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# Another slim success

Kedah stay undefeated in President Cup campaign with 1-0 win over Selangor PKNS

By **DASHEER NOH**

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**S**TRIKER Mohd Norhamisaref Hamid became the match winner again for Kedah when he scored the only goal of the match against Selangor PKNS FC in a Group B President Cup first round football match at the PKNS Sports Complex in Selangor.

He found the net in the 34th minute with a header from a corner to give Kedah maximum points in successive matches.

Norhamisaref had also scored the lone goal in the opening match against KL Felda United on Feb 4.

Kedah coach Mohamad Ramlee expressed satisfaction with the overall performance of the team in both matches but rued the missed chances in both matches.

"My team was in full control on both occasions and won several free kicks but were unable to convert them into goals. I am working on their free kicks to perfect their set pieces.

"We have a very tough away match against defending champi-

ons Kelantan on Wednesday and I hope the team will do better.

"The return of Syazuan Hazani and Osman Mohd Yusoff, who were on a one-month attachment stint with Cardiff City will add to our

strength when we play Kelantan," added Mohamad.

As for playing all home matches at the Universiti Utara Malaysia mini-stadium in Sintok, Mohamad was unfazed by the change in venue.

"Playing the home matches in UUM, 55km away from Alor Setar,

will not be a problem as we had also played some of last year's matches there," he said, while conducting a recent training session at the Mada ground in Alor Setar.

Kedah were shown the exit at the quarter-final stage by Terengganu T-Team last year but they hope to put up a better show

with the majority of last year's players retained for the current squad.

"I have the core of last year's team to work with and to strengthen the team I have roped in players from SMK Syed Hassan, Perlis, SMK Tunku Anum, Kedah, and one player from Kelantan for this year's campaign.

"We have started our mission on a winning note albeit with narrow wins but we hope to pick up steam as the competition progresses," said Mohamad whose services has been extended for another year.

Kedah are in Group B with Sabah, Police, Negri Sembilan, Malacca, Kuala Lumpur, Kelantan, Penang, Selangor PKNS FC and KL Felda United.

They will be involved in a round robin home and away series of matches and the top four teams will qualify for the quarter-final knockout series.

The first round matches started on Feb 4 and will end on April 8 while the dates for the second round matches and the knockout series has not been fixed yet.

**We have a tough away match against Kelantan on Wednesday and I hope the team will do better.**

— MOHAMAD RAMLEE

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**Serious business:** Kedah President Cup players practising set-pieces during their preparation for the tough match against Kelantan at the Mada ground in Alor Setar.