

# UMS FC expect to perform better

## Opening two-game national futsal win to motivate team – coach

By **Vitalis G. Bingkasan**

**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah FC (UMS) chief coach Mohd Asyraaf Fong believed his charges will be better when they resume the fixtures in the Group B of the Felda/FAM National Futsal League.

UMS FC won their opening two games in the women's category of the league.

"Winning the opening two games is a good motivation for the team. I hope it will motivate them to better their performance and aim for the top two in the group stages and thus secure a grand finals place.

"I'm happy with the form of the team. We won because the players played to the tactic we planned apart from the will to win...for that I'm proud of them," he said when contacted here yesterday.

Having said that, Asyraaf said there is room for improvement.

"Not only we return with maximum points but more homework to do. We must improve on our set-pieces as

well as our defensive play.

"We have ample time to rectify the weaknesses because our next games will only be in September...we will return a much better team," he added.

UMS FC won 3-2 against Johor Melodi Jaya and edged Sabah 2-1. UMS FC and Sabah are the two representative teams for the state in the women's

category.

All the matches were played at the Triways Sports Complex in Shah Alam.

With that, UMS FC are second in Group B and only superior goal difference for Selangor MPSJ FC enabled the latter to top the league.

MPSJ FC won 3-1 against KL Putra Ria and defeated Johor Melodi Jaya 2-0.

As for the Sabah women

team, their victory over Johor 4-2 saw them in fourth place, one rung behind third place Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM).

PDRM, last year's runners-up, drew 2-2 with Selangor MBPJ and defeated Johor 5-1.

Meanwhile, Sabah are bottom in the men's Group A after losing 1-2 to Selangor PKNS and 1-3 to Pulau Pinang.

The next fixtures involving Sabah teams will be on Sept 25-26 in Shah Alam, Oct 16-17 in Melaka and Nov 13 in Shah Alam.

On Sept 25, UMS FC will take on Johor, Sabah women's team against Selangor MPSJ FC while the men's team will face KL Felda United.

The fixtures for Sept 26 will see UMS FC against PDRM, Sabah women's team meeting MBPJ FC and the men's team against KL Figos RSA FC.

All three Sabah teams have set a target of reaching the grand finals, which is for teams that finished in the top four of the group.