

# IN THE ZONE

# 9

## Tuesday 15 January 2019

Season 2018/2019

[www.ybl.org.uk](http://www.ybl.org.uk)

### Next Step: Development Men

 JAMES DAVIES  
 MANAGING DIRECTOR

When the YBL started in 2014, the highest age range we offered was Under 19s. Players in that age range after the season had nowhere to go after they finished playing for their team. Unless they wanted to go onto Senior National League. Some didn't want to, they wanted to play locally. What about Senior Local Leagues? There is that option, but some were not ready to leave their team mates!

The Development League was designed to bridge the gap between Under 19s and Senior Local League. Giving the players a few extra seasons playing with their team mates and some more senior, or returning players. The first season was the 2017/2018 season, this was won by the newest member of the YBL - Walsall 99ers.

### TEAM OF THE WEEK Trojans

team name league coach  
**Trojans** Development League Men **Nigel Drysdale**

current league stats  
**2nd** position played 5 [4 / 1] points for 398 against 312 difference +114

NEW DEVMEN TEAM

Walsall 99ers Game



battlefront - important game for Trojans  
 another close call?  
 Stafford Spartans vs Trojans  
 Sunday 18 March 2019

See what Coach Drysdale has to say about Trojans in Fridays YBL YouTube video

## NEW FOR THE 2019/2020 SEASON TWO BRAND NEW LEAGUES FROM THE YBL C-LEAGUES (CONFERENCE LEAGUES)

### 20 LEAGUE 10 LEAGUE

### LOOK OUT FOR A SPECIAL IN THE ZONE - FEB 1

# OLD & NEW

### League Review

 GAZ HARRISON  
 ASSOCIATE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ITZ REPORTER

The Development League Men got off to a slow start this season, however, once the games started, in early October, the results came in.

Walsall 99ers, being the only returning team this has been complimented with six brand new clubs. The 99ers (5&1) have shown a huge progressive curve since winning the Championships last year, as they sit in the top position going into the second half of the season. Can they hold it?

Trojans, our Team of the Week, sit second in the table after their two comfortable wins in the previous two weeks, one over first place 99ers, spoiling their five straight winning streak. Bringing Trojans from fifth in the table to second! Are Trojans going to finish at the top come March?

Yardley Defenders and Nuneaton Predators, who sit third and fourth, respectively, have a mixed set of results, however, could be strong enough to finish top 4?

Stafford Spartans are battling through their games with determination, as they are yet to secure a victory. The second half of the season could see their tipping point.

Newman Cardinals, the last to enter the league and Shrewsbury Storm (both 1&1 (6th & 7th)), could still be contenders to finish top four! As they both fight for the three points.

Some great games to come in 2019.

Team	League Position	Nov	Dec	Jan
Walsall 99ers D-Squad	1	69-43	77-56	94-52
Trojans	2	77-76	77-76	82-78
Yardley Defenders	3	69-43	60-80	85-52
Nuneaton Predators	4	65-59	32-98	94-52

Team	Nov	Dec	Jan
Walsall 99ers D-Squad	6	0	5
Trojans	5	0	4
Yardley Defenders	5	0	3
Nuneaton Predators	5	0	2
Stafford Spartans	5	0	0
Newman Cardinals	2	0	1
Shrewsbury Storm	2	0	1

### Hot Game of the Week

 KIM HUMPHREYS  
 ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

GAME RESULT  
 Bromsgrove Bears **67** Worcester Wolves **69**  
 Under 13 West

I popped along to The Factory, in Longbridge to see Bromsgrove Bears hosting this game.

This was a point for point game, initially Wolves took the 1st quarter Bears 12-18 Wolves. Bears came back and after 5 minutes of the 2nd quarter had pulled the game back to 2 points and they pushed forward this quarter creating many turnovers of the ball and taking to the hoop. Half time Bears were up 38-32.

Wolves worked hard clawing back the points and by the 2nd minute of the 4th quarter and were ahead 57-48, but Bears were not going to let them win that easily and slowly started pulling back and with 31 seconds remaining on the clock had brought the difference to 4 points, then tied with Wolves putting the winner away for a final score of Bears 67 - 69 Wolves.

YBL MVP Bears No 15 who showed great versatility on court, but also played as a main part of his team. Excellent rebounding gave Bears many fast break opportunities.

The officiating crew were all under 20, it was a pleasure to watch them work well as an officiating crew. Both the referees were excellent, clear and consistent with their calls and gave clear signals to the table team. The referees dealt with queries from the coaches in a calm and confident manner. The scorekeeper's scoresheet was neat and tidy. The timekeeper in such a close game ensured that the clock was started and stopped on the referees whistle especially in the last 2 minutes of the final quarter. They were an excellent crew and as a Director of the YBL I would like to see them looking to develop their officiating skills working towards their next level where suitable.

### Hot Game of the Week

 KIM HUMPHREYS  
 ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

GAME RESULT  
 Coventry Tornadoes **65** Bournville Bears **63**  
 Under 17 East

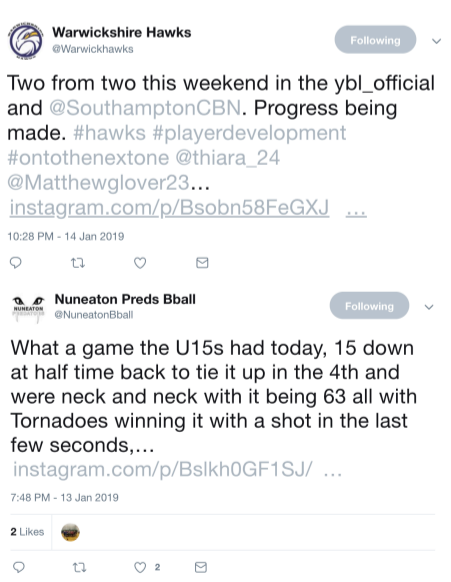


On Saturday 12th January 2019, I was lucky to table at the nail-biting game between Coventry Tornadoes and Bournville Bears U17's.

The first quarter saw Tornadoes take the lead 16-12 thanks to some great shooting by No 44. Second and third quarter the teams were scoring point for point and going into the last quarter Tornadoes were still up by 4 points 40-36.

In the final quarter Bears with their No 22 turning on the offensive and scoring 10 of their 17 points to end the fourth quarter all tied at 53-53.

Bournville pushed ahead in the 1st minute of extra time when their No 4 scoring 2 baskets, both teams were on team fouls and Coventry came back with 2 points in the 2nd and 3rd minute tying the score again. At the end of the 4th minute of extra time Tornadoes were back in the lead by 2 points and although Bears tried, they couldn't claw back that 2 points.



BEARS AND WOLVES WITH THE IN-GAME OFFICIALS