

# NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL



ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE



# 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:

**BBL**

**BUCS PREMIERSHIP**

**NBL1**

**BUCS DEVELOPMENT SQUAD**

## Scholarships

We have a range of scholarships available from direct cash instalments, reduced academic grade offers, up to 60% fee reductions, 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		BBL + NBL1 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 Under British 23 players are able to play both NBL1 + BBL if selected. Our standout British recruits will also be assessed each year to determine if they are able to practice BBL alongside NBL1 and BUCS. We work directly alongside the Eagles within the community, academics, and performance pathways.

# Our Coaching Staff



## Mark Elderkin - Men's Head Coach



### 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 Coaching Staff



## Charles Smith - Head of Player Development



### Playing Career

Charles is a former NCAA1 professional basketball player from the USA who has played in Austria, Turkey, Portugal, Spain, and England over a 19-year playing career. Charles has won numerous titles and awards around the world, including BUCS champion, 3 x BBL MVP and was a scoring leader who won an incredible 22 national titles in the BBL. With 7,048 points, Charles is considered and argued to be the greatest BBL player of all time.

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### Coaching Career

Charles has experience in NBL3 and NBL1 with two National final appearances, along with a BUCS division title and a BUCS Championship title. Charles is Head of Player Development at Newcastle University where he works directly with all our undergraduate recruits and leads the BUCS development squad as head coach. Charles is also the assistant coach in the NBL1.

### Philosophy

Charles's coaching philosophy is to emphasise the strengths of every player which in turn will get the most out the team as a whole. Charles believes in creating a competitive environment where everyone can learn what it truly means to compete.

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# Our Coaching Staff



## Noelia Quintas - Women's Head Coach



### Playing Career

Noelia is a former NCAA1 player from Spain who has played professional basketball in England, Spain, and Holland over a 13-year playing career. Noelia was one of the most unique players the WBBL has ever seen and was a NCAA1 conference champion, Holland All-Star, BUCS Premiership National finalist, and 4 x MVP winner from all around the world. This makes her one of the most experienced players this country has.

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### Coaching Career

Noelia is the Women's Head Coach at Newcastle University leading them to a Northern Premiership runners-up spot and an appearance in the BUCS Premiership Championship final. Noelia is also the Head Coach of the Newcastle Eagles WBBL team.

### Philosophy

Noelia's coaching philosophy is based around an up-tempo pace where every player is involved within the system. Noelia believes that basketball should be fun and that players willing to learn and compete match well with her open-minded approach.

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# Our Coaching Staff



## Deborah Rodriguez Perez - Women's Development Coach



### Playing Career

Deborah is a former professional basketball player from Spain who has played in the Spanish and Italian top divisions as well as the WBBL. As a junior, Deborah won the Spanish National title, and as a pro she won the WBBL cup with Sheffield and made the WBBL cup final with Newcastle Eagles.

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### Coaching Career

In Spain, Deborah worked as development coach preparing young players for the top junior national league. She is now at Newcastle University working as the women's development coach and sharing her elite level experience.

### Philosophy

Deborah's coaching philosophy is focused on high paced practice sessions with a defensive mindset. She believes in creating a positive environment to bring the team together, to ensure hard work and resilience can thrive.

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# 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 125 university (QS World University Rankings 2023), 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!

# Information & Links



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

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[Watch our basketball promo video](#)

Instagram - @nclbasketball

City - @newcastle\_views

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