KLHC still unbeatable

League leaders keep up winning ways in grand style

By S. RAMAGURU

KUALA LUMPUR: Double champions KL Hockey Club kept their Premier Division title-run firmly in grip when they secured a third win after trouncing Nur Insafi 7-0 in a Malaysia Hockey League match at the National Hockey Stadium.

But Maybank kept pace after beating Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) 4-1 on the adjacent pitch to move into second place.

KLHC lead with 10 points after four matches while Maybank are just one point off them.

The KLHC-Nur Insafi game was a mismatch right from the start although both sides had six foreign players each. KL started off slowly but dominated with better co-ordinated attacks. The first goal came in the 22nd minute with Australian import Timothy Deavin’s field goal.

Seven minutes later, Harvinder Singh added the second goal for KLHC 2-0 at half-time.

KLHC were back to plunder with Pakistan skipper Mohamed Imran’s brace from the penalty corner in the 53rd and 58th minutes. The other scorers were Mohamed Umar Bhutta (40th minute), Nabil Fiqri Mohamed Nor (49th) and Mohamed Najib Abu Hassan (61st).

At the other pitch, Maybank returned from a one-goal deficit to beat UniKL 4-1.

UniKL took an early lead off Noor Faeez Ibrahim in the sixth minute, but Maybank hit back with three goals before the break to seize control. It was the Tigers’ Pakistani imports that made the difference.

Imran started the fightback with a penalty-corner goal in the 23rd minute and this was followed by a field attempt by Shaqat Rasool, which gave them the lead.

Mohamed Waqas added the third goal in the 35th minute and Maybank were in a comfortable position to dictate second half play. Then, Sabahan Dick Cheny Walli scored the fourth in the 66th minute to complete UniKL’s misery.

Nowhere to go: KLHC’s Harvinder Singh stops Nur Insafi striker Shazad Aamir during their MHL match at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil yesterday. KLHC won 7-0. — CHAN TAK KONG / The Star