

Nuramalia bags 50m recurve gold after slow start

IT WAS as if time had stood still as Terengganu archer Nuramalia Haneesha Mazlan continued from where she left off at the last Sukma.

Yesterday, Nuramalia bagged the women's 50m recurve gold at the Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Polytechnic grounds in Kangar.

Nuramalia topped the standings with a total of 312 points, edging Sarawak's Kho Yee Ting and Penang's Loke Shin Hui, who both scored 305. Yee Ting bagged the silver after hitting more 10's and X's.

Nuramalia made a grand debut at the Pahang Sukma in 2012 when she became the youngest athlete to win a Sukma archery gold. She upstaged seasoned archers to bag the 70m recurve gold at just 12 years old.

Now 14, the Kuala Terengganu girl, who finished fourth in the 70m recurve event on Thursday, said she was hungrier yesterday to win the gold medal after a slow start in the competition.

"The 50m is my favourite event and it was my target to win the gold medal today (yesterday). I was also very determined to win after missing out on the opening day gold medal," said Nuramalia.

"I was very much at ease today ... I had a good feeling that I could win. I also managed to calm myself since it's the second day of the competition."

The Seri Titiwangsa Sports School (STSS) Form Two student added that her next aim is to win the Olympic round gold and help Terengganu win the team event gold.

"I moved to STSS after the last Sukma and according to my coaches I'm showing improvement. I hope this gold medal will bring me luck to shoot down more medals," said the bubbly teenager.

Meanwhile, in the men's competition Mohd Shaiffuddin Mohd Kamro confirmed the double for Terengganu after winning the men's 50m recurve event. The 19-year-old scored 323 points for the gold, while Billdean Bonilung of Sabah won the silver on 320 points and Mohd Aidid Azizi Azmi of Federal Territories got the bronze on 319 points.

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