



November 2009

New Season

I would like to welcome you to this, the first news letter of the season, and also welcome all the new members who have joined the club. I hope everyone is enjoying their basketball. I know your committee is working very hard to make this happen. The teams captains Gareth Taylor, Hedley Proctor and Alison Adamson, have spent countless time confirming fixture and making sure we have teams for all our matches. Once again I want to make you aware of the work that Caroline and Dan Coward have done to keep our web site bang up to date, attractive and so easy to use. The web site has been our main means of recruiting players and keeping everyone up to date with the club news. Caroline has also taken on the responsibility of producing the club membership list and getting all the players registered with the Wessex League. Thank you!

What I would now like to do is to bring you up to speed with some of the activities within the club.

Firstly we now have new group of players, boys and girls at under 12, this is the last piece of the puzzle; we are now offering basketball to people from ten to old!! The group is being coached Charlotte Gale, assisted by Gareth Taylor and Phil Hill. The aim of the club is bring basketball to this young age group as there no other basketball for them in the Wycombe area; hopefully some of these players will be the future of the club. A team from this group has been entered in the Bucks Central Venue League based in Aylesbury and I am sure that they will enjoy some competition. I am also happy to report that the club have managed to get some funding from Wycombe District Council, £300 and from Sport England £1995 to help with the cost involved setting up this group. As is always the case we need more boys and girls from years 5, 6, 7; to swell the numbers. So if you know any child who might be interested in playing, get them to check the web site for training details.

We are also have an under 14 group, the numbers are good and we have entered them in the Bucks Central Venue league. They have played their first games winning one and loosing one. Coach Chris Knapman said "we are looking for progress from them over the course of the season.

On the down side we have seen a drop off in numbers in the age group 15 to 18. Some of the boys are now playing for Abingdon Eagles and some not playing at all!! This has meant that we could not enter teams in the Bucks Central Venue league at under 16 and under18, hopefully we can recruit enough boys over this season to have teams for next season.

With the increase in numbers in the men's section and with the boys from the under16 and under18, we have now entered two teams in the Wessex League; both have got off to a good start! I am sure that Gareth and Hedley will have more information in their reports.

The ladies have not had their usual good start to the season, dropping two or three games. They have lost one or two key players Vicky Clayden, retired and Fatou Coulibaly moved to London and to compound to their problems star centre Charlotte Gale has badly twisted her ankle and has missed a number of games. Hopefully she will be back soon.

The committee decided that the club team colours will be Royal Blue trimmed white, so we have purchased two new sets of kit for the ladies and men's teams. I think these look smart and will help with the club image, which we are trying to promote. Also we have just order club sweat shirts, polo shirts and tee shirts for those people who wanted them. The tee shirt is in the same colour as the kit and once again will promote the image. We will place a new order for clothing in the New Year if any of you require something please get in touch.

I am happy to report that the club's "Clubmark" accreditation has been revalidated until the year 2013. All our procedures and working practices were vetted and approved, so well done to everyone involved. We have one issue to address and that is to find a person, who is not a coach, to act as a child protection officer. This will entail going on a child protection course and then being available to help, if we have any child protection issues. I am the other child protection officer, so we would be working together. This is an important position to fill so please give it some thought!!

The club has a junior committee, which meets about three times a season. We have a number of vacancies both adult and junior members, if you a few hour every other month to help run the junior section of the club please get in touch. Your help would be most appreciated.

Finally just two reminders all senior members we have a date, ten pin bowling on the 12 December at the AMP bowling in the Eden centre. Please make a big effort and come along so we can get Christmas off to a flying start!! Secondly if you buy from Amazon, please log on through the club web site. We get a commission on all purchases at no extra cost to you!!! And it helps with the club funds to date we have earned £110.

Rod Cooke
Chairman

Chiltern Fastbreak

Whilst we said goodbye to several of the players that made up the core of the team last year, namely, Freddie, Dave and Magic (who I am not sure where he went, despite several emails asking for him to comeback...Magic if you read this, we still love you!), we have gained several talented basketball players not just to the team but the wider squad too – we welcome you all. In addition, having endured coaching the U17s in the Bucks League last season, the decision was made to bring on the U17s side by playing them in a second men's team in the Wessex league, this will undoubtedly provide the future of our club with greater basketball experience and significantly raise the level of competition for places across the squad...TOGs like me watch out!!

The first game loss to Woodley Green Flash was disappointing, but merely reflected the large turn-over of new faces the team has had since last season. Settled now in both an understanding of each member's strengths and also with a greater appreciation of the requirements of this league the team has gone on to be undefeated. With wins having come against strong sides, it was undoubtedly satisfying turning over our main adversaries from last year, Whitley Seniors, on their court. In the words of Dan Akroyd in Ghostbusters:

"We came; we saw; we kicked ass!"

Although early in the season all of the signs are there that this will be yet another successful season for the Fastbreak team.

A final few words, before I lose you all. I would like to make personal reference to the hidden faces in the wings that make the team, the squad and the club run. Giving up their time and often their money (phone calls, stamps etc), to ensure we can turn-out 3 senior teams and 2 junior teams each week – my thanks to you all.

Gareth Taylor

Chiltern Fastbreak Captain

Chiltern Force

This year has seen a return to strength in numbers for the men, enabling us to field a second team. The team is a mixture of both younger and older, ahem, more experienced players. For the youngsters we have Stuart Creed, Ryan Britnell, Dan Coward, Marcus Cunningham and Antony Newman. Wheeling out their zimmer frames in support we have coach Gareth Taylor, Dan Fowler and Adam Francis. Overall the season so far has been successful, but not without its challenges. The pace and energy of the men's game can be tough for younger players moving up from the junior teams but everyone is growing in confidence. The team isn't used to playing together so we don't gel on court as much as we could, however as time goes on I'm sure that we will work better as a unit and tighten up our game. I look forward to the rest of the season.

Hedley Proctor

Chiltern Force Captain

Chiltern Ladies

The Ladies have had a mixed start to the season. Training has been going well with lots of new faces, four of whom have joined the team Belinda, Magda, Claudia and Nicole. Most sessions have been better attended than in the last couple of years.

The Ladies Team play in a single division for the first half of the season; with a match against the eleven other teams before Christmas. Our position at that stage will determine whether we play in Div I or Div II after Christmas.

Our results to date have been mixed and at the moment we are mid table with three fixtures remaining so it could go either way. We started well with 2 wins against Camberley Finches and Woodley Wildcats. Unfortunately in the second game Charlotte picked up an injury which has prevented her from both training and playing. We then lost away to Aldworth Darts 68-41, a poor result for Chiltern – and the only win for Aldworth Darts so far!! Two further losses followed although the performances were improving. The

last three games have been more successful with two wins, both away (37-49 and 29-60) and a loss at home, although it was a close game for three quarters of the match only the second quarter letting us down. Our record stands as P8 W4 L4 giving us 6th place
Of the three remaining matches, two are against the teams just above and below us in the league. It will depend on the team performance whether we retain our Div 1 status from previous seasons or drop down to Div II.

Alison Adamson

Chiltern Ladies Captain

Chiltern Challengers

Chiltern Challengers have made a positive start to the season and training has been going well. We are delighted to see some old faces back and have been inundated with new recruits. It continues to be a shame that Chiltern Challengers are unable to enter any local leagues due to there not being any. We are looking forward to some friendly games throughout the season and Abbie, Jess and Sara have all been selected to compete with our U14 boy's side in their mixed Central venue games. Similarly Kirsten Farmer has recently begun training with the ladies team and we hope to integrate her into the side over the forth coming months.

Charlotte Gale

Chiltern Challengers Coach

Chiltern Mixed U12's

The new start up group for under 12's has been a huge success with numbers growing from week to week. A huge amount of fun has been had alongside learning about basketball. Phil Hill from the ladies team and Gareth Taylor from the men's team have been supporting the coaching on a Wednesday evening ensuring that each player is having the maximum coaching experience. Skills and game play have been developed in order to prepare the team for their forth coming matches. See below for Gareth's match report.

Charlotte Gale

Under 12's Coach



On Sunday the 9th of November the 'Giants' of South Bucks decided that it was about time that they unleashed their basketball talent on the 'Bucks U12 Basketball League'. Unprepared for the direct talking, captain fantastic Rosie 'Air Jordan' Gilbert, AGS did not know what hit them as she lead her 'Band of Brothers (and Sisters)' onto the court at Aylesbury College – and let me assure you AGS were not prepared for what they were faced with.



Of the 10 members of the Chiltern team, 10 were making their debuts for the club and 9 of the 10 were playing their first competitive game of basketball ever. The kit, although the smallest available to play in, still managed to required novel ways of preventing it falling down, in fact braces on a couple would have been advisable. The team took the opportunities that came their way well, with several individual's contributing to the points score and those that did

not score ensured that the opponents were limited to scraps due to excellent defence.

The starting five of Ashton 'Stretch' Linney, Rosie, Ben 'Barge you out the way' Bentley, Hannah 'Jump Shot' Kelly and Tyler 'Yao Ming' Linney all got the game started well by taking the right shot at the right time and working



hard as a team to stop the AGS attack. After 8 minutes of intensive focus it was time for the next five to step up to the mark and unleash hell, as Matt 'Speedy' Adamson, Matt 'Press-up Champ' Gilbert, Matt 'Mean Machine' Bentley, Francesca 'Smooth' Dalton and Issa 'Ice Cool' Ali entered the Arena. Following on from the starting fives achievements the impetus was not lost and at half time the team had restricted the opponents in offensive achievements, whilst clawing back a little of the lead AGS had gained.

The second half saw a similar level of commitment and team ethos as the team continued upsetting the balance of play which AGS were expecting to have against a team that were inexperienced in terms of competitive basketball. Unfortunately despite the endeavours of the team and their cheerleaders (parents), the team lost by the narrowest of margins; Rosie confirmed she would like the cheerleaders in short skirts and pompoms (both in team colours) at the next game though!!

What do you want me to do, dress in drag and do the hula? – Timon and Pumba, The Lion King

For the team to walk away with a loss of only 6 points to an AGS team that have played competitively together before, both locally and during the school day, emphasised the level of team spirit, fun and excellent shooting (the 3 rules) Chiltern were challenged with at the start of the game. The second game against Fulbrook School came a little too soon after the competitive game against AGS (in fact immediately following), thus the team showed fatigue and consequently suffered a slightly heavier defeat but everyone still worked hard – the fault rests with the cheerleaders...we cant hear you!!



However overall the day was a success and the team should be very proud of their first day out in the Chiltern Basketball Club Colours. Well done to one and all, you worked well together like a family unit or team....CHILTERN.

Ohana means family, family means nobody gets left behind. Or forgotten.

- Lilo and Stitch.

Gareth Taylor
Under 12's Coach