

Headline	Nothing electrifying		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	09 Feb 2024	Language	English
Circulation	175,986	Readership	527,958
Section	Sports	Page No	29
ArticleSize	573 cm ²	Journalist	K.M. BOOPATHY
PR Value	RM 86,843		



Nothing electrifying

Tenaga had 13 internationals but churned out mediocre win

MALAYSIA HOCKEY LEAGUE

RESULTS

THUNDERBOLTS	6	KL CITY	2
MAYBANK	5	A. FORCES	0
NURINSAFI	3	LIAONING	1

CHARITY SHIELD

T. NASIONAL	2	TERENGGANU 2
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(Tenaga win 3-1 in shootout)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

NURINSAFI vs UITM (6pm)

(Bertam, Penang)

TERENGGANU vs LIAONING (6pm)

(National Hockey Stadium, Pitch 1)

KL CITY vs ARMED FORCES (6pm)

(National Hockey Stadium, Pitch 2)

JM ANTBEES vs MAYBANK (8pm)

(Bertam, Penang)

TENAGA vs YOUNG ELEPHANTS (8pm)

(National Hockey Stadium, Pitch 1)

By K.M. BOOPATHY

PETALING JAYA: Tenaga Nasional coach Norsauful Zaini was a frustrated man despite his team's Charity Shield win on Wednesday because of the inept display from the internationals in his side.

Parading 12 national players and South Korean international Jang Jong-hyun, Tenaga struggled against rivals Terengganu as they drew 2-2 in regulation time and won the shootout 3-1.

They have boldly targeted the treble of Charity Shield, league and TNB Cup in this year's Malaysia Hockey League (MHL) but the spirited display of the all-local Terengganu side showed that Tenaga may not achieve their lofty dreams this time.

The east coast side, who captured the treble last season, relied on the brothers Fitri and Faizal Saari while former internationals Sukri Mutalib and Nabil Fikri Noor outshone the star-studded Tenaga with their cool display.

Tenaga's line-up includes Marhan Jalil, Firhan Ashaari,



Bittersweet: Tenaga Nasional players celebrating after their penalty shoot-out victory over Terengganu in the Charity Shield match. — MHC

Shello Silverius, Faiz Helmi Jali, Amirul Hamizan Azahar, Norsyafiq Sumantri, Azrai Aizad Abu Kamal, Nik Aiman Nik Rozemi, Shahril Saabah and Ramadan Rosli, the national players who saw action at the Olympic Qualifiers in Oman last month.

The other national players are Najib Abu Hassan and Aminuddin Zain.

Norsauful was in disbelief as Tenaga had come from 0-3 down to secure a 3-3 draw against Maybank in their opening match on Feb 2 and another draw against Terengganu meant there are not in the drivers' seat for the league title.

"We have so many national

players who did not perform today. Is it their off-season, I not sure but I need to check on this problem," said a concerned Norsauful.

"The league title is not in our hands anymore and maybe the winners between Maybank and Terengganu (on Feb 27) will have a better chance of winning the title.

"However, my primary concern at the moment is the performance of the players.

"We won the Charity Shield but we miss a lot of chances. We have to buck up."

The full-time result of the Charity Shield is taken into account for the league and Teren-

ganu will be happy to secure a point against Tenaga.

On Wednesday, former Terengganu player Jong-hyun opened the scoring with a penalty corner conversion in the third minute.

National striker Azrai Aizad Abu Kamal made it 2-0 with a field goal in the 24th minute Terengganu skipper Fitri scored a brace in the 24th (field goal) and 49th (penalty stroke) to drag the match into shootout.

However, Tenaga recovered to win the shootout 3-1 but they have to focus on winning big in the remaining league matches to keep their league title battle alive.