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GOLF

More players making inroads

SINTOK: University players from across the country showed marked improvement in quality across the board at the recent Higher Education Ministry Chief Secretary's Cup grand final at the Seri Selangor Golf Club in Petaling Jaya recently.

Tournament coordinator Norizan Md Isa, who is also the team manager for Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), said despite his players sweeping all four categories at the event, the challenges his charges faced was much stiffer this year.

UUM is the Golf Sports Excellence Centre for Malaysian universities, which offers elite university golfers the chance to focus on developing their game without neglecting their studies.

"We had a much easier time at the event last year. The challenges from other universities this time really forced our players to raise their game just to stay in the top bracket," said Norizan.

"Players such as Khairunhanisah Azlan Hanif (UIAM), Ahmad Fadali Baharuddin (UKM) and Ahmad Farhan Syarif Ahmad Yasin (UIAM) were outstanding and really caught the eye.

"This is a very healthy improvement and I understand that many of these players have been training hard on a daily basis despite them not being in a SEC university."

(From left) ***Universiti Utara Malaysia's*** *Nur Dinayah Damian, Hillferah Tan, Amirul Aizat Abdul Bahar and Mohd Wafiyuddin Abd Manaf with their trophies.* **Pic by Yazit Razali**

The top three winners from the men's individual category — Mohd Wafiyuddin Abd Manaf, Ahmad Fadali and Amirul Aizat Abdul Bahar (all UUM) as well as the top three from the women's event — Hilferah Tan, Khairunhanisa and Nur Diyanah Damian (all UUM) have confirmed their spot in the squad that will represent the country at the World Golf University Championships in Liberec, Czech Republic on July 2-7.

Norizan said there will likely be an additional three places for the men and two for the women's event at the tournament. Players for these places have yet to be finalised. **By Fadhli Ishak**

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED

The sports page in *Streets* is dedicated to the community and we welcome contributions from residents associations, schools, the private sector and institutions of higher learning.
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