

JNR.NBL



SEMI-FINAL FOUR 2024

4-5 MAY 2024 | NBPC





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A portrait of Stewart Kellett, the CEO of Basketball England, smiling. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and a dark blazer. The background is dark.

CEO WELCOME

I'm delighted to welcome you to what is always a fitting end to the NBL season - the Jnr. NBL Final Fours here at the National Basketball Performance Centre in Manchester.

Across the weekend, 24 games are set to play out to form an event that is like no other, showcasing some of the best talent from across the Jnr. NBL

I want to congratulate all our semi-finalists and to every team that has made it this far, I wish them the very best of luck.

After Team England won historic gold and silver medals at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, the game has continued to go from strength-to-strength.

There are no two-ways about it: the love for the game is on the ascendancy, and our mission is to make it more visible and more accessible.

Stay up to date with BE and our weekly coverage of the NBL, WNBL and Jnr. NBL by visiting basketballengland.co.uk and following our social media channels.

I would like to thank all the fans in attendances this weekend, especially those who have travelled the breadth of the country to be with us. Your support is greatly appreciated and means a lot to our clubs.

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank our fantastic sponsors and partners Wilson, Sure Shot, Sportserve and Dynamik Sport Flooring, plus the facility staff at the NBPC.

My thanks also go to the North West Region and their volunteer for hosting us, alongside our team of officials for helping to put on what is sure to be another great event.

Enjoy the weekend and thank you for joining us.

STEWART KELLETT
BASKETBALL ENGLAND CEO

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 4TH MAY

10:00AM

COURT 1

U16 GIRLS' SEMI FINAL 1

Milton Keynes Breakers vs

CoLA Southwark Pride

COURT 2

U16 GIRLS' SEMI FINAL 2

Richmond Knights vs

Manchester Mystics

COURT 3

U14 BOYS' SEMI FINAL 1

London Elite vs

London Legends

12:00PM

COURT 1

U16 BOYS' SEMI FINAL 1

Manchester Magic vs

Manchester Giants

COURT 2

U16 BOYS' SEMI FINAL 2

Newham Youngbloods vs

Sussex Storm

COURT 3

U14 GIRLS' SEMI FINAL 1

Manchester Mystics vs

Kingston Lions

2:00PM

COURT 1

U18 WOMEN'S SEMI FINAL 1

Manchester Mystics vs

Endeavour Ipswich Basketball

COURT 2

U18 WOMEN'S SEMI FINAL 2

CoLA Southwark Pride vs

Nottingham Wildcats

COURT 3

U14 BOYS' SEMI FINAL 2

London Stars vs

Manchester Magic

4:00PM

COURT 1

U18 MEN'S SEMI FINAL 1

London United vs

Islington Panthers

COURT 2

U18 MEN'S SEMI FINAL 2

Manchester Magic vs

Canterbury Academy
Crusaders

COURT 3

U14 GIRLS' SEMI FINAL 2

Milton Keynes Breakers vs

Sheffield Hatters

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY 5TH MAY

10:00AM

COURT 1

U16 GIRLS' FINAL

COURT 2

**U16 GIRLS' THIRD PLACE
PLAYOFF**

COURT 3

**U14 BOYS' THIRD PLACE
PLAYOFF**

12:15PM

COURT 1

U16 BOYS' FINAL

COURT 2

**U16 BOYS' THIRD PLACE
PLAYOFF**

COURT 3

**U14 GIRLS' THIRD PLACE
PLAYOFF**

2:30PM

COURT 1

U18 WOMEN'S FINAL

COURT 2

**U18 WOMEN'S THIRD
PLACE PLAYOFF**

COURT 3

U14 BOYS' FINAL

4:45PM

COURT 1

U18 MEN'S FINAL

COURT 2

**U18 MEN'S THIRD PLACE
PLAYOFF**

COURT 3

U14 GIRLS' FINAL

U14 BOYS'

PREVIEW

LONDON ELITE VS LONDON LEGENDS LONDON STARS VS MANCHESTER MAGIC

Three London clubs and Manchester Magic make up this year's U14 Boys field.

Elite, Legends and Stars will all be vying to end the run of the defending champions for the North West, but that won't be easy against a Magic side that went 14-0 in the Northern Premier this season.

The Southern teams are certainly no slouches, though. Elite (who are returning to Manchester after a third-place finish a year ago) went 22-0 to win the Western Premier, while London Stars (22-0) and London Legends (19-3) finished one and two in the East.

