

# Merit-based funding next year

Published on: Thursday, July 23, 2020

By: GL Oh

Text Size:



*Phoong (seated, centre) with (from left) Dayang, Asneh, Putera and Sempini pose with some of the participants.*

**KOTA KINABALU:** The introduction of 'Star Rating' on all sports associations in the State under Sabah Sports Council (MSN) is important in the distribution of funds in the future. Youth and Sports Minister Phoong Jin Zhe said this at the closing ceremony of the State Sports Associations Assessments (Star Rating) Workshop organised by the MSN which was held at Sabah International Convention Centre here on Wednesday.

The two-day workshop was attended by some 30 officials from the Sports Commission, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Youth and Sports Ministry, as well as Sabah Sports Council.

He said with the system which is set to start next year, they will be able to identify the associations who deserve to get more financial assistance based on merit.

"The star rating will enable us to evaluate those higher rated associations with better performance where they will get more funds, while those rated lower will get help from us to improve.

"Furthermore, the rating will also make it easier for the associations to get sponsorship from the corporate and private sectors," he said.

He praised MSN for organising the workshop and also the participants especially those sports development officers from MSN who are involved in monitoring the programmes

implemented by all associations.

“As I have mentioned earlier, we need effective sports organisation management, and the aspects of good planning, implementation, and control are key to put a sports organisation in that direction.

“I am fully confident and believe, this workshop will certainly improve the skills and performance of the officers involved in helping the ministry’s efforts to further develop sports in Sabah.

“I also hope after participating in this workshop, all officers can help the sports associations to perform their responsibilities more systematically, effectively, and efficiently that will eventually lead to better management and subsequently able to produce more excellent athletes not only locally but on international stage,” he added.

He also reminded the sports community to fully comply with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as the norm of new life.

“The whole world and not just Sabah is severely affected by Coronavirus or Covid-19 which to date, no vaccine has been found. Therefore, as a minister, I hope that sports activists continue to be patient for our common interests.

“We all need to fully comply with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as the norm of new life in sports. Do not underestimate this because, our small mistakes can bring great consequences to our own family members, the community and even the government.”

Meanwhile present at the ceremony were MSN director Asneh Mohd Noor, Sempini Longiton from Sabah Sports Commission, Dr. Dayang Maryama Ag. Daud from UMS, and also Youth and Sports Ministry assistant permanent secretary Putera Jali.