## Winning start for UMS FC

KOTA KINABALU: UMS FC opened their Carino Safa Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu Football League campaign on a winning note after defeating Likas United 3-1 in the curtain raiser at the Likas Stadium on Sunday.

They were leading 2-0 at half time through Rainol Masaat and Jerry Suning before Muslyadi Amdas netted the third in the second half.

Jufrey Omopor scored the consolation for Likas United.

Rainol slotted past Afizan Paka to give his side a 1-0 lead at the half-hour mark before former President's Cup striker Jerry scored the second on the stroke of half time.

The second half saw more movement from Likas United as they fought to get one back, but their coach, Yahya Datuk Kasim, could only hang his

head as his side slipped further into limbo when Muslyadi made it 3-0 on 75 minutes.

Likas United got one back 10 minutes from time, but Jufrey's goal was just a scant consolation as UMS had taken the points.

Some 300 supporters gathered to watch the game but were forced to wait blinded in their seats as stadium officials worked to resolve an electrical failure, which plunged the arena into darkness, causing a 20-minute delay to the start of the match.

Meanwhile, in his opening speech, Kota Kinabalu Mayor, Datuk Abidin Madingkir lauded Safa Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu for organising another successful tournament.

Abidin, who is also the tournament patron said City Hall would continue to support Safa Bandaraya KK in its quest to further promote the development of the sport in the city.

City Hall Deputy Director General (Operations), Joannes Solidau read Abidin's speech.

Meanwhile, Safa Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu Chairman, Alijus Hj Sipil hopes that the league, which is the fourth, after 2005, 2006 and 2009, will be a successful one. (There was no league in 2007 and 2010).

In fact, Alijus revealed, the league was initially scheduled to kick off in September, but due to the unavailability of a suitable football field, it was postponed.

Alijus, who is also Sabah FA Secretary General, added that the league will be played every weekend, two matches on Saturday and four on Sun-



ALL THE BEST ... City Hall Deputy Director General, Joannes Solidau meeting the teams at the opening ceremony of the Carino Safa Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu Football League at the Likas Stadium on Sunday.

day.

Also at the opening cer-

emony was tournament chairman, Robert Lipon. - FRAN- CIS XAVIER - francis@newsabahtimes.com