The two East standouts will be split this weekend however, with Legends going up against Elite in the opening semi-final, before Stars take on Manchester Magic to round up Sunday's finalists.

All four of these teams have sailed through their respective playoff campaigns to reach this point, confirming themselves as four of the top U14 programmes in the country this season.

Elite dispatched London Warriors 87-43 before beating Manchester Giants Blue 77-65.

Stars were able to ease past Newcastle Eagles 82-46 before doing the same to Sussex Storm, 69-59.

Manchester Magic made short work of Bristol Flyers 83-53 before getting the better of Milton Keynes 90-59, and London Legends won their battles against Newham Youngbloods 88-74 and Richmond Knights 60-52 to book their ticket to Manchester.

Magic's David Akhidime returns for the North West side as reigning MVP at this level. His play is sure to have a big say on how Manchester do this weekend, with Legends' talented forward Elijah Imevbore, Stars' Vincent Dabrila and Elite's Daniel Onuoha all set to feature heavily.

U14 BOYS'

PREVIEW

London Elite head coach **MIGUEL MCKELVEY**: "Our players have built a special team chemistry based on a shared love of the game, willingness to learn and continuous support of each other through the ups and downs.

"Our success this season is a reflection of their individual characters and a commitment made by each of them to play together as a team.

"We look forward to the Final Fours as it's an opportunity for us to continue our growth against the best competition in the country."

London Legends' **MIKEL NJOKU**: "I feel blessed to have an opportunity to play at Manchester again, having won the Dynamik Schools' competition in March.

"The journey has been hard but the team is looking forward to continuing our story."

London Stars head coach **JORDANAS MEJERAS**: "We are really happy as it is our club's third consecutive U14 Final Four. I believe this is a testament to our programme, players, parents, and coaches.

"We looking forward to competing in games at the highest level."

Manchester Magic's captain **DAVID AKHIDIME**: "Reaching the Final Fours has been a journey for the team. We had a very strong regular season and have taken that momentum into the playoffs.

"Our opposition have some very skilled players so we'll have to be ready to defend as a team. Offensively, if we play our own basketball, I'm confident in our chances of winning."

LONDON ELITE



NO	NAME	POSITION
1	Max Moutrie	Guard
2	Quentin McKelvey	Guard
3	Daniel Onuoha	Guard
4	Oliver Reynolds	Wing
8	Aleksander Milovidov	Centre
11	Nicholas Ferrari	Guard
12	Omer Zardok-Shemer	Guard
17	Nikolai Sagiryan	Forward
24	Leo Bowman	Wing
26	Tay Asker	Guard
27	Judah Assam	Forward

COACH Miguel McKelvey

ASST COACH Daniel Szatkowski

LONDON LEGENDS



NO	NAME	POSITION
0	Brandon Burrell	Wing
1	Darson-Bailey Weston	Guard
2	Mikel Njoku	Guard
3	Juan Carlos Ferreras	Wing
4	Jayden Wong	Guard
5	Jayden Toppin	Guard
6	Vitus Anane	Wing
7	Oluwatimileyin Salami	Wing
8	Herman Ruddock Williams	Wing
9	Prince Dombo	Forward
10	Elijah Imevbore	Forward
11	Zephaniah Newman	Wing

COACH Max Simon

ASST COACH Trey Nation

LONDON STARS

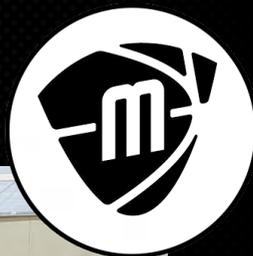


NO	NAME	POSITION
0	Dylan Ameen	Guard
2	Ryan Udofia	Guard
4	Shia Dos Santos	Wing
7	Vincent Dabrila	Guard
8	Aronas Narijauskas	Guard
23	Joshua Nwankwo	Guard
25	Domas Martinkus	Wing
27	Aronas Keturakis	Wing
52	Lloyd Uwadiae	Forward
55	Jenson Green	Guard
85	Levant Cham	Forward
94	Deimontas Jokubauskis	Forward

