

MILTON KEYNES BASKETBALL

NEWSLETTER NO.3

FEB.2008

Milton Keynes Basketball: Early 2008 has certainly been busy for all our teams! Great progress all round, and plenty of fun mixed in.

CHRISTMAS 2007 - CLUB BOWLING PARTY AND MIXED SENIOR FUN SESSION



All manner of basketball playing elves were spotted bowling and at the basketball fun session for both senior teams.



Andy won the bowling, this time.



CLUB WEBSITE

GO TO WWW.MKBASKETBALL.ORG.UK TO FIND OUT MORE.

MK OLD BOYS I & II: DEC '07-FEB '08 PROGRESS

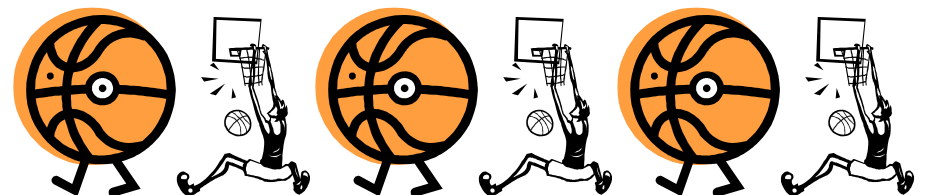
CONTRIBUTORS: PR-OFFICER Caroline & MENS COACH Dinch

Milton Keynes Basketball made a successful start to the second half of the season with fantastic wins by its MK Old Boys First and Second teams.

MK Old Boys Second team enjoyed a sensational 59:61 away victory against Wellingborough Phoenix in Division Two of the Northants League. A nail-biting last minute saw MK Old Boys score a long-range three-point shot to tie the score at 59 points all. With 55 seconds left on the clock, MK Old Boys defended several shots and managed to grab a rebound, go for the lay-up at the other end and draw the foul as the buzzer sounded. Dinch Ay scored both free-throws in added-on time, to secure a hard-fought win for MK. Man of the match award went to Andy Roberts.

Not to be out done, MK Old Boys First team entertained the home crowd with a defeat of the Daventry Daves 90:63, in Division One of the Northants Basketball League.

Full results are given on the last page.



MK SPEEDERS – MATCH REPORT

During January MK Speeders visited Shenley Basketball Club for a series of friendly games (5minute games, semi final 10minutes total). This was the first away game for the team, entering a hall crowded with a substantial turnout from the opposition. Never-the-less Speeders kept their heads in the atmospheric hall throughout their first ever away game fixture. After a nervous start the team's confidence grew. The scores of the day reflect progress with the teams growing confidence as they closed the gap in games they lost, then drew a game, then went on to win their semi-final with a comfortable victory ending the day in 3rd place overall.

Special mentions go to Darius who had the presence of mind to be in the right place at the right time for many defensive rebounds, protecting the ball well and halting the oppositions attack on many occasions. Harold did a good job timing a number of interceptions well to and converting those steals into effective fast-break offenses to boost the aptly named MK Speeders score.

Friendly Game Series:

MK SPEEDERS Vs Shenley red team 02 – 08 (loss)

Shenley Blue Team Vs MK SPEEDERS 02-06 (loss)

MK SPEEDERS Vs Shenley green team 02-02 (draw)

Semi final:

MK SPEEDERS Vs Shenley blue team 13-01 (victory!)



MK SPEEDERS: 1 of many well-timed interceptions by game M.V.P. Harold during Shenley Basketball friendly game series.

MK SPEEDERS – THE FUTURE

Excellent team progress has been witnessed over the past few months, not unsurprising given all the hard work and effort all junior members put into every practice session. Attendance at practice has also grown swelling the team numbers. A challenging series of games is now lined up to get the team more than ready to make an impact the BUCKS junior basketball league next season.

In addition to on court progress, off-court activities are taking steps forward as well. Administrators take care of the essentials whilst the team is itself thinking about activities to undertake during the summer and preparing ideas at the moment. Team logos are being designed by young members and will be judged soon. Over the next few months the team will select its competitive colours and final kit design to go with the winning logo, making for a smart turn-out at future competition.

