KLHC a class act, Maybank suffer defeat

**PREMIER** Division champions Kuala Lumpur Hockey Club (KLHC) proved their pedigree with a rousing come from behind 5-3 win over Tenaga Nasional in the Malaysian Hockey League yesterday.

Chasing a second-placed finish in the division, Tenaga started the match aggressively and were soon ahead at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil thanks to a Muhammad Shahril Saabah effort in the fifth minute.

Tenaga then added to their tally in the 20th minute when national player Faisal Saari scored his 12th goal of the season through a penalty corner.

KLHC, however, were not to be outdone and pulled level through two penalty corners scored by Pakistani imports Muhammad Umar Bhutta and Muhammad Imran in the 34th and 35th minutes.

KLHC found an extra gear after the restart and took the lead for the first time through a Mohd Razie Rahim penalty corner in the 47th minute.

Nabil Fiqri Mohd Noor showed no signs of the shoulder injury which had been troubling him for the past few weeks when he smashed the ball home for KLHC in the 50th minute to further stretch their lead.

Tenaga threatened a comeback when Muhammad Shahril pulled one back for his side with a penalty corner in the 61st minute but it was not to be as Nabil Fiqri notched his second of the game to seal a 5-3 win for KLHC.

The win, however, came at a price for KLHC as Australian Timothy Deavin and Pakistani Waseem Ahmad will be suspended for their match against UniKL today.

Tenaga were, however, let off the hook as second-placed Maybank also suffered defeat as they were beaten 4-3 by Terengganu on the adjacent pitch.

**Results — Premier Division:** KLHC 5, TNB 3, Nur Insafi 4, Sapura 3, Maybank 3, Terengganu 4.

**Division One:** TNB Thunderbolts 5, BJS 0.

**Today — Premier Division:** UniKL v KLHC (National Stadium II, 6pm); **Division One:** Sunday 2030 v MBI (National Stadium II, 8pm), TNB Thunderbolts v UiTM (National Stadium I, 6pm), Uniten v SSTMI (National Stadium I, 8pm).

By Fadhli Ishak