COACH Jordanas Mejeras

ASST COACH Audrius Valaitis

MANCHESTER MAGIC



NO	NAME	POSITION
5	Dylan Deans	Guard
6	Theo Westwood	Guard
7	Kamraan Azeemi	Guard
8	Owen Iguma	Guard
9	Adam Cross	Guard
10	Camran Hanson	Wing
11	Bobby Jones	Wing
12	Roman Allen-Attwood	Forward
13	David Akhidime	Forward
14	Timi Babalola	Centre
15	Ege Cakmakkaya	Forward
18	Reiley McGlade	Forward

COACH Adam Morris

ASST COACH Gareth Westwood, Edward Bradley, Joshua James Hanson

U14 GIRLS

PREVIEW

MANCHESTER MYSTICS VS KINGSTON LIONS MILTON KEYNES BREAKERS VS SHEFFIELD HATTERS

In what is sure to be a highly competitive field, three of last season's Final Four sides are back once again in the U14 Girls' competition.

Richmond Knights won't be here to defend their crown as they fell in the quarter-finals to Sheffield Hatters, who head back to the NBPC along with Manchester Mystics and Milton Keynes Breakers.

It'll be a good chance to the Mystics to reclaim their U14 title after winning it last in 2021/22, but they'll have to work hard to overcome Kingston Lions in the first of two intriguing semi-finals.

That leaves the Breakers and Hatters to do battle in a repeat of last season's third/fourth-place contest, one that Sheffield won 68-49.

Manchester won the Northern Premier with a perfect 12-0, including a pair of wins against the Hatters, who finished second on 9-3.

It's a similar story in the Southern Prem, with MK running away to victory at 16-0 and Kingston closing as runners up at 13-3.

That means if the regular season is anything to go by, a Mystics vs Breakers final could be on the cards for Sunday, but anything can happen and the Final Fours have a history of being anything but predictable.

With only eight teams making the playoffs rather than 16, each of this weekend's finalists have won one game to get to the NBPC.

Manchester beat Sussex Storm 88-59, Milton Keynes defeated Mystics II 114-14, Kingston knocked off Lancashire Spinners 81-53, and Sheffield ended the run of Richmond 57-45.

With two league winners and two runners up all making it to Manchester, there will be plenty of talent on show this weekend. Only one can end the season with a championship though, and it'll be great viewing as we find out who it's going to be.

U14 GIRLS

PREVIEW

Manchester Mystics head coach **JIM CARNEGIE**: "I am delighted that the commitment, determination, and togetherness of this group of dedicated young players has been rewarded with a place in this prestigious event.

"I look forward to high-quality games played in good spirits."

Kingston Lions head coach **RAMOSE MODESTO**: "Our team resilience and chemistry has led to wins against tough opposition's this year.

"We've had so many fantastic performances from so many different girls. I'm honoured to be a part of this special team and couldn't be happier for our girls going into the Final Fours.

"We are looking to exceed our expectations."

Milton Keynes Breakers head coach **PAIGE VYSE**: "We're excited to be playing in the Final Fours. It's been a goal of the team to return after last season, and this year with the majority of the team returning, we feel confident we can improve on last year's performance.

"The girls have developed so much in the past 12 months and they are ready for this moment."

Sheffield Hatters' **FREYA CRESWICK**: "As a team we have worked hard all season, we can't wait for the Final Fours weekend and we're looking forward to matching ourselves up against the other top teams in England."

MANCHESTER MYSTICS



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Akeala Daniel	Guard
5	Lola Thompson	Guard
6	Adele Tang	Guard
7	Sophie Brittain	Guard
8	Mojan Malak	Forward
9	Mya Napoleon	Forward
10	Anya Williams	Guard
11	Alycia Harvey	Forward
12	Fatima Keinde	Guard
13	Neeusha Simakani	Forward
15	Tiana Walker	Guard
16	Eniola Olorode	Centre

COACH Jim Carnegie

ASST COACH James Carnegie

KINGSTON LIONS



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Wiktorja Kazmierczak	Wing
5	Mia Dobies	Guard
6	Kiara Duffy	Wing
7	Ella Price	Forward
9	Harriet Price	Guard
10	Helena McTernan	Forward
11	Eleanor Harris	Guard
12	Esme Price	Forward
14	Asya Vrignaud	Wing
30	Sienna Modesto	Guard
32	Thea Herbert	Centre
33	Nikita Cornford	Forward

