KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) kick started its annual Staff Games 2013 with the Peak Challenge Run held at its campus in Sepanggar yesterday.

Over 1,000 of its employees are involved in the 13th edition of the Games that will be held until Jan 27.

It features a total of 20 events, including the Peak Challenge Run. The rest of the sporting games and disciplines, include tennis, football, golf, badminton, volleyball, darts, pool, table tennis, kayaking, chess and even karaoke.

Yesterday, UMS deputy vice chancellor (student affairs), Associate Professor Datuk Dr Kassim Md. Mansur, representing vice chancellor, Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah, officiated at the launching before flagging off the run, that was attended by hundreds of runners.

Also present were UMS Registrar-cum-tournament chairman, Datuk Abdullah Said and UMS Sports Unit director Mohd Asyraaf Fong Abdullah.

A total of eight teams from various sections of the university are competing in the Games.

The Games is a platform for selecting UMS representatives for the Borneo-level tournament at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) next month (Feb 3-8), as well as for the Public Higher Learning Institutions (IPTA) Staff Games in July.