

La Salle Brickfields oust SMK Bangsar

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LA SALLE Brickfields overcame a spirited SMK Bangsar 4-2 in an entertaining match in the second round of the MSSKL Bangsar Zone Under-18 Soccer match to book their quarter-final berth at Victoria Institution ground yesterday.

Despite a wet and soggy pitch, both teams settled down quickly and immediately went looking for goals, and La Salle goalkeeper Surendran Komanayer was first to be tested when he had to push over Bangsar dangerman Shaiful Nizam's chip in the 4th minute.

The La Salle forward line then got their act together and scored their first in the 10th minute when Azizi Mat Ripin slotted the ball home when the Bangsar defence failed to clear a harmless ball into the penalty box.

Six minutes later Azizi forced a fine save from Bangsar keeper Mohamed Fahmi and at the other end Surendran was forced to make an acrobatic to keep out Shaiful's shot.

La Salle then got their second when Azrul Hisyam tapped the ball in after a cross from the right to make it 2-0.

Bangsar looked dangerous going forward but their many of their attempts were either saved by an alert Surendran or thwarted by fullback Saravanan Sinniah and the first half ended 2-0.

La Salle had a pleasant surprise at the start of the second half when principal Datin Goh Beng Lan came to the ground to support the team and they responded through Azrul who scored his second and La Salle's third with a header at the far post after a pin point cross from Kesavan Balakrishnan.

Bangsar then threw everything into attack and pulled one back when dangerman Shaiful picked up the ball at the edge of the area and placed the ball past the keeper.

Bangsar's attacks left gaps at the back and from a quick counter Azrul chipped to Kesavan on the left who unleashed a powerful volley that Mohamed Fahmi could not hold onto to make it 4-1 for La Salle.

Shaiful then scored his second of the match three minutes from time when slammed the ball past a stranded goalkeeper.

In the Keramat Zone semi-finals St John's Institution beat SMK Padang Tembak 5-3 to set up a final clash against hosts SMK Teknik Setapak who overcame SMK Wangsa Melawati 4-2 on penalty kicks after sudden death time failed to break the 1-1 deadlock.

RESULTS - Bangsar Zone: SMK Seri Hartamas 5 SMK Seri Pantai 1; SMK Vivekananda 3 SMK Bukit Jalil 1; Victoria Institution 5 Royal Military College 1; SMK Taman Tun Dr Ismail 6 SMK Taman Desa 0; SMK Bukit Bandaraya 9 SM Confucian 0; SMK Bandar Baru Tasik Selatan 3 SMK Sungei Besi 0.

(END) Source : New Straits Times