COACH Ramose Modesto

ASST COACH Andrew Wallace

MILTON KEYNES BREAKERS



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Faith Deakin	Guard
7	Luna Etienne	Guard
8	Alicja Przybysz	Guard
9	Chine Ibegbulam	Forward
11	Alyssia Felton	Forward
12	LiliJana Liddell-Mickovski	Wing
13	Eleanor Lau	Guard
14	Sofia El Nur	Guard
15	Chantelle Okoli	Guard
21	Kelly Munyaviri	Forward
22	Alessia Dinu	Wing
23	Lulu Keates-Swankie	Guard

COACH Paige Vyse

ASST COACH Josh Merrington

SHEFFIELD HATTERS



NO	NAME	POSITION
0	Summer Marsden	Guard
5	Lydia Unwin	Forward
6	Yuki Gu	Guard
7	Freya Creswick	Forward
8	Cadence Hampton	Guard
9	Daisy Brooks	Guard
12	Deremi Ajagbe	Forward
13	Lilly Waller	Centre
15	Molly Windle	Centre
16	Millie Lowe	Forward
22	Whitney Lutakome	Guard
23	Eirini-Maria Ieronymakis	Guard

COACH Tyler Gayle

ASST COACH Richard Windle

U16 BOYS

PREVIEW

MANCHESTER MAGIC VS MANCHESTER GIANTS NEWHAM YOUNGBLOODS VS SUSSEX STORM

Returning Sussex Storm, Manchester Giants and Newham Youngbloods are joined by U16 Sure Shot National Cup winners Manchester Magic to make up this year's U16 Boys competition.

Storm were beaten finalists a year ago as they came up short against eventual winners London Baltic Stars, while Giants were pipped to third by Newham, who were playing under the London Lions banner at the time.

These four teams represent the top four seeds for this year's playoffs, and each have shown their quality throughout both the regular and post-season.

Magic went a perfect 22-0 to win the Northern Premier, tacking on an 88-70 victory over Bristol and a hard-fought 67-60 W against Richmond Knights to make it this far.

Newham have also impressed, going 21-1 to win the East before wins against Surrey Rams (78-74) and defending champs London Stars (79-75).

Sussex Storm make it a trio of league winners as they took the Western Premier title at 18-4, seeing off Milton Keynes 101-76 in the first round before a 78-72 win over London Elite.

That just leaves the Giants as the only non-league-winner in the quartet, but at 18-4 they've got plenty of quality at their disposal, showing just that as they beat West Herts Warriors (71-41) and London Thunder (82-61) to make it to NBPC.

Magic guard Jack Walton has continued to make a name for himself across the Jnr. NBL and will be looking for more this weekend. Expect Giants' Blake Gordon, Newham's Daniel Banjoko and Storm's Raffy Connolly to have a say in that though, and that's barely scratching the surface of the talent in this year's group.

U16 BOYS

PREVIEW

The Saturday clash between Magic and Giants is sure to be an exciting one, with Newham and Sussex going head-to-head for the right to play the winner on Sunday.

Manchester Magic's captain **JACK WALTON**: "We are excited about reaching the Final Fours this year.

"Despite winning the National Cup, we believe this is another opportunity to show how the team has progressed throughout the season."

Manchester Giants head coach **ADAM DIGBY**: "When we began our journey last summer, we told the players our goal was to ensure we got to Final Fours.

"They fully bought into that vision, dedicated themselves to it and have become a team who work hard, believe in each other, and support each other, each on and off the court.

"I could not be prouder of this group. Their true strength however is in the bonds they have forged, and that truly is something special which goes far beyond basketball."

Newham Youngbloods head coach **STEPHRON ANDREW**: "What an achievement for the club to make the Final Fours two seasons in a row.

"I am so proud of my boys it has been a difficult season with a lot of ups and downs, but they have trusted the process I believe we are finally in a position to win a national championship."

Sussex Storm's **RAFFY CONNOLLY**: "Reaching the Final Fours means everything.

"It means we have another chance at winning the championship as this is the third year in a row that we've made it this far.

"This year means lots to the boys as the majority of us have been together for over three years and this might be the last time we all play together."

