KLHC show their class

DOUBLE champions Kuala Lumpur Hockey Club (KLHC) demolished Terengganu 5-0 to stamp their mark in the Premier Division of the Malaysia Hockey League at the Kuantan Stadium yesterday.

And at the adjacent pitch, Maybank overshadowed the leaders with a 6-3 win over Nur Insafi, to trail KLHC by a point.

KLHC were expected to face a tough time against Terengganu, who had pinched six of their players in a signing binge, but it turned out to be a washout.

The defending champions’ Pakistan signings again proved their worth when Muhammad Imran made the ball sing for him in a first minute penalty corner while Muhammad Umar Bhutta made it 2-0 in the 31st minute.

Mohamed Syamim then scored just before the hooter to give KLHC a healthy lead, and a minute into the restart, Umar Bhutta made it 4-0. Pakistan import Akhtar Ali (40th) completed the demolition.

Maybank had a tougher fight in the first half, but two own goals by Nur Insafi players and goals from Zulhairi Hashim (14th), Amirullah Zainol (32nd), Shafqat Rasool (51st), and Muhammad Waqas (58th) saw them win comfortably.

The Nur Insafi goals were scored by Abdul Asim Khan (24th), Imran Muhammad (40th) and Ateeq Muhammad (45th).

“It was a very satisfying win as my players dominated most of the match and never allowed Terengganu to recover after taking the first minute lead.

“We still hold the lead, and after a day’s rest, we will meet Sapura and I believe today’s (yesterday’s) momentum would be carried onto that game as well as we are looking for a win before starting the second round,” said KLHC team manager George Koshy.
KLHC’s Wassem Ahmad (left) and Terengganu’s Shahrun Nabil fight for the ball in their Premier League match yesterday. KLHC won 5-0.