

Headline	United UniKL stand!		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	26 Mar 2021	Language	English
Circulation	175,986	Readership	527,958
Section	Sports	Page No	29,30
ArticleSize	984 cm ²	Journalist	Lim Teik Huat
PR Value	RM 148,563		



Unifying success

IN a clash they had to win at all costs to retain the Malaysian Hockey League title, the UniKL players fought hard as a cohesive unit to edge Maybank 1-0 to be crowned champions again. Tengku Ahmad Tajuddin Tengku Abdul Jalil's 49th-minute strike proved to be the match winner and team manager Datuk Amir Azhar Ibrahim saluted the players' exemplary industry throughout the game. >Story by LIM TEIK HUAT on Page 29

Headline	United UniKL stand!		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	26 Mar 2021	Language	English
Circulation	175,986	Readership	527,958
Section	Sports	Page No	29,30
ArticleSize	984 cm ²	Journalist	Lim Teik Huat
PR Value	RM 148,563		

United UniKL stand!

Defending champs fight hard as a team to retain title

MALAYSIA HOCKEY LEAGUE RESULTS						
UITM	3	SABAH	2			
UNIKL	1	MAYBANK	0			
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
UNIKL	7	6	1	0	26	2 19
T'GANU	6	5	0	1	30	9 15
MAYBANK	7	4	1	2	16	6 13
TENAGA	6	3	3	0	16	3 12
UITM	7	3	1	3	9	12 10
TNB-T'BOLTS	6	1	0	5	8	19 3
SABAH	7	1	0	6	4	29 1
NUR INSAFI	6	0	0	6	1	33 0

By LIM TEIK HUAT

PETALING JAYA: Tengku Ahmad Tajuddin Tengku Abdul Jalil fired in the winning goal as Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) beat Maybank 1-0 in a hard-fought match to retain the TNB-MHL Premier League title at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil.

It was UniKL's third straight Premier League triumph in as many years.

UniKL ended their campaign in the league unbeaten at the top of the table with 19 points from seven matches, winning six and drawing one.

The varsity side, who had also retained the Charity Shield on March 12, first won the Premier League title in 2019 and went on to create history last season by winning the Charity Shield, Premier League and TNB Cup.

"This has been a great victory for



Crossing sticks: UniKL's Harvinder Singh (right) vying for the ball with a Maybank player during the TNB-MHL Premier League match at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil. — Malaysia Hockey Confederation

us after retaining the Charity Shield. The team played well to earn this win. Congratulations to all the players for working hard throughout the match and as expected, Maybank came very strongly against us in attack and defence," said a jubilant UniKL team manager Datuk Amir Azhar Ibrahim.

The goal came in the 49th minute off a goal-mouth melee. The initial move was orchestrated by team captain Muhammad Marhan Mohd Jalil, who slipped the ball past two Maybank defenders from the right goal line.

Izwan Firdaus Ahmad Tajuddin

picked it from there and relayed the ball to Tengku Ahmad Tajuddin who had to break free from a tight situation in front of the goal-mouth before netting the ball into the net.

The match got off to a fast pace with neither team having the better of the other in the first two quarters.

Defending champions UniKL needed to win this match at all costs to secure the Premier League title. Anything short and it would have spelled disaster to the varsity team's hopes as Terengganu lurked dangerously behind.

UniKL went into the offensive from the very beginning and had

four penalty corner opportunities but Muhammad Razie Rahim and company could not find the break as goalkeeper Mohd Zaimi Mat Daris was in sparkling form, making over six saves.

Maybank, who are also in the running for the title, were not only solid in defence but also highly motivated to score, mounting a barrage of attacks.

"Maybank threw everything they got but luck was not on their side. Credit goes to our team who gave everything to win the match. Now we focus on the TNB Cup after this," said Tengku Ahmad Tajuddin.