MANCHESTER MAGIC



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Tom Richardson	Guard
5	Yared Abreha	Guard
6	Dominic Goodwin	Guard
7	Nathan Brown	Guard
8	Jack Walton and Captain	Guard
9	Rufus Everett	Guard
10	Che Dann	Guard
11	Samy Simi-Boumedine	Guard
12	Harley Blake	Guard
13	Oluwademilade Babalola	Guard
15	Abraham Sagay Isiorho	Guard
16	Henry Phillpotts	Guard

COACH Tom Paraskeva

ASST COACH Adeleke Osinaike

MANCHESTER GIANTS



NO	NAME	POSITION
1	Jayden Evora Gomes	Forward
14	Kelvin Clement	Wing
15	Blake Gordon	Wing
16	Sean Graham	Wing
18	Harry Jenner-Hall	Wing
19	Prince William Manu-Dapaah	Centre
20	Brice Tiako	Centre
27	Ben Moore	Guard
28	Nico Gayle	Guard
29	Lewis Dickinson	Wing
30	Reuben Quayle	Wing
38	Erminas Duncia	Centre

COACH Adam Digby

ASST COACH Archie Wallworth, Robert Park

NEWHAM YOUNGBLOODS



NO	NAME	POSITION
0	Nathan Mol	Guard
1	Micael Filho	Guard
3	Uwais Busairi	Guard
7	Folarin Oguntuase	Centre
8	Daniel Banjoko	Forward
10	Turinn Reid	Guard
11	Jothan Sorae	Forward
12	David Banjoko	Wing
16	Alexandra Tuet	Centre
24	Francesco Cole	Wing
30	Ayden Amini	Guard
38	Akello Bascom	Centre

COACH Stephron Andrew

ASST COACH Charles Vuong, Stephen Oneriti

SUSSEX STORM



NO	NAME	POSITION
00	Rudy Buckingham	Guard
1	Nathaniel Watson	Guard
3	Jamaul McAllister	Guard
4	Raffy Connolly	Wing
7	Rafi Jalloh	Guard
9	Brandon Lloyd-Macfadyen	Guard
10	Isaiah Alakiu	Guard
11	Joshua Davidson	Wing
22	Anashe Chiware	Guard
32	Leo Stevens	Wing
34	Stanley Mills	Wing
99	Chris Clepsa	Guard

COACH Daniel Hildreth

ASST COACH Kyla Nelson

U16 GIRLS'

MILTON KEYNES BREAKERS VS COLA SOUTHWARK PRIDE RICHMOND KNIGHTS VS MANCHESTER MYSTICS

Manchester Mystics, Richmond Knights and CoLA Southwark Pride all return to the North West in the U16 Girls' competition, with U16 Sure Shot National Cup finalists Milton Keynes Breakers as the fresh faces for 2023/24.

Mystics defended their title a year ago, beating Richmond 59-54 in the final and can aim for three in a row this time round if they can pick up two more wins.

With MK taking on CoLA in semi-final one, that means there's a repeat of last year's final on Saturday as Richmond and Manchester go at it in what should be a high-quality affair.

Despite Mystics' recent successes, advantage lies with the Breakers and Knights heading into the weekend as league winners. MK won the Northern Premier with a spotless 16-0 record, including two single-digit victories against the Mystics, who were runners up at 14-2.

Similarly, Richmond had no equal across the Southern Premier season, going 22-0 to finish nine points ahead of second place CoLA (18-3).

After sharing just five losses between them this year, it's no surprise these four teams then came through to playoffs to make it to Manchester.

MK beat Newham Youngbloods 88-67, Richmond claimed a 65-48 win against Leicester Riders Foundation, Kingston Lions were no match for Manchester Mystics (80-38) and CoLA came through against Sheffield Hatters, winning 64-41.

MK's Athena Thompson is a rising talent and one to keep an eye on, with Richmond's Neve Rugette and Precious Godwin plus Manchester's Mojan Malek and Tiana Walker making the U14 All-Star Fives at last year's JFFs.

PREVIEW

U16 GIRLS'

PREVIEW

Milton Keynes Breakers head coach **TONY MARMO**: "After disappointment in the Cup final back in January, we are excited to be back at the National Performance Centre for the Final Fours.

"After the Cup Final we bounced back to win all our remaining league fixtures, securing the Northern Premier League with an unbeaten record. Since then, this dynamic and talented team have been working hard in the post season with the intention of going one better this time round."

CoLA Southwark Pride head coach **BRIAN NGURU**: "Honestly, it's a blessing for our team to make our second consecutive Final Fours.

"We have a very similar group with some improvements, I'm a better coach this year too so we are looking forward to taking the challenge on humbly and respectfully of our opponents."

Richmond Knights co-captains **NEVE RUGETTE** and Precious Godwin: "This team has worked so hard throughout the season, which has translated to reaching Final Fours.

