

# NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Johnson replaces Johnson with Junior Men**

Kurtis Johnson a former player with the Club and a graduate of the Moulton College Basketball Academy will coach the Northants "Thunder" Junior Men's team this coming season. Johnson replaces Brian Johnson who has been forced to step down because of new work commitments involving international travel. After leaving Moulton with a "Distinction" profile, Kurtis Johnson undertook a degree at Nottingham Trent University where he coached the university team.

Reflecting on the change of coaching personnel Coaching Co-ordinator John Collins commented, "The Club will obviously miss the experience and enthusiasm of Brian Johnson but we are very fortunate to be in a position to replace him with Kurtis. I think it is wonderful that a former player is returning to the Club to put something back into the game."

The Junior Men open their National League programme on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September when they have a home game against Derby "Trailblazers."

### **Senior Men's Tournament**

The 2013 / '14 season gets underway this Saturday with the Northants Senior Men taking on Bracknell "Cobras" and Derby "Trailblazers" in a Pre-Season Tournament. "Cobras" were winners of the Division 4 Play Offs last season and defeated "Thunder" after overtime in the semi final. Derby's programme is one of the most respected in the country so three exciting games can be expected.

The Tournament will be held at the Northants Basketball Centre at Northampton School for Girls, spectators are welcome and admission is free.

### **Ten Northants girls make the East Midlands squad**

No less than ten girls from the Northants club have been selected for the East Midlands Under 15 team. The ten are Catarina Askham, Charlotte Berridge, Eden Brown, Abbie Hobbs, Lauren Milne, Hari + Nia Owens Caitlin Stewart, Sarah Round and Ruchae Walton.

East Midlands coach Karen Goodrich is taking a large squad to the Inter Regional Tournament on the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September so that as many girls as possible can be 'showcased' in front of the England selectors. "There are only two National League clubs in the whole of the East Midlands so it isn't surprising that ten girls come from the same club. At the tournament some of the girls will only get to play in one game but at least they'll be able to show what they can do to the England selectors."

### **THIS WEEKEND'S ACTION**

#### **Senior Men's Tournament**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

11-30 am

Northants "Thunder" versus Derby "Trailblazers"

1-30 am

Bracknell "Cobras" versus Derby "Trailblazers"

3-30 am

Northants "Thunder" versus Bracknell "Cobras"

For further information contact:

**John Collins** (Coaching Co-ordinator) on **07801 533 151**