

Records tumble as Terengganu and FT continue to rule in canoeing

IT was a day of records in the canoeing event at the Timah Tasoh Dam in the Malaysia Games (Sukma).

Two national marks and two Games records were eclipsed yesterday.

In the men's K4 500m event, Federal Territories' Amirul Azfar Azwan, Muhd Fadhlul Hadi Mohd Razit, Mohd Khirulniza Salleh and Muhd Uwais Zainal Abidin set a new national record of 1:36.58 en route to the gold medal. It broke the old mark of 1:37.100 set in 1999.

A canoe powerhouse in Sukma, Terengganu, also broke the women's K4 500m national record of 2:00.420, which has stood since 1997, when Akmal Idayu Mat Razik, Fatin Ajeerah Wahab, Noor Azira Ibrahim and Nor Azita Ibrahim won the gold medal in 1:59.12.

Akmal Idayu and Noor Azira had earlier yesterday clocked 2:09.78 to break the Games record for the women's K2 500m event. The old mark was 2:11.460.

The Terengganu men's pair of Ahmad Shafiq Moha and Muhd Syukri Hamzah, then broke the Games' record of 1:46.336 for the K2 500m event with a time of 1:44.84 to win the gold medal.

Terengganu completed a haul of four gold medals yesterday when Nor Azita won the K1 500m women's event in 2:40.39.

But for Khirulniza, who won the men's K1 500m event, it was a good day for Federal Territories as they snatched two gold medals yesterday.

"It was a good day for us especially winning and breaking the national record in the K4 500m event. We had a good launch at the start and held a reasonable margin ahead of our strongest rival Terengganu," he said.