"One of our main goals that we set as a team at the start of the season was to make to Final Fours once again, so we are more than grateful for how far we have come.

"We are a team that has been together since the ages of seven and eight and the bonds we have grown together have been incredible."

Manchester Mystics head coach **JOE ANDREW**: "It's been a tough season as we have been plagued with lots of injuries, but we have managed to pull through some tough times.

"We are excited for another opportunity to be at Final Fours, Richmond are a strong team, but we are looking forward to the challenge."

MILTON KEYNES BREAKERS



NO	NAME	POSITION
5	Kaiya Bateman	Wing
6	Jovy Chan	Guard
8	Anna Wakelin	Guard
9	Lauren Tsang (Captain)	Guard
10	Evie Leung	Guard
11	Lila Birtwisle	Wing
12	Athena Thompson	Guard
14	Uzezi Ononeme	Wing
21	Chidum Eke	Forward
22	Itansan Ajayi	Centre
23	Oceane Yagoli	Centre

COACH Tony Marmo

ASST COACH Charles Birtwisle, Kim Thompson

COLA SOUTHWARK PRIDE



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Zafirah Seisay	Guard
5	Anastasia Abe	Wing
6	Rose Sarr	Wing
7	Dajah Chapman	Guard
8	Phoebe Kanu	Forward
9	Kaosarat Adetunji	Wing
10	Mahalia Morgan	Wing
11	Elinga Misiunaite	Forward
12	Teni Odula	Wing
13	Ruth Richards	Wing
14	Sharon Lyonagbe	Forward
15	Victoria Bodunrin	Forward

COACH Brian Nguru

ASST COACH Chandera Jones, Rhia Saggar

RICHMOND KNIGHTS



NO	NAME	POSITION
2	Neve Rugette	Guard
3	Chloe Vella	Forward
6	Precious Godwin	Guard
10	Bade Isik	Guard
11	Anya Scruton	Forward
16	Mischa Leroy	Guard
18	Raija Vitiello	Wing
19	Rosie O'Connell	Guard
23	Harper Bonnet-Taylor	Wing
25	Nahla Laycock	Wing
28	Chayana Collins	Forward
48	Freya Geaney	Centre

COACH Chanel Mubeen

ASST COACH Isaac Omirin

MANCHESTER MYSTICS



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Paige Jagger	Guard
5	Katie Smith	Guard
6	Camille Chinamasa	Guard
7	Molly Barton	Wing
8	Mojan Malek	Wing
9	Jazmine Harvey	Wing
10	Anya Williams	Guard
11	Maisie Keyes	Guard
12	Irene Oboavwodu	Guard
13	Maani Friday	Wing
14	Tiana Walker	Guard
15	Isabelle Grace Aldcroft	Centre
16	Mia Bennett	Wing

COACH Joe Andrew

ASST COACH Natalie Feurtado

U18 MEN

LONDON UNITED VS ISLINGTON PANTHERS

MANCHESTER MAGIC VS CANTERBURY ACADEMY CRUSADERS

Islington Panthers will be looking to add playoff success to their Sure Shot U18 Men's National Cup win in January as they head to Manchester this weekend.

The Londoners will join defending champs Manchester Magic plus London United and Canterbury Academy Crusaders in what should be great mix of teams.

Manchester were part of a competitive Northern Premier conference, with three teams all finishing on 58 points at 18-4.

It's Magic who have prevailed though, with Trafford Magic and Myerscough both falling at the quarter-final stage.

Islington and Canterbury both went head-to-head in the Eastern Premier to finish with matching 16-4 records, splitting their games against each other during the regular season.

That just leaves London United, who are another top dog after they claimed the Western Premier at 19-3.

They get to look forward to an all-London clash with Islington Panthers on Saturday, while Manchester will match up against Canterbury in the other semi-final.

Manchester needed to win on the road in Myerscough to make it back to the Final Fours, doing just that with a 61-57 final score. Islington did the same, beating Trafford Magic 74-51 in the North West to also advance.

London United had a more straightforward path as they won their quarter-final 109-89 against London Westside Rangers, with Canterbury finding a way past Team Solent Kestrels 78-62.

As the last final to tip in the main hall on Sunday, the U18 Men always has a special magic about it as the game brings down the curtain on the Jnr. NBL season.

PREVIEW

U18 MEN

PREVIEW

Which team will still be standing tall when that happens remains to be seen, but any one of this group has a chance to make it happen given the talent at their disposal.

