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SRAM offer Low a coaching job

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SQUASH professional Kenneth Low will be offered a new role as a sparring coach by the SRA of Malaysia (SRAM) in January as the player is reaching the tailend of his career.

The deal will still give Low a chance to play in selected tournaments whenever he takes charge of the national players who compete in tournaments overseas.

His role will be similiar to Australian professional Mike Corren who has a contract until 2003 as the sparring coach with the national team and he is also given permission to compete in overseas tournaments to maintain his world ranking.

SRAM executive director Kol (Rtd) Wong Ah Jit said that including Low into the coaching structure is one of the proposals made by the coaching committee and will be approved if the player is willing to take up the offer.

"This is one of the proposals made during our management committee meeting and if Low agrees, his new role will begin in January," said Wong.

"Low seems to be interested but he is yet to give a final answer.

"Low is likely to spar with the national juniors from the Bukit Jalil Sports School (BJSS) who will complete their studies at the end of this year."

News is that BJSS coach Allan McCullough is likely to resign after the world junior championships in Chennai later this year and his charges would be drafted into the national training camp.

Low is the most senior member of the national team and is expected to shine in the professional circuit due to his exceptional skills.

However, 26-year-old Low did well in tournaments held in Malaysia but froze in tournaments overseas and did not achive his true potential.

His experience in the professional circuit, however, will be valuable for the junior players, and the offer looks good to be ignored by Low.

SRAM are also likely to look for a new candidate to run the regional excellence centre in Kuantan as Richard Glanfield is said to have verbally declined to accept the offer.

The Englishman's decision was expected after SRAM removed him as the coach of Nicol David last month.

"There is no confirmation yet from Glanfield although he is to have announced his decision to the president (Datuk Mokhzani Mahathir).

"We are waiting for an official announcement by him before making any statements on his situation."

Besides the regional centre in Kuantan, International Squash Centre in Bukit Dumbar will become the regional centre for Penang, Kedah and Perlis.

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