



This file pic shows Asyraaf (seated centre) with the UMS IPT League Borneo Division football squad.

HIGHER LEARNING INSTITUTION NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

UMS on final threshold

BP 22-5-13 A19

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah lifted its hopes of reaching the grand final after three consecutive wins in the Higher Learning Institution (IPT) National Football League, recently.

UMS Sports Centre director, Mohd Asyraaf Fong Abdullah said the team is currently top of the league after three wins in as many matches in the seven-team Borneo Division tournament.

"We just need to maintain our form in the next match whereby another win will guarantee our spot in the grand final.

"We made it through without much resistance in the first three matches and I hope the team will continue their winning ways in the next challenge," said Asyraaf when contacted here, yesterday.

UMS notched its third consecutive victory after beating Politeknik Mukah 4-0 in the match at the UMS Stadium here, Sunday (May 19).

Earlier they beat UiTM Sarawak 2-0 on Friday (May 17), while in their first match (on May 11) they beat Sabah Community College Tawau, 3-0.

The UMS squad comprises local and foreign student players. Centre back, Abdurrahman Burak, from Turkey is one of two foreign players on the squad. The other is Muhammad Ali from Tanzania.

The team is coached by David Johnny@Mohd Ayman and is making a huge impact on the team's credentials as one of the top university sports teams in the country.

The other two teams in the Borneo Division league are Politeknik Kuching and Kolej Yayasan Sabah.

The IPT League also has three other divisions for peninsula state teams. The winner of the Borneo Division will compete in the grand final knock-out stage where 15 other teams will join the fray.

They include all eight teams from Division I, the top four teams from Division II and the top two teams from Division III.

The other slot will go to the play-off winner between the Borneo Division runner-up and the winner from the Qualifying Zone Final Round.