FUTURE FIXTURES

SUNDAY FEB 24th – STOKE MANDEVILLE STADIUM – FRIENDLIES – 10AM tip-off

MK SPEEDERS Vs Cookham Comets &

MK LYNX U15s Vs MK SPEEDERS

SATURDAY MARCH 1ST- MILTON KEYNES COLLEGE SPORTS HALL – 12noon tip-off

MK LYNX U15s Vs MK SPEEDERS

FRIDAY MARCH 7th – STOKE MANDEVILLE STADIUM – 7pm tip-off

BUCKS COUNTY U14s Vs MK SPEEDERS

Followed by a home game series against these teams. Plus home & away games against a team from north Oxford.



MK SPEEDERS- Team + coaches hands in– Friendly at Shenley Basketball Club , January 2007

MK LADIES MATCH REPORTS

MK Ladies faced the local league opposition once more on January 27th. It was going to be a tough battle, two games back-to-back for our senior ladies with illnesses and work commitments leaving the team a little depleted with 1 post player as centre and many guard players taking on all other roles. At the tip-off in the first game our centre went down and didn't get up! She survives to tell the tale but it was not the great start the team had hoped for. With Sharon forced to watch from the bench with ice on her ankle, and other injured teammates keeping her company MK Ladies at least had good vocal support guaranteed from the side. In the games we played well, forcing the opposition to work hard for all their baskets and limiting their rebounds, despite our distinct lack of height on court. Sally in particular worked hard at both ends, collecting many defensive and offensive rebounds whilst also placing herself well for some easy points inside. The games certainly tested our fitness as a team, but that wasn't the problem. As a team we created opportunities but just struggled to find that finesse we needed to convert our shots into enough points for victory.

This weekend MK Ladies return to the fine facilities at Stokemandeville Stadium for two more league games. We return with our post players in place and a point to prove. We will once again enjoy our matches, but we certainly know about the rewards hard work brings – MK Ladies will be looking for a return to success.

MK LADIES – BUCKS Central Venue Basketball League

Aylesbury Dux Women	65:19	MK LADIES
MK LADIES	12:29	Chiltern Women

CAN YOU HELP?

MK SPEEDERS – GAME SECRETARY NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE ARRANGEMENT AND NOTIFICATION OF MATCHES FOR THE JUNIOR TEAM.

MK OLD BOYS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BE A TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER PLEASE. MATCH REPORTS FROM THE TEAMS ALSO WELCOME.



COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

For all 16 and over: Courses to attend for basketball qualifications

Table officials level 2 course - Aylesbury high school on March 1st at 10.00am-16.00pm

Coaching level 1 course (assistant coach qualification) - Aylesbury high school on March 29th and April 5th

I encourage all to consider a course to learn more about the sport or to put something back in to basketball to ensure a promising future for all basketball players in this area.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT AMY A.S.A.P.

info@mkbasketball.org.uk

WHAT IS COMING NEXT?

- **MK SPEEDERS ARE ALL INVITED TO HELP DESIGN THEIR OWN TEAM LOGO** – Early entries are looking superb! Please submit any further entries for the team logo competition to Coach Amy.
- **MK LADIES** – Humorous basketball film – sounds like an opportunity for a team-outing! Coming right up.
- **MK OLD BOYS** – getting off pretty lightly for now, as I am ill informed of their escapades.
- **WHOLE CLUB:**
 - Spring fund-raising! – Details to follow – nominate charities please if you have a particular cause in mind.
 - Club shop – Details to follow
- **TEAMS:** thinking ahead to summer tournaments? I am!
- **MUCH, MUCH, MORE!**

Do you have ideas? Speak up!

Just have a word with your coach or captain or with Amy/ Kiet/ Karl if there is something you or your team would like to do. We do our best to make provisions for everyone.