

Ivan eyes NSC Series No. 1 title

KUALA LUMPUR: It's been four years since national player Ivan Yuen last won a Professional Squash Association (PSA) title.

Ivan, who turned pro six years ago, has only won the Indian Challenger No. 4 tournament in Chennai in 2009.

But the former Asian junior champion could end his title drought at the five-day NSC Series No. 1 championships, which will begin at the National Squash Centre in Bukit Jalil on Monday.

He has been given top billing for the NSC Series No. 1 tournament.

Ivan, the world No. 64, will open his campaign against world No. 196 Zeyad Tareq Alowaesh of Egypt in the first round.

He is then likely to face Ravi Dixit of India in the quarter-finals and Malaysia's Elvinn Keo, seeded joint third-fourth, in the semi-finals.

World No. 78 Harinder Pal Sandhu of India is the second seed.

"I won my first PSA title overseas and have yet to win in Malaysia. Although I am busy with my studies, I been training hard for the competition. I had a good outing in the Qatar Classic and I'm confident of living up to the top billing in the NSC Series," said Ivan, who is doing a degree in business administration at Universiti Putra Malaysia.