

Headline	UniKL leave nothing to chance		
MediaTitle	Malay Mail		
Date	13 Jan 2017	Language	English
Circulation	100,000	Readership	300,000
Section	Sport	Page No	42
ArticleSize	117 cm ²	Journalist	N/A
PR Value	RM 2,916		



UniKL leave nothing to chance

PETALING JAYA — UniKL hope to get off to a winning start in their opening Malaysia Hockey League (MHL) match against Tengku Mahkota Ismail Sports School (SSTMI) at KLHA Stadium today.

Although many might think playing newly promoted SSTMI will be a walk in the park, UniKL coach A. Arul Selvaraj thinks otherwise.

He is well aware overconfidence could leave them staring at defeat.

“Opening matches are never easy and I have reminded the players it is important to start with a win,” said Arul.

“Although SSTMI are newly promoted, they have been playing together for a while. The match would virtually be our first match as a team as the foreign players just joined us.”

UniKL only had the services of Argentine Ignacio Salas and Pakistani Muhammad Aileen Bilal in the knockout tournament where they lost 2-1 to Maybank in the quarterfinals.

However they will have their full complement of foreign players as newly wed Mohammad Tousiq of Pakistan, Australian youngster Lachlan Gerald Stick and Argentine reserve goalkeeper Tomas Matias Santiago are available.

“We had one practice session with all the players and I will have to weigh in our options of whether to start them in the first XI, or slowly ease them into the match,” said Arul.

“We have been working hard on our penalty corners since our quarterfinal exit and I expect things to be better.

“What we need from the team is commitment and teamwork for a good start to the new MHL season.”