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Power-packed Puchong lads

Hockey club maintain superb form to clinch Division Five title in Selangor Hockey League

By Y.P. SIVAM
metrospt@thestar.com.my

GERAKAN Belia 4B Puchong became the Division Five champions in the TNB-QNET Selangor Hockey League (SHL).

Gerakan 4B, comprising a group of students from Puchong, displayed excellent teamwork as they defeated STAR Klang 5-1 in the final at the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) Hockey Stadium.

Gerakan Belia 4B also ended the season with an unbeaten record in Division Five involving 12 schools.

As expected, Gerakan Belia 4B, coached by Azry Asri, started the match looking for goals. After several missed chances, Gerakan Belia 4B took the lead in the eighth minute when Mohd Ahnaf Mohd Isa scored from a penalty corner.

STAR Klang, who had upset SJI Warriors 2-1 in the semi-finals, but were unable to get the better of Gerakan Belia 4B's stout defence.

Gerakan Belia 4B were up 2-0 in the 30th minute. This time, it was Mohd Faisal Rozihan who scored a field goal. Mohd Hilmi Zulkepli made it 3-0 in the 41st minute from a penalty corner.

Despite trailing 0-3, STAR Klang did not give up and were looking for their opening goal. It came in the 48th minute when Mohd Zafri Afiq Ridzuwan sounded the board from a penalty corner.

Gerakan Belia 4B scored two more goals in the 51st and 55th

minutes through Mohd Faisal and Mohd Ekmar Mohd Isa, respectively.

Gerakan Belia 4B team manager Sarahtul Zaida Zainal said it was a tough match.

"The scoreline does not reflect the intense battle between the teams. But our players took their chances well and scored the goals. The players should be commended for their determination to win the title," added Sarahtul.

STAR Klang team manager Daniel Hafiz Hamdan admitted Gerakan Belia 4B were the better side.

"They had beaten us in the group stage. That gave them additional confidence. But we are happy with our players for winning the second spot in the competitive league.

"We were not among the favourites but the players did well to overcome the odds to make the final," said Daniel Hafiz.

As champions, Gerakan Belia 4B took home the challenge trophy as well as RM1,000. STAR Klang were rewarded with RM750.

SJI Warriors took third spot after beating Pengkalan Permatang Hcokey Team 2-1.

STAR Klang's Mohd Zafri Afiq was named the Best Player in Division Five while his teammate Haleef Haikal was presented with the Best Goalkeeper award.

Selangor Hockey Association (SHA) secretary P. Kuganesan congratulated Gerakan Belia 4B for winning the Division Five crown.



Players and officials from Gerakan Belia 4B Puchong celebrating with their prizes

"We thank the 12 teams in Division Five for making the league a success.

"We have received encouraging feedback and will look into ways to make Division Five more exciting and interesting next season," said Kuganesan.

TNB-QNET Selangor Hockey League Division Five Roll of Honour Champions: Gerakan Belia 4B Puchong

Runners-up: STAR Klang

Third: SJI Warriors

Fourth: Pengkalan Permatang Hockey Team

Best Player: Mohd Zafri Afiq Nor Azlan (STAR Klang)

Best Goalkeeper: Haleef Haikal (STAR Klang)



Klang Municipal Council secretary Adi Faizal Ahmad Tarmizi (left) presenting the Best Player award to Mohd Zafri Afiq.

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A player from Gerakan Belia 4B Puchong (right) going past a STAR Klang opponent during the finals. — Photos: IBRAHIM MOHTAR/The Star



Gerakan Belia 4B Puchong goalkeeper Mohd Syukri Yamin Bakar going down to stop an opponent from scoring.



STAR Klang's Mohd Nasaruddin Mohd Azmin (right) trying to stop a Gerakan Belia 4B Puchong player from charging forward.