

Headline	Veteran Tengku Ahmad happy to be playing with Nurinsafi		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	14 Feb 2024	Language	English
Circulation	175,986	Readership	527,958
Section	Sports	Page No	29
ArticleSize	173 cm ²	Journalist	N/A
PR Value	RM 12,456		



Veteran Tengku Ahmad happy to be playing with Nurinsafi

PETALING JAYA: Former hockey international Tengku Ahmad Tajuddin Tengku Jalil is a lot more energetic these days.

The 38-year-old was aiming to make a comeback to the Malaysia Hockey League (MHL) and he is grateful for the offer by the rejuvenated Nurinsafi this season.

Tengku Ahmad last played for UniKL in the MHL in 2021. Later, he became one of the assistant coaches for Malaysia, who competed in the Junior World Cup last year.

“I have not been playing full-time for some time and it’s not easy to secure a place with the big teams. Therefore, I’m happy that Nurinsafi have given me the chance,” said Tengku Ahmad.

Nurinsafi have been a revelation this season where they have

a genuine chance to finish in the top five.

The team, whose training base is in Bertam, Penang, are strengthened by the presence of six Indian Railways players – Patil Veerannagouda, Joginder Singh, Hartaj Singh, Punith Rangegowda, Kuwardilraj Singh and Shamanth Chowdlu Sathish.

The team guided by Indian Railways coach Prem Kumar currently lead the table with four wins from five matches with 12 points.

Wins over Armed Forces (2-1), KL City (5-0), Liaoning (3-1) and UiTM (5-4) had given them a rousing start before league title contenders Maybank ended the unbeaten run with a 4-1 victory on Sunday.

Their striker Nur Rahull Hrsikesa Thaitchana Muruthi,

who played for UniKL with Tengku Ahmad in 2021, is currently the joint top scorer with Tenaga’s Jang Jong-hyun and Maybank’s Razie Rahim with seven goals.

Team owner and manager S. Thatchana Murthy said that their initial target was a top three finish but it was hurt by the defeat to Maybank.

“We are trying to finish in the top four so that we can avoid playing Tenaga, Maybank or Terengganu in the quarter-finals of the TNB Cup,” said Thatchana.

“Our next game is against Tenaga and we don’t have the chance to beat them.

“So, we want to focus on the other games to conclude the league in the top four and focus on doing well in the TNB Cup also.”