



**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:

**WSLB**

**BUCS PREMIERSHIP**

**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		WBBL + 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 basketball club. As part of our pathway, all our International and British under 23 players can play both WSLB and BUCS Premiership if selected. We work directly alongside the Eagles within the community, academics, and performance pathways.



# Our Coaching Staff

## Nazeem Ramadan – Head Coach



### Playing Career

Naz is a former 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 in his first season as Head Coach in the Women's BUCS premiership, his knowledge and winning experience of Basketball in this country alongside his experience and presence at the club is a huge asset to have. Naz also has experience coaching in the junior national leagues and working internationally with BTM basketball.

### 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 Coaching Staff

## Deborah Rodriguez – Development Coach



### Playing Career

Deborah had an outstanding career as a professional basketball player where she played in Spain for Celta Vigo, Irish Superleague, as well as Sheffield Hatters and Newcastle Eagles in the WSLB. Deborah has played all over the world winning a major Spanish title as well as WSLB titles and finals appearances.

### Coaching Career

Deborah is in her second spell as the Women's development coach, a role she takes a lot of pride in making sure every player works hard and enjoys their basketball experience. She currently coaches the women's development squad in the BUCS division 1A. Deborah also has experience with development coaching as she has work with high level talented junior players for a number of years in Spain.

### Philosophy

Deborah believes defence is the pillar and starting point of all successful players and teams and puts a big emphasis on both team and individual defence in her development coaching. Playing together as a team is key and Deborah is a strong believer that team achievements should be celebrated as loudly as individual achievements.



# Our Coaching Staff

## Mark Elderkin - Head 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 two BBL Cup titles, an NBL1 playoff semi-final appearance, an NBL1 Trophy final appearance, a National Cup final appearance, a BUCS Premiership North title, a BUCS Premiership Championship title, an NBL Coach of the Year Award, and an NBL2 title.

### 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 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. As a world top 130 university (QS World University Rankings 2025), Newcastle University inspires the minds of thousands of students from over 140 countries and delivers an outstanding learning experience that equips students for future success. Newcastle University has been rated 5th in the UK for Student Life (Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2022) and is considered a top 20 university in the UK (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023).



# 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 Falcons 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!



# Take your career further as an **Exercise Physiologist**

Graduates of our Exercise Physiology MSc (Kinesiology equivalent\*) are valued in a range of careers, including:

- Sports science support for professional bodies and sports teams
- Roles within the sport, fitness and sports nutrition industries
- Research and higher education
- Exercise physiologist within public and private healthcare

*\*Students studying this programme will graduate with an award titled MSc Clinical Exercise Physiology.*

“

Undertaking MSc Exercise Physiology allowed me to gain a very practical understanding of research and the ability to apply my knowledge to better benefit the individuals we work with.

**Charlie**

MSc Exercise Physiology Graduate  
Founder of Union Jab

Studying the MSc Exercise Physiology gave me the essential knowledge, practical skills from the lab and the ability to apply my knowledge and skills to help improve the lives of patients.

**Annabelle**

MSc Exercise Physiology Graduate  
Health Advisor at BUPA

”



**Find out more on  
our website**





# 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.

## 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 ”

\* Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024



Email [nubs.recruitment@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:nubs.recruitment@ncl.ac.uk) Visit our website





# Information & Links



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

[Watch our basketball promo video](#)

[Watch our sport scholarships video](#)

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

Newcastle Knights Instagram - @nclknightsbasketball

Mens instagram @nclmbb / Womens Instagram @nuwbc

City - @newcastle\_views

[Visit our University website](#)

[Visit the Basketball England website](#)

[Visit the Eagles website](#)

[Visit our Newcastle Sport website](#)

# BELOING