Debutant Laura bags Sabah's second gold

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KOTA KINABALU: Laura Simon clinched Sabah's second gold medal on the second day of the 1st Shenzhen Fencing Open Championship in China on Sunday.

The first year student of Universiti Malaysia Sabah defeated Lao Jia Yao of Hong Kong Sports Institute in the women's individual Epee event final.

Sabah also won a bronze medal through Lim Yin Yin. She won her medal in the same category as Laura.

Sabah Fencing Association (SFA) President Alex Sham, who is also the Malaysian Fencing Federation Vice President, said that Laura has been training under SFA's supervision for nine years, and this was her first ever international

outing.

As for Yin Yin, a student at Institute Sinaran, she has been actively involved in the sport for the about four years.

Sham said, en route to the final, Laura won

six rounds and lost once in the preliminary round stage.

On the opening day (Saturday), Adam Nicholas Lindbichler won the first gold for Sabah after defeating Su Zhen Yu from Beijing Sports School 15-10 in the men's Sabre individual event final.

Like Laura, Adam also registered six wins and one defeat in the preliminary round campaign before knocking off Shenzhen's Pai Zi Dong 15-5 in the last 32.

In the last 16, he edged another Shenzhen boy, Wong Yu Jian, 15-2 to advance into the quarter-final where he defeated Zhang Chen Wu of Beijing 15-6, to see him set up a semi-final clash against Lee Man Su of China

The New Sabah Times Sports understands that Sabah won another two more gold medals on the third day (yesterday), but at press time, Sham, who is the team manager, could not be reached for confirmation.

All the team events have been ongoing since yesterday and ends today.



PROUD ... Alex Sham, (right), together with the medal winners of the women's epee individual event. Laura and Yin Yin are 3rd and 4th right.