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KL Dragons Keep Playoff Hopes Alive, Winning 70 – 67 In A Close Match Against Satria Muda BritAma

Indonesia, Saturday: - Satria Muda BritAma and KL Dragons met for the third time, this time at the BritAma Arena, Jakarta, Indonesia.

The two teams first met on 25 October at the BritAma Arena, where Satria Muda dominated the match with a 24 point lead, ending the match 91 – 67 against the KL Dragons. Their second meeting was at MABA Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where Satria Muda BritAma once again emerge winners. This time the KL Dragons put up a fight, reducing Satria Muda's lead to just 12 points, ending the match 57 – 69 against Satria Muda.

Today, Satria Muda's starting lineup of Nakiea Miller, Mario Wuysang, Christian Sitepu, Youbel Sondakh and Alexander Hartman went up against KL Dragons' Jamal Brown, Rudy Lingganay, Chris Kuete, Fhadzmir Bandaying and John Ng.

KL Dragons' Jamal Brown may have lost the jumpball to Satria Muda's Nakiea Miller, but Brown quickly redeemed himself by opening the scoring for the KL Dragons, with a 2 point shot against Satria Muda BritAma.

Satria Muda soon retaliated, leaving both teams neck in neck in, but with 2:37 left on the clock, KL Dragons' Guganeswaran was fouled by Satria Muda's Nakiea Miller, after which Guganeswaran put the Dragons in the lead by making two free throws. The KL Dragons continued to extend their lead, and at the end of the first quarter had managed to squeeze a small 3 point lead, ending the quarter 20 – 17 against Satria Muda BritAma.



The KL Dragons were on fire in the second quarter, and with 7:36 left to the quarter, had already amassed an 11-point lead against Satria Muda, but Satria Muda quickly fought back and once again the KL Dragons only managed a 3 point lead, ending 36 – 33 against Satria Muda BritAma at half time.

The KL Dragons managed to maintain their lead throughout third quarter, with Satria Muda breathing down their necks the entire time, not allowing KL Dragons to take more than a 7 point lead. The KL Dragons continued to push hard, and finished the third quarter 51 – 55 against Satria Muda BritAma.

The points remained close in the fourth quarter, with KL Dragons maintaining their lead. With 5:43 left to the quarter, Satria Muda BritAma had managed to even the score, leaving both teams at 60-all. KL Dragons quickly picked up the pace, and with 1:23 left on the clock, had managed to regain their 3 point lead.

The score was once again even at 67- all with 1:08 left on the clock, and this was maintained until 0:57 left to the match. At the final buzzer, the KL Dragons emerged winners when Loh Shee Fai made a 3 point shot with 53 seconds left to the match.

This win puts the KL Dragons back in fourth in the league standings. The fourth and final spot in the playoffs will only be decided after the Brunei Barracudas meet with the Philippine Patriots at the Ynares Sports Arena tomorrow, 24 January at 4.00pm.



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Team Standings

| Pos. | Team | Played | Won | Loss | For | Against | Points |
|------|---------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| 1 | Philippine Patriots | 14 | 10 | 4 | 1019 | 958 | 24 |
| 2 | Singapore Slingers | 14 | 9 | 5 | 1041 | 1001 | 23 |
| 3 | Satria Muda BritAma | 15 | 8 | 7 | 1119 | 1075 | 23 |
| 4 | KL Dragons | 15 | 7 | 8 | 1093 | 1154 | 22 |
| 5 | Brunei Barracudas | 14 | 6 | 8 | 1118 | 1147 | 20 |
| 6 | Thailand Tigers | 14 | 3 | 11 | 1031 | 1086 | 17 |