



ATHLETICS

HUSNIAH BIDES HER TIME

Confident she will
better national
100m and 200m
records soon

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HAVING been denied the national 100m record due to the wind factor, it should be only a matter of time before Zaidatul Husniah Zulkifli enters the record books legally.

Husniah created a stir last weekend when news filtered in from South Africa, where she is on a two-month competition and training stint in preparation for the Kuala Lumpur Sea Games in August, that she had clocked 11.36 seconds in the 100m.

That would have shattered G. Shanti's national mark of 11.50s, held since 1993, by some distance only for the official results to show later that the race was run in a tailwind of 2.5 metres per second, above the legal limit of 2.0 for

record purposes.

While disappointed not to have her time officially recognised as a national record, 23-year-old Husniah is determined to have her name etched into the record books.

"Even though I did not get the record, I'm still happy I managed to clock a new personal best," said Husniah, whose previous best was 11.62s which she clocked at the 2014 Asean University Games in Palembang.

"It gives the motivation to do better in the future and I hope to peak at the Sea Games. That is my target this year. I have to thank my coach (M. Balamurugan) and my teammates for their constant encouragement."

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**ZAIDATUL HUSNIAH
ZULKIFLI**

No Malaysian sprinter has won a Sea Games medal in the women's 100m since Shanti's 100m and 200m golden double in 1997 in Jakarta.

As if to prove she could have broken the 100m record without the aid of the elements, Husniah set a new personal best of 23.80s in the 200m, only the second Malaysian after Shanti to run the event under 24.00s.

Husniah had another chance at a crack at the 100m record late

EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL MEN'S AND WOMEN'S 100M RECORDS

MEN

2016	Khairul Hafiz Jantan	10.18
1998	Watson Nyambek	10.30
1998	Watson Nyambek	10.31
1996	Watson Nyambek	10.33
1995	Azmi Ibrahim	10.38
1995	Watson Nyambek	10.38
1995	Watson Nyambek	10.42
1995	Watson Nyambek	10.45
1995	Watson Nyambek	10.46
1966	Tan Sri Dr M. Jegathesan	10.49

WOMEN

1993	G. Shanti	11.50
1991	G. Shanti	11.51
1991	G. Shanti	11.63
1989	Sajaratuldur Hamzah	11.78
1987	Sajaratuldur Hamzah	11.84

yesterday when the national athletes were due to compete at an Athletics South Africa Speed Series event in Bloemfontein.

Of other notable performances last weekend, Badrul Hisyam Manap clocked a personal best of 47.62s in the 400m as he looks to explore his options other than

just running the shorter sprints.

"Badrul recorded a good time in the 400m, which is important for strengthening the Malaysian 4x400m quartet," said national chief coach Zainal Abas.

National 100m record holder Khairul Hafiz Jantan's season-

opening run ended in a time of 10.47s while Jonathan Nyepa and Haiqal Hanafi clocked 10.66 and 10.73 respectively.

After yesterday's meet, the national athletes have four more competitions scheduled, culminating with the South African National Championships on Apr 20-22.



Khairul Hafiz
Jantan

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