

Joint study on rugby refereeing

to continue: UMS

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KOTA KINABALU: The Sports Science programme under the Education and Social Development School of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will continue its study on rugby refereeing in Malaysia.

Lecturer Dr Mohamad Nizam Nazarudin, a former international rugby referee, heads the study together with three seven-a-side rugby referees.

He said the study is aimed at comparing the rate of pulse and the distance covered by a referee when refereeing a match apart from studying their movement pattern. He said the importance of the study is to analyse the need of a rugby referee when refereeing match so as to provide better refereeing.

"We conducted the study following complaints from the players and team management on the performance of our rugby referees," he said.

Hence, he expressed hope that the study would contribute towards the sports especially on rugby refereeing.

According to him, the study is conducted on four rugby referees in Sabah who have wide experiences on refereeing rugby matches in the country.

Dr Mohamad said he is using a study tool that is known as Polar Personal Trainer RC3 GPS to monitor pulse and running pattern of the study subject.

Referee Vencant Yakun said the study is important to that the referees would know their performance.

"All referees should have such tool so that they could analyse their own performance because it also analyse their physical fitness and level of health," he said.

Referee Andreas Hendricus said the study is interesting because the data could be accessed as soon as the match is over.

He said such efforts should be continued in order to enhance the sports in the future.

Sports Science students, Ericson Gustin, Azizul Lawrence and Almah Darus, said the study is new to them but hoped they could conduct more studies on rugby in the future.