

Sri Aman, UMS FT are futsal champs

BP 13.11.2017 15

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KOTA KINABALU: Sri Aman and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) FT emerged as Division One Men's and Women's champions of the Sabah Futsal League (SFL).

Kota Kinabalu City Hall (DBKK) also came out as winners in Division Two where they clinched both the Men's and Women's titles as the two-day SFL concluded at the Yayasan Sabah Futsal Arena here yesterday.

The highlight of the tournament however fell on Tawau club side Sri Aman and UMS FT as they were crowned the Division One new champions.

Sri Aman defied the odds to edge the defending champions BB EMD FT 4-2 in the Men's final.

The match was closely contested with end-to-end actions in the 40-minute title match but Sri Aman would prevail in the end against the title holders.

In the semifinals, Sri Aman edged Sri Intan 2-1 while BB EMD FT thrashed Miz Aniz 7-3.

In the five-team Women's Division One played on a round-robin format, the star-studded UMS FT justified their top billing by winning all four of their matches.

With national players in their ranks, UMS FT swept aside Cingkaling FT 5-1, Ziemal 3-0, Remix Elite 4-0 and Vista Jr 3-0 to collect the maximum 12 points.

Ziemal finished runners-up on six points from their wins against Cingkaling FT 3-1 and Vista Jr 4-2.

Superior goal difference meant Vista Jr settled for third despite sharing three points with fourth placed Cingkaling FT while Remix Elite finished last.

Sabah FA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee deputy chairman Mohd Asyraaf Fong Abdullah said UMS FT will represent Sabah in the Women's competition of the National Futsal League (NFL).



NEW CHAMPIONS ... Sri Aman players celebrate after their 4-2 win over BB EMD FT in the Men's Division One final of the Sabah Futsal League yesterday.



WOMEN'S DIV 1 CHAMPIONS ... UMS FT players and team officials pose after winning all their round-robin matches to lift the title.

"We are ready (for the NFL) and the SFL is one of our preparations to face the national tournament.

"UMS FT however will compete in the qualifying round in order to book a place in the NFL main draw," texted asyraaf, who is also UMS Sports Centre director.

Meanwhile, DBKK clinched the doubles in Division Two in front of Mayor Datuk Yeo Boon Hai.

In the men's competition DBKK and D' Zeera won against Camel FT 2-0 and Sri Taman 2-1 in the semifinals respectively to set up

a final clash.

DBKK would go on to win 3-1 for the men's title against D'Zeera.

Earlier, DBKK had won the women's title after a 2-0 final win over Galaxy. Both the teams had beaten NFC and LKFC with similar 2-0 outcomes in the semifinals.

The league, which is organised by Sabah FA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, saw around 70 teams registering for the state premier futsal tournament.