

NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB



PRESS RELEASE

Northants Basketball Club ready for the new season

After a summer when several Great Britain teams made a positive impact in European Championships and the Great Britain senior men are currently competing in their tournament in Istanbul, interest will soon turn to new domestic season. The Northants Basketball Club is looking forward to the new season with optimism as practices commence this week.

This season the club will field seven teams in the various National Leagues and three in the *Hoopsterz* tournaments organised by Basketball Northants. In addition the club will continue to run their highly successful **Junior “Ballers” Programme** for boys and girls of primary school age. The programme runs from **9-30am until 11am** at Northampton School for Girls and is directed by **Karen Goodrich** with young players from the club acting as coaches. The main emphasis is on fun and exercise so no previous experience is required; although older boys and girls coached by **Curtis Noel** will play in tournaments. The first session is on this **Saturday 9th September**

The Club has been lucky to attract the services of three new coaches for the coming season so with **Ali Haidar, Emma Salisbury and Kim Thompson** on board more opportunities will be offered to players not quite good enough for the National League teams. In addition the club welcomes back **Barend Oosthuizen** who will manage the Under 15 Boys team and act as statistician with the senior men.

After the disappointment of relegation at the end of last season this season will see the senior men looking to be more consistent and challenge for the Play Offs and promotion. In an attempt to achieve this **John Collins** will work alongside **Grahame Yates** and they will hope that the **four** new players who have joined the team plus rising juniors **Hayden Alcindor** and **Ayo Oluyeme** and the eight returning players will be able to make an instant impact.

With only one junior men's team in the county “Thunder” coach **Darius Maldutis** is expecting to have a large number of players trying out for his team. Several key players have now moved out of the age group so Maldutis will be hoping that his senior players will be able provide the leadership the team will need.

With a large number of under 16 boys the club will play in *Hoopsterz* tournaments as well as the National League. Coach **John Collins** will be expecting major contributions from his returning players as well as those moving up from last season's Under 14 team.

The club also has a large group of Under 14 players but Coach **Rob Crump**'s National League team will be very young. Younger players will also be able to experience competitive basketball by playing in the *Hoopsterz* tournaments.

On the girls side the Under 16 team will be very young but Coach **Janis Kosnikovskis** will be hoping that the experience gained from last season and an intensive summer programme will prove to be beneficial.

The club has a large number of Under 14 girls so **Karen Goodrich** will look after the National League team while the club will continue to stage and compete in the successful Under 12 tournaments they initiated last season.

The Club prides itself on catering for boys and girls of all abilities and is always looking for new players. For more information about what the club can offer young players contact:
northantsbasketballclub@hotmail.co.uk

For more information contact:
John Collins
07801 533 151