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# Tough to topple

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## Thunderstars secure MHL crown despite stumbling against Terengganu rivals

By S. SAKTESH

**PETALING JAYA:** TNB Thunderstars reclaimed the Malaysian Hockey League (MHL) crown despite seeing their hopes of an unbeaten season ended by rivals Terengganu yesterday.

Thunderstars, who had gone unbeaten throughout the campaign, suffered their first defeat when Terengganu edged them 2-1 at the TNB Hockey Stadium in Bangi.

The hosts took the lead in the fourth minute through Nik Aiman Nik Rozemi's field goal, but Terengganu hit back almost immediately as Firhan Ashari equalised.

Terengganu then snatched the winner in the 49th minute when Luqman Nul Hakim Ahmad Shukran converted a penalty corner.

Despite the defeat, Thunderstars finished the season with an impressive record of 10 wins, one draw and one loss from 12 matches, scoring 81 goals.

Sixteen of those goals came in Thursday's match against Pahang Young Elephants, when national player Azrai Aizad Abu Kamal scored an astonishing nine.

Thunderstars will now turn their attention to the TNB Cup as they aim to complete a treble this year.

They had already won the Charity Shield in April after beating Terengganu, who claimed the treble last season.

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