

# 12 football teams in the fray

**KOTA KINABALU:** Around 12 teams are taking part in the University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Staff Closed Football Tournament held at the UMS synthetic field, near here.

According to organising chairman, Mohd Asyraf Fong Abdullah, the tournament is organised for the university's working staff of various departments, centres and faculties in the campus.

"The tournament is divided into three competitions namely the FA Cup, League Cup and Penalties," said the UMS Sports Centre Director when contacted, yesterday.

The football tournament kick-off was officiated by UMS Registrar, Noman Datuk Haji Ahmad on Wednesday where he was delighted by the number of staff taking part in the tournament.

"I encourage that tournaments involving the university's staff to be expanded and regularly organised as it is positive in creating as well as strengthening relationships and team spirit in the organisation.

"Physical exercise and recreation should be nurtured among UMS employees in order to produce healthy and vibrant work groups in the future," he emphasised.

The tournament's opening ceremony was also attended by two former state football legends, Matlan Marjan and Suharmin Yusof who were invited to play in the VIP opening match.

Matlan was included in the Team Administrator while Team Academic Staff was joined by Suharmin whereby Team Administrator won the match 1-0 courtesy of Noman's goal.

After the opening VIP match, the tournament kicked off with the FA Cup match which saw Team HEPA nick home a 2-1 victory over Team DeArts.



READY FOR KICK-OFF ... Asyraf (3rd right), presenting a memento to Noman while flanked by Matlan and Suharmin during the opening ceremony.