



# The Lightning Zone

Dorset Storm Basketball Club



## Coaches Notes...

So far 2007 seems to have flown by at record speed. Our three National League teams are coming to the end of their season although, we hope that the two teams left in play-off contentions will keep going for a little longer yet!

The players have certainly impressed all the coaches that have been involved with their positive attitude and exuberant approach. The improvement that we have seen over the season, even over the last couple of months is excellent and is a testament to the hard work that the players have put in.

Both the Saturday sessions and the mid-week Thursday sessions are full of enthusiastic players who are concentrating hard on what is being said. The results are clearly visible in the recent matches that have been played over the past

few months.

All three National league teams have been hard at work, with the Junior Men showing particular improvement in the second half of the season. Congratulations must go to the Passerelle team also who have made the play-offs for the second season running.

We still hope to run a interclub summer league. The idea is that players will be split into three or four teams within their own age-group and will play a series of matches against each other. Each team will be appointed a coach and for the younger players the emphasis will be on getting everybody court time, while for the next years national League players the emphasis will be on executing the various offensive sets that they will be beginning to learn. We envisage the league running

during the last half term of the year over approximately seven weeks, meaning that any holiday absences will be minimal.

Lastly the coaches would like to congratulate the following players for their excellent attendance (100%) over the past two months.

- Christopher Baker
- Luka Cavor
- Declan Carter
- Lewis Clarke
- Ethan Davies
- Tom Eads
- Dean Grey
- Ryan Goddard
- Tom Hennessy
- Rhys Hueston
- Jack Hueston
- Mylo Ofei-Kwatia
- Oliver Robinson
- James Smith
- Ted Tremain
- Tom Weaver
- Jake Williams
- Ashton Wischhusen
- Harmony Wong

## NBA Teams to Compete in London

The NBA will return for its second year of NBA Europe Live presented by EA SPORTS™ this autumn when the Boston Celtics, Memphis Grizzlies, Minnesota Timberwolves and Toronto Raptors will conduct training camps and play exhibition

games in six European cities in four countries, it was announced today by NBA Commissioner David Stern.

The 2007 NBA Europe Live presented by EA SPORTS™ will mark a series of firsts in the NBA's 19-year history of conducting games in Europe. The

Boston Celtics and the Minnesota Timberwolves will play in the first basketball game in The O2, London's new state of the art NBA style arena. For more information about the match see The O2 Arenas website: [www.theo2.co.uk](http://www.theo2.co.uk)

March 2007

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### Special points of interest:

- £20 summer camp deposits being taken now... dates are 13th to 17th August
- Next Local League date is Sunday 1st April
- AGM date to be announced in the next Newsletter
- Remember the Harlem Globetrotters are at the BIC on 21st May 2007



Action from a recent match

*"There are two pains in life, the pain of discipline, and the pain of regret. Take your choice."*



Action from a recent match

## Senior Teams Continue to Get Good Results

The three senior men's teams have been in good form in 2007. At one point in February all three teams were top of their respective divisions and both the first and second teams have progressed into the latter stages of the two cup competitions. Unfortunately the third team - made up of junior players - lost by just one point to Weymouth and have been eliminated from the cup.

The third team have

continued to get better and are the in form team in division three, and are yet to loose in 2007! The team has just two matches to go and will be looking to notch up two wins to allow them to finish towards the top of the table.

Congratulations must go to all the players that have made up the third team - a mixture of Under 16s and Under 18s. They have been able to adjust to the more physical style of play and

keep their composure at the end of several close games even when some rather underhand tactics have been employed by the opposition.

With many of the players that have played in the team still having one or more years of junior basketball to play the future looks bright for the men's basketball club. Look out for the final league positions and cup results in the next newsletter.

## Passerelle Boys Continue Their Winning Habit

Coach Andrew McKenzie will be pleased with a good seasons work that has seen his team finish as runners up in the National League Western Conference. However, both coach McKenzie and his team know that their work is far from done as they prepare to face either UH West Herts Warriors or East London

Royals in the play-offs later in March.

The team have looked good from the start of the season, and with a number of players taking huge steps forward the team has a much better balance now than it did earlier in the season. Their success has been built around solid defense and a solid understanding of

team basketball at the offensive end of the court.

In their most recent tournament, the team showed their composure to defeat Team Gloster for the third time this season. In the second game of the tournament a couple of unfortunate injuries did not help the team as they slipped to defeat against Tamar Valley.

## Junior Men Show They're Tough

Dorset Storms Junior Men have showed terrific resistance and played with a lot of heart in recent weeks. With an team plagued by injuries and holidays etc. the team has played some of their best basketball of the season in recent weeks. Indeed, it is hard to say which performance has been their best as they have recorded

wins against Southampton and Swindon, whilst loosing by just eight points away to Reading—an improvement of 49 points compared with the first time they met the three teams.

On the whole training attendances have been excellent and this has allowed the squad to become

much closer and their ability to work as a team is the number one contributor to their success—which has seen them keep their chances of making the post season alive.

