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## HOCKEY

# DOUBLE MISSION FOR KLHC

Out to retain Charity Shield and redeem themselves after Cup thrashing

JUGJET SINGH  
jugjet@nst.com.my

**K**UALA Lumpur Hockey Club (KLHC) won only the Charity Shield last season, and their plan is to retain it as well as bounce back from an embarrassing defeat against Terengganu Hockey Team today.

The Malaysia Hockey League (MHL) Premier Division matches begin today, while the Division One on Jan 19.

THT hammered KLHC 7-2 in the Alagendra Cup semi-finals and went on to win the title by beating Maybank 5-3.

However, KLHC had managed to beat THT 2-1 in last season's Charity Shield.

"It was quite an embarrassing defeat... the scoreline was huge and took us by surprise.

"Even though we play THT in their own den (Batu Buruk), we are still looking forward to erasing the embarrassment and turning things around.

"The morale of the team has not been affected by the defeat and the players are ready to retain the Charity Shield," said KLHC assistant manager Harfizi Baharom.

He added that except for Rashid Baharon, who is nursing an ankle injury suffered in the Alagendra Cup, the others are raring to compete.

KLHC have lifted the Charity Shield the last three consecutive years, but the Premier League and TNB Cup,

which have eluded them since 2014, is what they are after.

THT coach Sarjit Singh acknowledged that the Charity Shield encounter is expected to go to the wire.

"Any match between THT and KLHC is always hard to predict. We won 7-2 in the knockout tournament but KLHC will be back at their best (today). That we are sure of, so we need to be at our best to snatch the Charity Shield from them," said Sarjit.

Division One has eight teams — Nurlinsafi, Johor, RMAF Rajawali, Petaling Jaya City Council, Politeknik Malaysia-KPT, Universiti Putra Malaysia-KPT, Police and Bukit Jalil Sports School.

**TODAY** — Premier Division: Terengganu Hockey Team v Kuala Lumpur Hockey Club (Batu Buruk, 8.30pm), Tenaga Nasional v TNB Thunderbolts (KLHA, 4pm), UiTM-KPT v Maybank (Ministry of Education, 6pm), Universiti Kuala Lumpur v Tunku Mahkota Ismail Sports School (KLHA, 6pm).



THT's Mohd Shahrul Nabil Abdullah (right) tumbles as Maybank's Jang Soon Chan attacks in the P. Alagendra Cup final at the Tun Razak Stadium on Tuesday.