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Red-hot Faizal

The Star, Malaysia

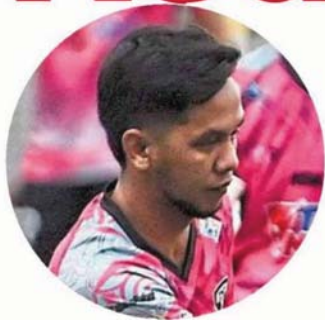


Page 1 of 2



Peerless: Terengganu players celebrating their 4-1 win over Australia's Territory Stingers in the Malaysian Hockey League yesterday. — Bernama

Red-hot Faizal



Striker Faizal Saari (left) clinched Terengganu's seventh Malaysian Hockey League (MHL) title after scoring all four goals in their 4-1 victory over Australia's Territory Stingers at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil. The east coast side capped a perfect run to the title by winning all their league matches as well as the Charity Shield trophy last month.

> By S. SAKTESH on Pg 30



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Classic finale

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Classic finale

Terengganu beat Aussie side Stingers to win all nine games en route to MHL title

By S. SAKTESH

PETALING JAYA: Winning the 2025 Malaysian Hockey League (MHL) title with a perfect record was indeed a dream come true for Terengganu. They capped a stellar season by winning all nine matches in the league, including yesterday's final fixture against Australia's Territory Stingers to take their seventh MHL title at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil. Head coach Harfizi Baharom's team won 4-1 against the hapless visitors to claim their second trophy of the year. They won the Charity Shield last month

after defeating last season's treble winners Tenaga Nasional. Terengganu's sixth other league titles was won in 2023, 2022, 2018, 2016, 2015, and 2014. Harfizi said the win and clean record this season made up for missing the league title last year, which was won by Tenaga. "The players were ready. They knew that winning this match would eradicate the pain of losing the title last year," said Harfizi. "They took the chances well and played all out. We were determined to take the last game seriously. We did not want to lose points this season, and the team took that seriously until the final game." Surprisingly it was the Stingers who opened accounts with Isaac Farmilo scoring in the fifth minute. Then Terengganu's hitman Faizal Saari hogged the show with goals in the 14th, 24th, 32nd, and 33rd minutes.

Sandwiched: Terengganu's Faizal Saari (centre) surrounded by two Territory Stingers' players during the match. — Hokita



Faizal has now scored 19 goals so far this season and could score more when the TNB Cup starts tomorrow. "Faizal is a prolific attacker for the team. He has the hunger to score goals, and because of that, his teammates want to help him," said Harfizi. With the Charity Shield and MHL title theirs, Terengganu will be gunning to complete the treble by taking the TNB Cup.

Harfizi knows Terengganu will be the team everyone wants to beat in the TNB Cup and he's not leaving anything to chance as he has already made tweaks before the tournament starts. "Aiming for the treble is a motivation for us to continue the fight. We need to work on our defence because sometimes we start off on the wrong foot and we concede first. So that is something we need to rectify," he said.