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Tajol the Perak hero

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TWO goals within six minutes was enough to give Perak the National Schools Boys' Under-18 hockey title yesterday.

In the girls final, Bukit Jalil Sports School upset defending champions Terengganu 1-0.

The Perak hero was national trainee and captain Tajol Roslie Mohamed who set-up the first goal and then scored the second for their 2-1 victory over Negri Sembilan in the final at the Azlan Shah Stadium.

For his contributions, he was named the Man of the Match.

The last time Perak won the title was in 1987.

The final started at a slow pace with Negri Sembilan having the better of the exchanges and had the first attempt at goal in the 20th minute off A. Suresh's reverse stick stinger.

They had another attempt in the 25th minute when captain Norazlan Rahim's stiff shot hit the sideboard.

Perak came back strongly in the second half with Tajol sending a cross from the right to Husin Kamaruddin who made no mistake in the 36th minute.

The second goal followed in the 42nd off a penalty corner with Tajol firing in a powerful shot to make it 2-0.

Negri tried to get back into the game but their 48th minute penalty corner was well blocked by Perak defenders.

A 55th minute goal by Negri captain Norazlan Rahim narrowed the deficit but it was not enough to deny Perak the title.

Perak came close to scoring their third goal in the 63rd minute through Tajol again but his shot was blocked on the line by Norzaiful Rizal Saaba.

As a consolation, Negri won the Fair Play award while Perak's Mahathir Thayin was named the Best Goalkeeper in the boys' category.

In the Under-18 girls' final, one goal was enough for Bukit Jalil Sports School.

Nasrina Mohamed scored the winner in the 38th minute.

BOYS' Under-18 final: Perak 2 Negri Sembilan 1.

Man of the Match: Tajol Roslie Mohamed (Perak); Best Goalkeeper: Mahathir Thayin (Perak); Fair Play Award: Negri Sembilan.

GIRLS' Under-18 final: Bukit Jalil Sports School 1 Terengganu 0.

Player of the Match: Nasrina Mohamed (Bukit Jalil Sports School); Best Goalkeeper: Ruslina Hassan (Terengganu); Fair Play Award: Perak.

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