

Negri cagers aiming for Agong's Cup

By S. RAJAKUMAR

AFTER a lapse of 41 years, Negri Sembilan are aiming to go one step further and bring back the Agong's Cup when they compete in the national basketball championships in Kelantan in May.

Negri Sembilan Basketball Association (NSBA) secretary Hoo Hoong Kwee does not think that is wishful thinking as Negri were runners-up in Perak last year.

Negri last won the trophy way back in 1962. For this coming assault, the cagers have been training all year round at the Port Dickson Basketball Stadium.

This year, Negri will also take part in the National Under-18 basketball championships in Kuala Lumpur in April, the National Non-Chinese basketball championships in Kuala Lumpur in September and the National Under-16 basketball championships in Malacca in December.

In addition, the NSBA will host the Second Negri Sembilan International invitational basketball tournament in Port Dickson in April. NSBA are expecting two teams from Singapore besides Taiwan, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Perak and the national youth team.

From March 26 to 30, NSBA will also be hosting the National Under-18 basketball championships southern zone competition in Port Dickson. The teams taking part are Negri,

Malacca, Johor, Sabah and Sarawak.

From this zone competition, the two top teams will qualify to play in the finals in Kuala Lumpur from April 1 to 5.

"The Under-15 Talent Camp will be held in Port Dickson in November. We hope to attract boys and girls who have the potential to do well in basketball. They do not need to have basic skills but they must have a minimum height of 168cm," said Hoong Kwee.

"The aim of this camp is to promote the sport to students in secondary schools."

NSBA 2003 CALENDAR

March: Negri Under-18 basketball c'ships (Seremban); Southern Zone National Under-18 basketball c'ships (Port Dickson)

April: Negri Open basketball c'ships (Port Dickson); NS International Invitational basketball c'ships (Port Dickson)

May: Negri 3-on-3 basketball fest (Tampin)

June: Negri Under-14 basketball c'ships (Jelebu); Coaching Course (Seremban)

July: Negri Non-Chinese basketball c'ships (Kuala Pilah)

August: Negri Under-20 basketball c'ships (Port Dickson); Umpiring Course (Bahau)

October: Negri Under-16 basketball c'ships (Bahau)

November: Under-15 Talent Camp (Port Dickson)



An inter-school basketball competition that took place in Inti College in Nilai last year.



A three-on-three Under-12 girls' basketball final that took place in Negri last year.