

Judul	1 st Borneo Inter-Varsity Football tourney laudable
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1st Borneo Inter-Varsity Football tourney laudable

KOTA KINABALU: The on-going 1st Borneo Inter-University Football tournament will further enhance football development, especially among students of higher learning institutions in Borneo.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Students' Progress and Co-Curriculum Centre Chairman Professor Madya Abdul Jamal Hamid said the inaugural tournament should be the guideline in holding many sporting activities in Borneo Island.

Previously, according to Abdul Jamal, there was little exposure for teams from Borneo in Peninsular Malaysia as it involved higher costs that included air-tickets and logistics.

Hence, he pledged UMS will make efforts to organise more tournaments here and he believed they could be successful especially with the support of the Higher Education Ministry and the Youth and Sports Ministry.

"The UMS Management has also approved allocations to build floodlights at the UMS Stadium... it is expected to be completed in May this year.

"At the same time, UMS is also making the efforts to host the Majlis Sukan Universiti-Universiti Malaysia (MASUM) in 2008," he said this at the opening of the Borneo



KICK-OFF
... Jahid kicks the ball to officially open the Borneo Inter-University Football Tournament at UMS Stadium yesterday.

Inter-University Football Tournament at UMS Stadium yesterday.

Meanwhile, Youth and Sports Assistant Minister Jahid Jahim lauded the efforts by UMS and later wished the participating teams all the best.

The on-going tournament is open to public and private higher learning institutions.

Ten teams are taking part - Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Samarahan Sarawak and UMS-Antarabangsa Labuan (UMS-KAL).

The others are UiTM Kota

Kinabalu Campus, Institut Kemahiran MARA (IKM), UNITAR, Institut Perguruan Gaya, Politeknik Kota Kinabalu and UMS.

Jahid hoped the tournament could be fully utilised to improve football especially among the higher learning institutions in Borneo.

"I hope there will be players from this tournament playing for the national team in the future.

"Nowadays, not only we need players who are good technically but also intellectual players," he said when opening the tournament on behalf of Minister Datuk Masidi Manjun.

The football tournament is scheduled to finish on Feb 4. - VB