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Tenaga rope in youngsters to help develop game

By AFTAR SINGH

KUALA LUMPUR: Tenaga Nasional clearly believe in nurturing local talents.

The former champions are not contented with being the only team among the six in the Premier Division to be featuring an all-local line-up.

They have roped in three youngsters as well. They are – forwards Arif Sabron, 17, and Muhd Hafizhuddin Zaidi, 19, and defender Luqman Nul Hakim Ahmad Shukran, 19.

The Premier Division will begin on Aug 19.

“We have roped in the youngsters to help develop their game. It would be good to see how they’d fare against the other five teams with foreign players,” said Tenaga coach Mohd Amin Rahim, a former international.

“We have a well balanced team of juniors and seniors. Although ours is an all-local line-up, we believe we can win at least one of the three titles as stake – league, overall and knock-out – this season.

“It will be tough ... but not impossible,” said Amin, who is in charge of Tenaga for the first time in the MHL.

Tenaga will be led by seasoned campaigner and goalkeeper S. Kumar, who has been playing for them since 1999.

Tenaga have won the league five times and the overall crown seven times since the inception of the MHL in 1987.

Tenaga, who finished third overall third last year, will open their campaign against Maybank on Aug 19. The other teams in Premier Division are double champions Terengganu, Kuala Lumpur Hockey Club (KLHC), Sapura and Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL).