

**DTE BASKETBALL CLUB**

**Derby Trailblazers v Brixton Topcats Flyers**  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012-2013

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# **DERBY TRAILBLAZERS V Brixton Topcats Flyers**

## **Who's Who?**

**Chairman:** ..... Charlie Wright  
**Secretary:** ..... Julia Booth  
**Treasurer:** ..... Shaun Atterbury

## **Our Coaching Staff**

**D1 Men:** ..... Jamie Maudsley,  
..... Steve Baxter, Stedroy Baker  
**D3 Men:** ..... Matt Shaw, Paul Bowen  
**D4 Men:** ..... Chris Squire, Matt Shaw  
**Academy:** ..... Matt Shaw,  
..... Paul Bowen, Chris Squire  
**U18 Men:** ..... Phil Storer, Craig Swinton  
**U16 Boys:** ..... Andy Josephs, Lee Fitchett  
**U15 Boys:** ..... Sarah Booth  
**U14 Boys:** ..... Charlie Ford, Dave Marvill  
**U13 Boys:** ..... Ben Atterbury  
**Minis:** ..... Clarence Wiggins, CJ Marriott  
**Ladies:** ..... Dave Howard  
**Local Leagues:** ..... Kyle Henderson, Barish Salih

## **Match Night Team**

**Statistics:** ..... Chris Booth & Team  
**Programme Editor:** ..... Nigel Cash  
**Graphic Designer:** ..... Lee Elmore  
**Photographer:** ..... Alan Mousley  
**Announcer:** ..... Nigel Cash  
**Music:** ..... Steve Williams  
**Fund Raising:** ..... Vacant – contact Charlie Wright  
**Grant Applications:** ..... AJ Summerfield  
**Child Protection:** ..... CJ Marriott  
**Ticket Desk:** ..... Fred & Jo Timpson  
**Merchandising:** ..... Stuart Kent  
**Supporters Club:** ..... Chris Acton  
**Raffle:** ..... Jake Brown  
**First Aid Support:** ..... Jill Kent, Alex McGaffin  
**Chaplin:** ..... Robin Miller

*Thank you all!*

## **WELCOME...**

Good evening and welcome to Moorways on a crucially important weekend for the club. The VCARS.co.uk division one league season is drawing towards its conclusion and there is still an awful lot of work to be done by the club over the remaining nine games, two of which come this weekend, as the men also travel to Essex Leopards tomorrow (4pm at Brentwood).

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the players, coaching staff and supporters of Brixton, a team who like us, finds themselves struggling at the wrong end of the division one league table.

Of the nine remaining fixtures, only four games including tonight's fixture will be played at home and two of those take place back to back next weekend. On Saturday we play Worthing at Moorways before facing a re-arranged home game against Hemel Storm at Noel-Baker on Sunday afternoon. That means it's now more important than ever to ask that you get behind the team and make as much noise as possible.

Having lost six of last years squad over the summer for a variety of reasons, this season was always likely to be difficult, but the number of injuries suffered by the new squad has made the situation far worse. The loss of Tom Sherlock has had the biggest impact, particularly as the Derby-born forward was averaging double figures in points and rebounding prior to injury. We wish him all the best for the future, which is likely to mean further surgery on his ankles.

Elsewhere, Matt Shaw's Trailblazers II put up a great fight against Huddersfield Heat last weekend, but couldn't quite derail the Heat's march towards the league title. A five point win for the visitors means they are now just one win away from the title, but Derby II are well placed to clinch the runners up spot.

There was also disappointment for the U16's a fortnight ago, when they were beaten in the final of the Sureshot U16 Boys National Cup. The boys put up a great fight, but found themselves up against an unbelievably talented NASSA side which stormed to victory.

Don't forget you can keep up to date with all the latest news via the Facebook page or Twitter feeds. To Like Us on Facebook or Follow Us on Twitter, the addresses you need are:

[www.facebook.com/DerbyTrailblazersClub](http://www.facebook.com/DerbyTrailblazersClub) or  
[www.twitter.com/derbyblazers](http://www.twitter.com/derbyblazers)

Finally, a plea for help next season – the Trailblazers are looking for someone or a couple of people who can drive the team minibus to away fixtures next season. Both our current drivers have indicated they will be unable to continue this vitally important role next season – maybe you could help? Please speak to a member of the coaching staff if you're interested.

We hope you will enjoy tonight's game and don't forget to make some noise for your team!

*Nigel*

Nigel Cash  
Programme Editor



# Tonight's Visitors - Brixton Topcats

Tonight's match is a vitally important one, particularly as victory for Brixton last weekend means they are now just one win behind us in the VCARS.co.uk division one league table. Assistant Coach Steve Baxter looks ahead:

"This weekend's two games are huge matches for us as a club. Against Brixton we are facing a club at the wrong end of the tables like ourselves. We need to turn our recent decent but ultimately losing performances into wins.

Brixton picked up a good win last week against Hemel and that has kept them really in the mix to avoid the bottom two places in the league. When you add Medway's win at Sundays opponents Essex into the equation and it's fair to say last weekend's fixtures didn't play out well for us at all.

"Having said that, our fate remains very much in our own hands, particularly since winning brings confidence. If we can beat Brixton on Saturday then there is no reason we cannot go on a run of our own. Despite our recent results we still have faith in the ability of our players. They need to believe in themselves as well. We see their ability in training and they need to convert that into games.

"Right now we won't concentrate too much on Sunday's game and it's fair to say Brixton is all we are really thinking of. They have some good players and have seen some close games go against them, the same as we have. Pappa Demba-Casse has been their standout player this season. He is a big body who causes problems at both ends of the court. Our big guys need to do a good job keeping him off the boards and forcing him away from the basket as much as they can. They have some other good players, but if our guys carry out our game plan I am confident we can get the win we really need.

"On Sunday we will go to Essex to play a Leopards team who won the Trophy Final last weekend. We have split two games with them this season and we know they have recruited one of the deepest teams in the league. However their league form has been somewhat indifferent and they are in no way unbeatable on their own floor. Belief will be a key factor for us to get an important result," he said.

## *Time now for Steve's regular scouting report...*

### **Pappa Demba-Kasse 6'7 Centre**

Statistically Pappa has been Brixton's best player this season. In the games where statistics have been recorded, he has scored a team leading 15.8 points per game and also leads the team in rebounding with a shade over nine per game. Pappa is big and athletic and the Blazers need to box him out early and limit his touches in the paint to try and reduce his effectiveness. Senegalese born Pappa has been with Brixton since 2009 and prior to that he played for the now defunct London Towers.

### **Vytenis Petkus 6'4 Guard/Forward**

The second leading scorer for Brixton this season with just under thirteen points per game, Vytenis has made an immediate impact in his first season with Brixton. He has quickly established himself as the leading three point shooter on the team, so we will need to be aware of where he is on the floor at all times. Prior to joining the Topcats, he played in his native Lithuania for Silute, Neptunas and Naglis Palangos.

### **Uche Umekwe 6'5 Forward**

Another player having a solid season for the Topcats, Uche is averaging 7.5 points and 5 rebounds per game. He is now in his second season with Brixton, after graduating from the University of Birmingham who he represented in EBL division two. He was one of their leading scorers and rebounders during his time at University. Uche has a nice touch around the basket and can hit from mid-range. He is another player we will need to keep as far away from the basket as possible.

### **Rabah Tahroui 6'3 Guard**

Rabah is currently enjoying his best season in division 1 averaging eight points per game. He is a quick player who can hit the three or penetrate to the basket. Rabah, who is now in his second season with the Topcats, is originally from the North West and has played for Cheshire Jets second team in the BBL, and also spent some time at a basketball academy in Serbia.

## Coming up...

**Blazers head to Essex Leopards tomorrow afternoon for a 4pm tip off at the Brentwood Centre. If you're travelling, you'll find the Centre on Doddinghurst Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9NN.**

**The following weekend is a home double-header; with Worthing Thunder at Moorways on Saturday 9th March (7:30pm) ahead the re-arranged fixture against Hemel Storm at Noel-Baker on Sunday 10th March (4:30pm). Both these fixtures are important challenges for the Trailblazers as we attempt to make a late push up the VCARS.co.uk league division one table – please help us along the way with your support – and bring some friends along too!**

# Derby Trailblazers Div1

4	..... Stedroy Baker (c)	.....5'8"	..... Guard
5	..... Jamie McGaffin	.....6'1"	..... Guard
6	..... Luke Daykin	.....6'0"	..... Guard
7	..... Tom Sherlock	.....6'8"	..... Forward
8	..... Martyn Gayle (c)	.....6'3"	..... Guard
9	..... Simon Allaway	.....6'2"	..... Guard
10	..... Jeff Smith	.....6'7"	..... Forward
11	..... Benson Arogbo	.....6'3"	..... Forward
12	..... Nick Rose	.....6'2"	..... Guard
13	..... Tom Brown	.....6'6"	..... Forward/Centre
14	..... Eric Milambo	.....6'7"	..... Forward
15	..... Kingsley Okoroh	.....7'1"	..... Centre
--	..... Miguel Leite	.....6'6"	..... Forward/Centre



**Coach: Jamie Maudsley**  
**Assistants: Steve Baxter, Stedroy Baker**  
**Team Manager: Tracey Mousley**  
**Medical Coordinator: Jill Kent**



# Brixton Topcats Flyers

4	..... Robert Odia	.....
5	..... Louis Annan	.....
6	..... Omari Coates	.....
7	..... Vytenis Petkus	.....
8	..... Rabah Tahroui	.....
9	..... Andrej Vaiteikus	.....
10	..... Uche Umekwe	.....
11	..... Papa Demba-Kasse	.....
12	..... Aaron Moseley	.....
13	..... Aaron Branch	.....
14	..... Jon Gaymond	.....
15	..... Jeremy Nkosi	.....

**Coach: James Markham**

**Referees:** Rhys Platten, Matthew Lloyd

# Around the club – Results & Fixtures

Trailblazers II can no longer win the VCARS.co.uk division three north league title, but they are in a chance of finishing as runners up. A 64-68 home defeat to champions elect Huddersfield Heat last weekend left Derby in second place, with the head to head advantage over third placed Rossendale Raptors and fourth placed City of Sheffield Saints.

The U18's remain third in the Midlands Conference, while the U16's are still in a strong position in the Northern Premier League. Andy Josephs' team are currently fourth, but with games in hand against all the teams above them, they could easily finish higher.

The U15's can't finish higher than their current position of seventh, but with four wins out of their last five starts, the U14's are enjoying a strong finish to the season. The U13's have just one game remaining and won't finish higher than their current position of fifth place.

***As the Trailblazers main website is still undergoing redevelopment, here are the next few fixtures for all out teams:***

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2013					
Team	Home		Away	Venue	Tip Off
D1 Men	Essex Leopards	V	Derby Trailblazers	Brentwood Centre	4:00pm
U16	Derby U16's	V	Cheshire Jets	Noel-Baker School	12:30pm
U14	Derby U14's	V	Shropshire Warriors	Noel-Baker School	2:30pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2013					
Team	Home		Away	Venue	Tip Off
Ladies	University of Leicester	V	Derby Lady Blazers	University Sports Centre	8:15pm
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2013					
Team	Home		Away	Venue	Tip Off
D1 Men	Derby Trailblazers	V	Worthing Thunder	Moorways Leisure Centre	7:30pm
D3 Men	Shropshire Warriors	V	Derby Trailblazers II	Sport TCAT	7:00pm
U18	City of Birmingham II	V	Derby U18's	Nechells Leisure Centre	2:20pm
U14	Team Wolverhampton Slam	V	Derby U14's	Our Lady St Chad SC	12:20pm
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2013					
Team	Home		Away	Venue	Tip Off
D1 Men	Derby Trailblazers	V	Hemel Storm	Noel-Baker School	4:30pm
D3 Men	Derby Trailblazers II	V	Sefton Stars	Noel-Baker School	2:30pm
D4 Men	Derby Trailblazers III	V	Leicester Warriors II	Noel-Baker School	12:30pm
U16's	Manchester Magic	V	Derby U16's	Amaechi Centre	3:00pm

Further fixtures will be listed on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/DerbyTrailblazersClub](http://www.facebook.com/DerbyTrailblazersClub)  
For games showing TBC for either Venue or Tip Off, please check back to the England Basketball website at [www.englishbasketball.co.uk/fixtures/fixtures-results.aspx](http://www.englishbasketball.co.uk/fixtures/fixtures-results.aspx)



## Can you help 1?

The Trailblazers urgently require someone to help coordinating fund raising efforts. In these tough economic times, the club is feeling the pinch as much as many other people and as such, the need to seek new sources of funding has never been more important. Please speak to Andy Josephs on 07535 976431 for more details.

## Can you help 2?

The Trailblazers Senior Men's team need someone or a number of people who can help driving out by driving the team minibus to away fixtures next season. Both current drivers have indicated they can no longer continue this role next season. Please speak to Assistant Coach Steve Baxter for further details.

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