



**NEWCASTLE
UNIVERSITY**

ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

BASKETBALL



Contents

All about Basketball

Eagles Partnership

Coaching Staff

Our Facilities

Our University

Our City

Information & Links



All about Basketball

Basketball

Our programme offers a development pathway where players can thrive from the opportunities available to them. The pathway includes:

SLB

BUCS PREMIERSHIP

BCB

BUCS DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Scholarships

We have a range of scholarships available from direct cash instalments, reduced academic grade offers, up to 100% fee reductions for post graduate students, and support services including medical support, sports psychology, S&C, academic flexibility, gym memberships

Your weekly schedule

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Practice	Practice	BUCS Game day	Practice	SLB Game day	BCB Game day	

Team and individual video analysis

Team and individual strength and conditioning sessions



Eagles Partnership



Newcastle Eagles

Newcastle University is an official partner of the Newcastle Eagles. As part of our pathway, all our British U23 players are able to play both BCB & SLB if selected. Our standout British recruits will also be assessed each year to determine if they are able to practice SLB alongside BCB and BUCS. We work directly alongside the Eagles within the community, academics, and performance pathways.



Our Coaching Staff

Mark Elderkin - Director of Basketball



Playing Career

Mark is a former professional BBL player from the North East of England who competed for three different teams in the NBL1 over the course of a 16-year playing career. As a player Mark was a ten-time NBL champion, a four-time NBL cup winner, a two-time NBL Assist leader, a BUCS Premiership North champion, and a three-time BUCS National finalist.

Coaching Career

Mark has 1 SLB championship title, 1 SLB playoff championship title, 1 BCB playoff championship title and 2 BUCS championship titles.

Philosophy

Mark's coaching philosophy is based around constant speed and movement blended in with vision and creativity. Mark believes this promotes unselfish play which gives players the freedom to express their own unique skillsets. Mark believes in always moving towards the bigger picture as a team and never standing still.

Our Coaching Staff

Nazeem Ramadan – Assistant Coach



Playing Career

Naz is a former player with nine years playing experience in the EABL, BUCS premiership, and NBL1. Naz has won the NBL1 playoffs and the national Trophy alongside two more NBL1 finals appearances for Newcastle Knights. In 2022 Naz won the BUCS premiership championship title with Newcastle University.

Coaching Career

Naz is the head coach of the women's BUCS Premiership team and lead assistant coach for the BCB mens team. As a head coach Naz recently took the women's programme to the BUCS Premiership Semi Finals in season 25/26 alongside winning the BCB Playoffs in his role as lead assistant.

Philosophy

Naz's coaching philosophy is to promote lots of movement and remove pressure by never being static. He wants his teams to focus on what everyone is best at and plan your game as a team to highlight the strengths of everyone on the roster. Naz believes cohesion is one of the major keys to success.

Our Facilities

As a member of the Basketball team, you will have a full time Strength and Conditioning programme with access to our modern facilities and equipment.



Chris Ferriter

Chris Ferriter is a UKSCA Accredited Coach with an MSc in Strength and Conditioning to go alongside eight years of experience working with elite athletes at Newcastle University. Chris has worked with professional athletes within Basketball, Rugby Union, and Swimming and as a head coach, practitioner, and consultant.

Chris states the key objectives of the programme are to:

- Mitigate injury and build robustness
- Develop a strong base of athleticism
- Enhance basketball performance

His philosophy is based around providing a positive learning experience to ensure that athletes build a better understanding of their physical ability and learn the skills needed to develop it independently.

Our University



Newcastle University is a world-leading university and a founding member of the Russell Group, representing the UK's top higher education institutions.

Why choose us



World Top 140 university

(QS World University Rankings 2026)



Top 20 university in the UK

(Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026)



5 QS Stars for student employability

(2025)



Top 5 city for affordability in the UK

(QS Best Student Cities 2026)



Strong employer links

with international businesses including, Siemens RIE, PwC, Dyson, Proctor & Gamble, Accenture



World Top 50 & UK Top 5 student city

(QS Best Student Cities 2026)

RUSSELL GROUP

founding member

Our City



Voted as one of the UK's greatest student cities, Newcastle is a big city in a small space with a sizeable student population of around 42,000. The city has a proud reputation for sport and is home to several professional sports teams, such as: Newcastle United, Newcastle RedBulls and the Newcastle Eagles. Newcastle's reputation for a great nightlife is well-known and with its thriving arts and culture scene too, there's something different to do every day of the week. A combination of the fastest growing basketball programme in the country, a world class education and nationally renowned social life, makes this programme the place to be!

Develop on and off the court with a Business Master's

We partner closely with the University's Basketball programme to build bridges between business and sport. We are part of Newcastle University, a UK Top 20 University*, and part of the Russell Group (Ivy League equivalent). Many of our postgraduate programmes are professionally accredited to prepare you for future success.

* Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024

Sport scholarships

We offer sports scholarships, giving you the opportunity to extend your sporting career whilst learning essential skills to succeed in the business world.



I'm going to continue to play professionally as long as my body is healthy. Afterwards, I want to open a business, maybe a gym, just for athletes.

Jada Guinn Master's student and graduate of University of Tennessee Chattanooga, NCAA Division 1



Visit our website
Email nubs.recruitment@ncl.ac.uk

Information & Links



[Mark Elderkin \(Director of Basketball\) - mark.elderkin@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:mark.elderkin@newcastle.ac.uk)

[Watch our basketball promo video](#)

[Watch our sport scholarships video](#)

[Stream our BCB games LIVE on YouTube @newcastlesport](#)

Newcastle Knights Instagram - @nclknightsbasketball

BUCS Mens & Womens Instagram @nclbasketball

City - @newcastle_views

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BELONG