



2007 Samsung Champions Trophy - Men
Sunday 2 December
18:05

Malaysia 2

Great Britain 3

70' Great Britain wins the game. They struggled in first half but showed great character to score three goals in second half, including the winner after a late equalizer by Malaysia.

70' The final moments of the game are tense. MAS push for the equalizer but have to concede a final PC. The flick hits the crossbar and the score stays at 2-3 for GBR.

***** GOAL GBR: Ben HAWES *****

66' The crowd is ecstatic and pushes MAS for the last few minutes. But GBR earns a free hit close to the circle. After a quick pass, Ben HAWES unleashes a strong shot that beats cleanly the keeper. GBR is back in the lead with 3 minutes to go.

***** GOAL MAS : Mohd Shahrnun Nabil ABDULLAH *****

63' A fast MAS counter-attack is countered a few times by GBR defenders, but each time another MAS player managed to recuperate the ball, finally leaving 3 attackers in front of the keeper. Mohd Shahrnun Nabil ABDULLAH doesn't miss the opportunity to tie the score.

61' Selveraju SANDRAKASI does some good work in the right corner, eludes a few GBR defenders and manages a strong shot in a narrow angle that forces an acrobatic save from Ali McGREGOR. The rebound goes to the middle, but nobody is there to take advantage.

59' The MAS counter-attacks are more sporadic now, and GBR controls the ball in midfield, but the Malaysian players are not down yet and will be dangerous until the end with the support of their home crowd.

57' MAS change the goal-keeper: Kumar SUBRAMANIAM is replaced by Khairulnizam IBRAHIM, who is immediately called into action by a good shot.

57' a good series of passes by MAS stretches the GBR defense, but to no avail.

55' A hard ball reaches Ismail ABU alone at the penalty-stroke point, but his deflection between his legs goes wide.

54' The momentum has clearly shifted. Boon Huat CHUA (MAS) now receives a yellow card for rough play.

***** GOAL GBR: Rob MOORE *****

53' On a quick counter-attack, GBR finally finds the key to the MAS defense and Rob MOORE scores from close range.

52' Ismail ABU is giving all kind of trouble to the GBR defense on his right wing.

***** GOAL GBR: Barry MIDDLETON *****

- 49' A soft ball from outside the circle that appeared more a pass than a shot eluded the MAS keeper and **Barry MIDDLETON** pushed it in goal to tie the score.
- 46' The play is mostly in the MAS defensive half, but the GBR players always appear to be outnumbered by the defenders in yellow.
- 45' Selveraju SANDRAKASI runs down the right wing and is taken down by two GBR defenders, but the umpire lets the play go on, much to the displeasure of the crowd.
- 43' James TINDALL steals the ball on the 25 and rushes to the circle, but he tries to go alone and ignores the possibility for a pass. The MAS spoils the plays and clears.
- 41' The game is finally back in the MAS half. GBR passes the ball well around the circle, but cannot penetrate it.
- 37' Ismail ABU penetrates the GBR 25 and is taken down hard, earning a PC. Baljit Singh SARJAB SINGH flicks the ball low and hard but Ali McGREGOR is saved by his post. MAS earns immediately another PC, but it doesn't produce anything.
- 36' Play is under way in second half.
- 35' Halftime: 1-0 for Malaysia. Great Britain had the advantage at the beginning of the game, but were stunned by the Malaysian goal, then could not find the key to the compact Malaysian defense despite a steady territorial domination. In addition, MAS is well pushed by the home crowd!
- 34' GBR are trying hard to tie the game before halftime, but the MAS defense confidently denies them. All Malaysian players are often in defense, but reposition themselves very quickly upfield when they have the ball on a counter-attack, often surprising the GBR defense.
- 33' James TINDALL does a good run into the 25, but cannot find a partner to pass the ball.
- 32' James TINDALL manages a good shot in a difficult angle, but the keeper deflects it in corner.
- 29' The Malaysian defenders don't leave any space to the GBR attackers around or in the circle, and they consistently loose the ball before having a chance to adjust a shot on goal.
- 28' Green card to Mohd Madzli Ikmar MOHD NOR (MAS) for rough tackle.
- 25' Despite their territorial domination, GBR appear uninspired, relying on individual action to try and penetrate the yellow defensive wall.
- 20' Ashley JACKSON forces a PC for GBR with a ball that hits a defender's foot. The direct hit by Richard MANTELL is saved by the keeper and well cleared by the MAS defense.
- 18' The goal appears to have dampened the GBR tempo, and they struggle to find each other.
- *** GOAL MAS : Tengku A.T. TENGGU ABDUL JALIL *****
- 12' After a steal on the 50, the danger is carried into GBR territory by Selveraju SANDRAKASI. MAS earn a free hit at the top of the circle, play it toward the goal and, in the goal mouth scramble that follows, Tengku A.T. TENGGU ABDUL JALIL manages somehow to find the ball and slot it in goal, much to the delight of the crowd.
- 9' The Brits have more possession in midfield, but cannot penetrate deep enough in the compact MAS defense. Malaysia loose the ball quickly when they try to counter-

attack, and the play is mostly in their half so far.

- 7' Ashley JACKSON is very active in midfield and another one of his runs forces the MAS defense to deflect the ball in corner.
- 5' A large Sunday crowd is here to cheer the Malaysian team and it erupts each time the players in yellow carry the ball.
- 2' GBR are quick in action, with a run on the left wing by Ashley JACKSON that finds Stephen DICK in the circle, but his good reverse shot is saved by Kumar Subramiam in the Malaysian goal.
- 1' The game is under way, Malaysia in bright yellow and Great Britain in red. It is still hot, although a breeze is cooling the air in Bukit Jalil Stadium.
- 0' Because of the heat and humidity in Kuala Lumpur, teams are carrying 20 players on their roster, and need to rest two for each games. Today, Great Britain are resting Brett GARRARD and goal-keeper James FAIR, while Malaysia are resting Baljit Singh CHARUN SINGH and Hafifahafiz HANAFI.
- 0' At 31 years of age, Brett Garrard is the oldest player in the British squad, and the most experienced with a total of 254 caps to his name.
- 0' Hosts Malaysia are the most inexperienced team in this year's tournament with an average of 69 caps per player. They are also the youngest team at an average age of 23.
- 0' After two losses to the Netherlands (0-4) and Germany (0-4), Great Britain are the only team still awaiting their first goal of the tournament. They are also the side with most goals conceded (8) after two days. Malaysia have also lost their first two games against Australia (0-1) and the Netherlands (1-3) but appeared well prepared for this event and not impressed by the ranking and status of their opponents.
- 0' This will be the first time Malaysia and Great Britain meet at the Champions Trophy. However, they have met 4 times at the Olympic Games, and once at the Olympic Qualification Tournament in 2000, and the British team are still unbeaten against Malaysia in major hockey tournaments. Their last meeting came at the 2000 Sydney Olympics when the match ended 2-2.