

NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB

MEDIA RELEASE

Northants Men all set for Division 3

The Northants “Thunder” senior men’s team commence their pre-season programme this week eagerly looking forward to life in Division 3 of the English National League. Last season “Thunder” tore up the opposition in the Midland Conference of Division 4 losing just one regular season game; they then went on to the Play Offs eventually losing in overtime in the semi finals to the eventual winners. They go into the new season full of optimism whilst recognising that the opposition is going to be a lot tougher.

Team coaches Rob Eddon and Grahame Yates have managed to keep the majority of last season’s team together whilst adding some new faces to the group. Once again “Thunder” will be looking to leading scorer Leon Henry and the rebounding power of Leome Francis who will be well supported by the athleticism of Jacob Holt while Jonny Yates and Jason Tucker will be controlling the backcourt. Back up will come in the form of defensive specialist Asher Kirby, the multi talented Lithuanian Tomas Vladicka and sharp-shooting Merson Paul.

The coaching staff recognises that the team is in need of a genuine big body to back up Francis and that back up might come in the form of Ben Palmer while Joel De Lara Bond, Richard Higgins, Tom Higgins and Ben Hinders will also be vying for squad places.

Two other names may well come into consideration. They are juniors Luke Lewis and Sam Round. Round is a former England international and one of the best perimeter shooter in the country but was cruelly sidelined last season after sustaining a serious knee injury while Lewis is a tenacious defender who could add energy to “Thunder’s” defensive play.

The team will be in action on Saturday 14th September in a Pre-Season Tournament featuring Bracknell “Cobras” and Derby “Trailblazers”. “Cobras” were winners of the Division 4 Play Offs last season and the team that defeated “Thunder” in the semi final while Derby’s programme is one of the most respected in the country. The Tournament will be held at the Northants Basketball Centre at Northampton School for Girls, spectators are welcome and admission is free.

For further information contact:

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