London United Captain **MARKUS HEYMER LEGG**: "The team is definitely proud of our accomplishments this season; it didn't come easily. From a bumpy 0-2 start to finishing 19-3, we all worked extremely hard to be in this position.

"Our semi-final against Islington will be a grimy, hard-fought and physical game. You should expect no less of two teams from London."

Islington Panthers head coach **WILLIAM AKUFFO**: "I am happy and proud of the team for making it to the Final Fours. The team respects each other and the game and have learnt that hard work is rewarded.

"If you lose, you learn to pick yourself up and try again which will eventually result in success, not only for yourself but for the whole team."

Manchester Magic head coach **SERGIO LARA-BERCIAL**: "We are over the moon to have reached the Final Fours. The league was super-competitive and a lot of teams had a real shot at getting here.

"The players have been amazing, overcoming a lot of bumps on the road this season and the Final Fours weekend will test them again, and I'm sure they will love the experience and learn lots from it!"

Canterbury Academy Crusaders captain **LUDLOW HEWSON**: "It feels great to make the Final Fours, especially after just missing out this time last year. "I'm super proud of the team and how we've been in playing and practicing.

"We will prepare the best we can leading into the weekend and just keep doing what has bought us success so far. We expect a tough game against Manchester but we are confident we can reach the final."

LONDON UNITED



NO	NAME	POSITION
1	Kyle White	Wing
4	Cesar Sanchez Falette	Wing
7	Ashja Sempala	Guard
8	Michael Osuji	Wing
10	Wisdom Osuji	Guard
12	Noa Istrefi	Wing
15	Zuriel Foday	Centre
83	Immanuel Baptist	Guard
87	Markus Heymer Legg	Guard

COACH Jack Majewski

ISLINGTON PANTHERS



NO	NAME	POSITION
0	Tyrese Poku Mensah	Guard
1	Paul Magno	Guard
2	Jaidan Dawes	Forward
3	Luka Clarke	Guard
4	Reyve Lutshaka	Forward
5	Douglas Owusu	Guard
7	Devontae Da Costa	Guard
8	Lemar Clarke	Forward
10	Adam Mohamed	Guard
11	Reggie Green	Guard

COACH William Akuffo

MANCHESTER MAGIC



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Ronney Ani	Guard
5	Osarumwense Iguma	Wing
7	Archie Paton	Guard
8	Spike Noden	Wing
9	David Hewitt	Forward
10	Francis Bennett	Wing
11	Daniel Laycock	Wing
12	Nii Sam-Quartey	Forward
13	Luca Lara-Sanchez	Guard
14	Lutae Jones	Forward
15	Jake Smith	Centre
16	Malik Leke	Forward
Res	Eli Lister-Jones, Luca Giugliano	

COACH Sergio Lara-Bercial

ASST COACH Joshua Hanson

CANTERBURY ACADEMY CRUSADERS



NO	NAME	POSITION
3	Elijah Odukola	Forward
8	Tom Gilbert	Wing
9	Shem Onadeko	Wing
12	Matas Jankauskas	Guard
16	Fengze Lei (Shane)	Guard
19	Isaac Sesay	Guard
26	Ludlow Hewson	Guard
32	Josh Odutola	Forward
33	Timothy Oboh	Forward
40	Keane Vavlitis	Guard
53	Ryan Stanies	Wing
72	Edward Wills	Guard
Res	Kaleel Otaeye, Sam Tumbapo, Markuss Ebulins	

COACH Adam Davies

ASST COACH Oli Parr, Rhys Davies

U18 WOMEN

MANCHESTER MYSTICS VS ENDEAVOUR IPSWICH COLA SOUTHWARK PRIDE VS NOTTINGHAM WILDCATS

A stacked U18 Women's competition brings together four of the top programmes in the country as Manchester Mystics, Ipswich, CoLA and Nottingham all go head-to-head.

It's North vs South in both semi-finals as Manchester lock horns with Ipswich and Nottingham take on CoLA, with the winners set for a Sunday showdown.

Another clash between CoLA and Ipswich like the one a year ago would be a real treat, with the Suffolk side sealing a 75-72 victory in one of the games of the weekend.

Manchester came third in 2022/23 and would love to a step further this year, with Nottingham looking to upset the status quo should they get a chance.

All four of these programmes know each other well from their time in the WEABL, setting the stage for what will no doubt be a great weekend of action.

