

TSG hope to continue strong form in Tour of Rwanda



Top form: Terengganu Polygon Cycling Team celebrating after winning the best overall team award in the Tour of Antalya in Turkey earlier this week.

PETALING JAYA: Terengganu Polygon Cycling Team (TSG) have set their sights on another strong outing in the Tour of Rwanda starting tomorrow.

The cyclists have set up base in the country's capital Kigali to get ready for the UCI ranked 2.1 event.

Despite having only a short time to register and set up equipment before going down to the reconnaissance run, confidence is high in the team following a superb outing in the Tour of Antalya, which ended in Turkey a few days ago.

TSG, making their debut, managed to beat ProTeam and other continental outfits to

finish the 458.6km tour on Monday as the best placed overall team.

Sports director and head coach Mohd Saiful Anuar Aziz was pleased with the team's collective efforts.

"We are proud as they came out top in the overall standings of the 23-team field and we had three cyclists inside the top 11 in the yellow jersey race," said Saiful.

Their riders Anatolii Budiak from Ukraine, Metkel Eyob from Eritrea and Mongolian climb specialist Jambaljamts Sainbayar were placed ninth, 10th and 11th in the general classifications among 160 participants.

"That was nice especially since we have not participated in many tours due to the pandemic," he said.

"The last-minute invitation did not deter our cyclists from putting their hard work and effort to raise Malaysia's name on the international stage."

TSG will be hoping to replicate the success in Rwanda.

"It is Africa's most prestigious race and the conditions favour the climbers," said Saiful.

"We believe we can challenge strongly as our boys will have enough time to recover after coming here from Europe."