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Ang and Elaine finish at the top

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PENANG'S Eric Ang Soon Wei led the field of 59 bowlers to emerge top qualifier and a place in the Boys' Team MSSM Malaysia for the forthcoming 6th Asian Schools Bowling Championships at Megalanes in Magamall Pinang, Prai on Saturday.

The championship is scheduled to be held at the Megalanes on Apr 2.

Also making their debut for the Malaysian B team are Ang's teammate Steven Yam Khai Chien together with Negri Sembilan's Mahathir Mohd Noor and Kedah's Khairul Hafidz Zambri.

Ang was in his best form when he led from start to finish, knocking down a total of 2,563 pinfalls to beat nearest rival Yam, who downed 2,536 pins.

Third was Mahathir with a 2,463 total while Khairul Hafidz (2,455) was fourth.

Perak's Elaine Lam Sau Wei topped the qualifiers in the girls division. Selangor's Sharon Koh Suet Len and Esther Cheah Mei Lan finished second and third respectively while Kelantan's Enas Diana Ezanne was fourth.

It was a close fight for the top three spot. Lam completed with 2,246 pinfalls with Koh just six pinfalls behind while Cheah fell 2,232 pins for the third spot.

The Malaysia A team will be represented by bowlers from the National Sports Council's while the B Team will be represented by the Malaysian Schools Sports Council's (MSSM) team.

Meanwhile organising secretary B.C. Cheah said Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Indonesia and Singapore have confirmed participation.

Cheah added while Thailand, Guam and India declined the invitation, Brunei, Korea and New Zealand have yet to confirm.