

Johnathan only has himself to blame for bowing out in final

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ANY other shooter would have been satisfied to reach the final in their Commonwealth Games debut.

But not Olympian Johnathan Wong Guanjie.

He cried unabashedly yesterday after being the first to be eliminated in the eight-man final in the men's 10m air pistol at the Belmont Shooting Centre.

Johnathan did enough to reach the final as the fourth qualifier with a score of 570 points alongside a few world-class shooters.

But a poor score of 7.8 in the



opening shot derailed his momentum and he could not regain his touches and was the first to bow out after the first cut over 10 shots.

India's Jitu Rai stayed steady until the end to break the Games record with his score of 235.1 over 24 shots to win the gold.

Australia's Kerry Bell came from behind to win a silver with 233.5 points while another Indian Om Mitharval took the bronze with 214.3.

Johnathan said he could not accept the defeat as he became his

own worst enemy.

"All have been good for me. I had the best preparation coming into the Games but struggled to get myself together here," said Johnathan.

"I was hoping to replicate my training score of 577 in the qualifying but I couldn't get the shots.

And all went downhill after I shot 7.8. My coach (Park Sang-soon) was signalling me to do the right things but it did not work," he said.

The disappointment, however, has not broken Johnathan's resolve and he is ready to bounce back in the men's 50m pistol tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Nur Suryani Taibi promised to fight until the end after missing the mark in the women's 10m air rifle when she finished 11th with 406.6 points.

"I've given my best today but it was unfortunate that I could not hit any 10s. Its not over yet," said Suryani, who will compete in the women's 50m rifle prone and 50m rifle three position.

Coach Sang-soon remained optimistic of the chances after the shooters returned blank for the second consecutive days.

"Be patient, it'll come. Our strong events are coming up," he said.