All four teams come into this one with an air of symmetry, with Manchester going 12-0 to win the Northern Premier, inflicting the only two losses of the season for Nottingham (10-2), who came second.

In the South, it is the same story. CoLA went a perfect 10-0 for top spot, with Ipswich falling twice at the hands of their old rivals to drop back to second spot at 8-2.

That suggests both league winners potentially have the advantage heading into this weekend, though how the North and South stack up against each other will no doubt be the key factor.

All four quarter-finals were one-sided affairs as these four teams showed their collective quality. Mystics beat Sussex Storm 85-34, and CoLA eased past last season's Final Four outfit City of Birmingham Rockets 83-29.

PREVIEW

U18 WOMEN

PREVIEW

Nottingham had no problems sealing a 70-48 W against Solent, and Ipswich beat Charnwood College Riders 90-60.

Manchester Mystics head coach **ROB FAIRLEY**: "It's a credit to the team that they have made it back to the Final Fours again this year.

"The season itself hasn't been easy going, with players splitting their time across U18, WEABL and WNBL, but it's a great reward for them to be involved in the most exciting weekend on the Basketball England calendar."

Endeavour Ipswich Basketball captain **LOUISA GIBBINS**: "The girls and I are pleased to have reached this level within our season; we have taken this time to develop as a team.

"Final Fours is something we all strive for throughout the season and it's exciting to have reached this stage.

"We know we just want to enjoy the last games of the season together."

CoLA Southwark Pride head coach **JACKSON GIBBONS**: "The team and the coaching staff feel blessed to make the Final Fours.

"Last year didn't have the ending we had hoped for, so we are looking forward to competing again this year and hopefully giving a good representation of ourselves."

Nottingham Wildcats head coach **CAITLYN RILEY**: "I am beyond proud of this group and how far they have come. They have pushed through the challenges and celebrated the success, whilst staying true to who we are and working every day to achieve our common goals.

"Final Fours is where everyone wants to get to and to be one of the four teams to have achieved it is a big testament to this team, the way that they have bought into what we are trying to do and what we are trying to build for the future."

MANCHESTER MYSTICS



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Maria Bianco	Guard
5	Alejandra Escriva-Gay	Guard
6	Elizandra Costa	Guard
7	Carina Costa	Guard
8	Sara Blake-Smith	Centre
9	Success Odemwingie	Guard
10	Alexandra Hernandez	Guard
11	Irene Oboawoduo	Guard
13	Molly Finn	Guard
14	Daisy Bryan	Guard
15	Favour Elabor	Forward
16	Isobel Robinson	Forward

COACH Rob Fairley

ASST COACH Hannah Alty, Natalie Feurtado

ENDEAVOUR IPSWICH



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Eliza Bartholomew	Guard
5	Isabel Roberts	Guard
6	Kara Bassil	Forward
7	Anna Cartwright	Guard
9	Holly Heard	Guard
10	Cerys Leach	Guard
11	Elisa Njapou	Forward
12	Lauren Liddamore	Forward
13	Deanna Carrington	Guard
14	Katie Yorke	Guard
15	Louisa Gibbins	Forward

COACH Harriet Welham

ASST COACH John Yorke, Nick Drane

COLA SOUTHWARK PRIDE



NO	NAME	POSITION
4	Aaliyah Clarke	Forward
5	Adaora Dioramma	Forward
6	Shay Oyewole	Guard
7	Abigail Isibor	Forward
8	Glory Kabia	Guard
9	Debra Wilson-Osuide	Wing
10	Madi Warren	Wing
11	Felicia Jacobs	Forward
12	Amelie Soleau	Wing
13	Lovell Green	Guard
14	Esther Kursite	Centre
15	Ayla Habbal	Guard

COACH Jackson Gibbons

ASST COACH Brian Nguru, Jay Williams

NOTTINGHAM WILDCATS



NO	NAME	POSITION
3	Eve Hayden	Wing
5	Valérie Cassidy-De Falco	Guard
6	Momo Wong	Wing
7	Samantha Mullock	Forward
8	Tiarna Chambers-Desmond	Forward
10	Dawn Samarasekera	Forward
11	Hayley Cheng	Guard
12	Gabriela João	Forward
14	Alina Riley	Guard
22	Mia Gajaga	Centre
23	Kaydi Searcy-Davis	Wing
30	Kyhannah Campbell	Wing

COACH Caitlyn Riley

ASST COACH Charlotte Redhead

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