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It's not just goals that make Jang worth his weight in gold

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Page 1 of 2

It's not just goals that make Jang worth his weight in gold

PETALING JAYA: What makes hockey player Jang Jong-hyun great is not only his goal-scoring ability but also his humility.

And Terengganu will continue to bank on the modest South Korean when they face UiTM in the first leg of the TNB Cup semi-finals clash in Bukit Jalil today.

On Saturday, Jong-hyun's two late goals turned the tide for his side against Tenaga Nasional as they went on to win the Malaysian Hockey League (MHL) title. They are now pushing to complete a treble, having also won the Charity Shield.

The 38-year-old penalty corner specialist is expected to lead the way again but said it was not about personal glory but teamwork.

"I'm not important and it is not about scoring goals but to win as a team," said Jong-hyun, who has scored 25 goals so far.

"We've improved game by game,

TNB CUP SEMI-FINALS, FIRST-LEG FIXTURES

■ TODAY

TERENGGANU vs UiTM
(National Hockey Stadium 1, Bukit Jalil, 8pm)

TENAGA NASIONAL vs MAYBANK
(National Hockey Stadium 2, Bukit Jalil, 8pm)

got better and maintained it. Now we are the league champions.

"I'm happy to win more titles but we must focus on the next game. Winning is important and we need to take it game by game to achieve our goal."

The star-studded Terengganu are wary of UiTM who may not be in their class but have been playing with the presence of several national players like goalkeeper Adrian

Andy Albert, defender Zulpidaus Mizun, Indonesian Alfandy Aly Surya Prastyo and penalty corner specialist Idris Samad (nine goals in the league).

An upset looks unlikely but Terengganu are not expected to rest on their laurels.

Meanwhile, Maybank, despite showing marked improvement in the league this season, will consider themselves as the underdogs when they face Tenaga in another first leg of the TNB Cup semi-finals today.

Tenaga ended Maybank's chances in the MHL race after a draw and 3-2 win this season.

Coach Azrul Affendy Bistamam said the gap between them and Tenaga had been reduced this season but acknowledged that their rivals, coached by former international Norsauful Zaini, would have a slight edge.

"They finished ahead of us in the

league and are more experienced. Having said that, we still have a chance as our matches have always been close. I hope the players will rise to the occasion this time," said Azrul.

"Last season we beat Tenaga 2-1 in the first-leg semis but they bounced back in the second (5-1). We are prepared as we've been polishing up our penalty corner attacks and on reducing defensive errors."

Maybank will rely on their penalty corner specialist Razie Rahim, who has scored 25 goals in the league with 23 coming from penalty corners, while Tenaga will be looking forward to striker Azrai Aizad Abu Kamal to continue his scoring spree.

Azrai, the league's top scorer this season with 38 goals in 14 matches, will be the player Maybank need to subdue if they are to turn the tables on Tenaga.