

UMS FC eye group stage title

By Vitalis G Bingkasan

KOTA KINABALU: With a place in the Grand Finals well within their grasp, the women's team of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) FC are now eyeing the group stage title in Felda/FAM National Futsal League 2010.

UMS FC believe they are capable of fulfilling the target with three group games to play, especially on the back of consecutive wins in their first four matches in Group B to stay top on 12 points.

"Two of three remaining matches will take place this weekend, facing Selangor teams in MBPJ FC and MPSJ FC at the Sultan Abdul Halim indoor stadium in Alor Setar Kedah on October 16-17.

"If we can win both matches to claim all six points, I believe the title for the group stage will be ours," said UMS FC chief coach Mohd Asyraaf Fong Abdullah.

UMS FC will play their final group game against KL Putra Ria on November 6.

Asyraaf expected that UMS FC will now face much tougher matches for their top placing in the group.

MBPJ FC, like UMS FC, are undefeated and are still in the race for the top four placing and earn a place in the Grand Final.

As for MPSJ FC, they are UMS FC's main rivals for the group stage title which carries prize money of RM10,000.

MBPJ FC are currently fifth on six points while MPSJ FC are in second place on nine points, just three points behind UMS FC.

"I'm aware that UMS FC are now the team to beat but we are fully ready including knowing the strength of our opponents.

"We know MBPJ FC and



Mohd Asyraaf

WOMEN'S GROUP B STANDING							
STANDING	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UMS FC	4	4	0	0	13	4	12
Selangor MPSJ FC	4	3	0	1	15	2	9
PDRM	4	2	1	1	14	6	7
Sabah	4	2	1	1	9	7	7
Selangor MBPJ FC	4	1	3	0	10	6	6
KL Putra Ria FC	4	1	1	2	4	9	4
Johor Melodi Jaya	4	0	0	4	3	13	0
Johor	4	0	0	4	3	24	0

MPSJ FC have qualities in their teams including experienced players who have played for the country.

"I have done an analysis of our opponents' capabilities by watching recording of their past matches.

"If the players perform to their best abilities and play to instructions and planning, I'm sure we can win maximum points from the two matches thus clinching the (group stage) title earlier," said Asyraaf.

The UMS FC players are scheduled to leave for Kedah today to familiarise with the 'Parker' floor court used this weekend, which is different from the 'sports court' floor that they used to train and play in before.

Asyraaf also said the players were in good condition and were looking forward to the matches.

Apart from UMS FC, Sabah are also represented in the women's competition by the State team in fourth spot on seven points.