

Punishments await KL and Kedah if salary arrears not settled by end of month

PETALING JAYA: Kuala Lumpur and Kedah could face a three-point deduction for the 2024-2025 Super League season and a fine of RM50,000 if both clubs fail to settle their salary arrears by March 30.

Both clubs had failed to settle 50 per cent of their salary arrears for 2023 before the first deadline of March 15, set by the First Instance Body (FIB).

However, the FIB have given Kuala Lumpur and Kedah some breathing room as they have until the end of the month to settle the remaining arrears before stern action is taken.

FIB chairman Sheikh Mohd Nasir Sheikh Mohd Sharif said the body are aware that Kuala Lumpur are experiencing high-level management changes and club patron Fahmi Fadzil has come forward to help resolve the outstanding salary arrears immediately.

"Additionally, the FIB have also received an official letter from the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) agreeing to contribute to settle the club's arrears for 2023 by the end of March.

"Whereas for Kedah, the club have submitted proof of payment amounting to RM600,000 as partial payment of their current arrears, but it does not comply with the 50 per cent total payment as set by the FIB.

"However, the FIB have received financial evidence of the funds that Kedah will receive in the near future," he said.

Although the FIB have given Kuala Lumpur and Kedah some room to settle their salary arrears due to both clubs' high commitments, the body are also ready to impose strict action on both clubs to ensure compliance with FIB instructions is respected and taken seriously.

"If Kuala Lumpur and Kedah fail to settle all relevant salary arrears on the second deadline which is March 30, a three-point deduction in the upcoming 2024-2025 season and a fine of RM50,000 will be imposed.

"The FIB will also re-evaluate the club's licence status if they do not comply with the deadline for payment and do not have stable finances to continue competing in the Malaysian League season," he said.