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TEAM MALAYSIA SCOOP GOLD WITH DECISIVE VICTORY IN TEAMS EVENT

Team Malaysia came out firing today with a stunning 992, determined to stamp its supremacy in one of the pinnacle events of the VII Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Championships.

In a thrilling start this morning, England's Elliot Crosby and Malaysia's Timmy Tan, bowling on Lanes 1 and 2 were neck and neck on 9 strikes. Up first as anchor for England, Crosby struck out for the Championship's first 300. Tan then stepped up and bowled two more strikes in the 10th and 11th frame, but had to settle for 299 with a solid 10 pin in the final frame.

"Elliot Crosby looked like he'd left a 7/10 standing but the messenger took them both out on the last ball – it was stunning," Tournament Director Eddie Drewnicki said afterwards.

A 279 game by Singles Gold-medallist Mohd Nur Aiman in Game 3 pushed Malaysia to a compelling lead on 2796 at the half-way point, ahead of Australia on 2568 and South Africa a close third on 2549.

After Game 4, Team Malaysia continued to dominate the leaderboard on 3671, while South Africa overtook Australia to jump into second place on 3459. Team Wales posted an impressive 952, overtaking England and India to edge close to a medal placing, just 13 pins behind the Aussies.

Wales kept its foot on the pedal in Game 5 with another solid 837 game, leapfrogging into third on 4161 behind South Africa on 4230, and Malaysia still well ahead on 4614. Going into the last game, the race for Silver and Bronze was on in earnest, with a mere 27 pins separating England, Australia, Bermuda and India.

The sixth and final game was a thrilling and noisy finale to this popular event. With a flourish, Team Malaysia posted 988 to finish with a 5602 total and a decisive victory. South Africa held on to take Silver on 5014 and Wales scooped Bronze, winning its first medal in this Championship with a 21 pin margin over Australia, which finished fourth on 4925.

All Event Standings : Ladies 1. Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 232 average 2. Siti Amirah, Malaysia, 227 average 3. Tiziana Carannante, Malta, 226 average. Men: 1. Muhd Nur Aiman, Malaysia, 251 average 2. Timmy Tan, Malaysia, 244 average 3. Quintin Haywood, South Africa, 241 average.

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The field is now cut to the top 12 bowlers in both Men's and Women's division for tomorrow's two six-game blocks of the elite Masters event, starting at 10am at Northcliff Bowl.

The Championship concludes on Saturday with the Men's and Women's Top 3 Stepladder Finals, commencing at 10am, and streamed live.

Full scores are available online via the official Championship website – www.ctbc2016.org.

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*For further information and pics, please contact CTBF Secretary-General, Lynne Clay
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