into the training squad, I intend to double my efforts to break into the final-18 for both tournaments.

"It will take a lot of hard work to dislodge the experienced forwards in the team. I will need to double my efforts to make the squad," he said.