The challenge is to keep working hard until the end of the season and who knows what the end result might be!

## Junior Matches

Well, despite the continued lack of a Solent Area Youth League, for the second consecutive season, the matches that we have been able to arrange for our players have been great. The matches have been competitive, but a atmosphere of sportsmanship and fun has certainly been present in all the matches.

Hopefully in the coming months, we will see some other teams visit Rossmore to give the players an

opportunity to show everybody what they can do. We hope that Winchester Basketball Club will be joining us soon to play some friendly matches... look out for details in up and coming training sessions.

There have been a number of very close games and without a doubt the practice of executing under pressure situations will help all the players (as well as coaches and officials!) involved to develop. Some of

the Under 14s games in particular have not only been closely fought contests, but have also displayed some of the highest standard basketball we have seen.

A big thank you to all the older players that have given up their time to coach, referee and table officiate. It is really good to see so many of you putting those qualifications to good use and giving something back to the club.

## Summer Camp 2007

If you don't know them already then those important dates are Monday 13th August to Friday 17th August! At the time of going to print almost half the places in the Year nine and above section have been reserved whilst one-third of the younger age-group have also been snapped up.

We are still taking

£20.00 deposits but you can expect the final details to be confirmed towards the end of Easter.

There have been several changes made from last years camp based on the feedback that we have received from campers. However, you can be assured that your favorite competitions will remain in place and that

a top quality coaching lineup will once again be present.

If you would like any more details, you can check out the website for pictures and information on previous camps or speak to Jill or one of the coaches who will be happy to answer your questions.

## Cadet Boys Continue to Have Mixed Fortunes

Storms Cadet Boys have continued to find their second season in the National League a tough experience. With just one win in the last five matches the team have slowly slipped down the table and with it their chances of making the post season playoffs have now gone.

Despite having one of the most talented group of players in the league, so far they have been unable to find any consistency—especially at the defensive end where they have given up over 80 points on four of the last five outings.

Team captain Jamie Lines has consistently put up

big numbers in recent weeks scoring over 30 points on two occasions.

With just two matches of the season left, the team will be targeting these games and looking to finish the season on a high note.



Action from a recent match

*"A Loser says, "Well at least I tried!" When in reality, at most he tried; A Winner doesn't have to say it, he just does it...be a doer, not a tryer..."*



Action from a recent match



**Providing Basketball Opportunities for All**

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*"Since 1999 Dorset Storm Basketball Club has provided opportunities for both boys and girls aged between 8 and 18 to play basketball at whatever level they want. From beginners through to those with dreams of representing England, Dorset Storm can cater for you. The club also has a strong link with the biggest men's team in the Southern region, providing opportunities for players of all standards to play competitively. Coaching and officiating courses are also run in conjunction with the club. For further details on anything concerning basketball please do not hesitate to contact us using the details opposite."*

*"It's a fantastic feeling and I'm so proud of my players."*

*Gary Stronach ~*



*BBL Trophy MVP : 21 Stone, 6'9" Carlton Aaron*

## Plymouth Upset the Form Book, Win BBL Trophy

Kularoos Plymouth Raiders won the 2007 BBL Trophy Final at the MetroRadio Arena in Newcastle on Sunday, with a pulsating 74-65 victory over Springfield Honda Newcastle Eagles. It was the Raiders first ever triumph in the competition and came thanks in no small part to Carlton Aaron, who was the game's Most Valuable Player (MVP) thanks to a 25-point, 12-rebound haul.

The MetroRadio Arena in Newcastle was treated to a thrilling BBL Trophy Final. It was the Carlton Aaron show for Plymouth Raiders in the early exchanges - the big man from Missouri Kansas City scored 14 points in the first quarter alone to edge the Raiders ahead. Eagles' early

scoring came from player/coach Fab Flournoy, but it was not quite enough to give them the lead. It wasn't until back-to-back dunks from Olu Babalola that Eagles edged into the lead at 17-15, but they still trailed 18-21 going into the second quarter.

It was a lead that Plymouth maintained throughout the second stanza, leading by as many as seven points on two occasions. They took a five-point advantage into the second half at 40-35 and then built on that advantage with a 10-2 tear early in the third quarter to extend their lead to ten points at 50-40.

In fact, Eagles were kept to just ten points in the third period and trailed 45-58

going into the final quarter. It was do or die time and as the reigning BBL Trophy Champions they were not prepared to give up their title without a fight. They enjoyed an 11-2 tear early in the fourth quarter to cut the gap to six points at 56-62.

It was even to the close as Eagles struggled to make any further serious inroads into the Raiders' lead and Plymouth hung on for the spoils, much to the delight of the passionate Plymouth fans who made the long journey up to Newcastle to watch their team.

As well as Carlton Aaron's scoring exploits, Gaylon Moore was in fine shooting form bagging 17 personal points, whilst Gavin Love added 11.