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Police and Felda keep up promotion chase

PETALING JAYA – Felda United moved closer to the promotion zone with a hard fought 1-0 win over Kedah at the Selayang Stadium last night.

In an earlier match, league leaders Police made full advantage of their game in hand to pull three points clear of second-place Penang.

Dollah Salleh's side defeated UiTM 2-0 to bring their total to 29 points.

Felda are still seven points back, but second-placed Penang are only four points ahead. The top two earn automatic promotion to the Super League.

"I'm glad we held on for three points. The match wasn't very interesting, but a win is what counts," said Felda United coach Irfan Bakti Abu Salim.

The Settlers started the match brightly with two chances on goal within the first seven minutes.

First, Khairul Helmi Johari made a last

ditch tackle to prevent former international Indra Putra Mahayuddin in the fifth minute.

Edward Wilson Junior then saw his powerful shot parried away by custodian Abdul Hadi Abdul Hamid.

Kedah slowly found their way into the match with several long balls to Khyril Muhymeen.

The 26-year-old had a glorious chance to put Kedah in the lead, but sent a weak shot wide in the 29th minute.

The visitors went full trottle at the start of the second half, but Billy Osman Mehmet who was through on goal, could not find a way past the in-form Farizal Harun in the 49th minute.

Wilson finally scored off a counter attack after Indra squared the ball into the box in the 64th minute.

Khyril could have levelled terms in the 75th minute, but his effort was well saved by Farizal.