

**2016/17 Game Report**

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| **Team** | Newcastle Eagles Under 18 Men |
| **Opposition** | Manchester Magic |
| **Home/Away** | A |
| **Competition** | EBL Under 18 Men North Premier |
| **Date** | 14th January 2017 |
| **Score** | Newcastle Eagles | **83** | **V** | **36** | Manchester Magic |

Report

The SOE Eagles, who on the back of 3 straight league victories, travelled to the unbeaten Manchester Magic at the Amechi Centre and spirits were high going into the tie.

Manchester started the game at a fast pace and quickly found themselves up 12 points to 5, only for Newcastle to pull level and then ahead 15 to 14 at the midpoint of the quarter. It was then when an incident during an eagles fast break, saw Coach Heath given “T”, by the referee, for what can only be described as an aggressive stare and turn the tie on its head, as the Magic capitalised and saw out the 1st quarter with a 7 point advantage, 26 to 19.

Given the way the SOE Eagles have performed in tight games in the lead up to this one, a margin of 7 points seemed one that could have been hauled in, but the second period proved to be a disaster for the travelling Newcastle side. Poor passing, unforced errors and a points tally of only 3, saw Manchester take a stranglehold on the game and led by 41 points to 22 going into the half.

After strong words from the Coaching staff at half time, hoping to have a positive impact on the Eagles performance in the 3rd Quarter, only to find that is was more of the same, as the Magic continued their dominance, Newcasthe replying with 5 points to Manchester’s 20, ending the period 34 points ahead, 61 to 27.

With nothing to lose, Coach Heath gave minutes to all the bench, but the same pattern emerged in the final period, with the Eagle struggling to make any noticeable impact with their offence, scoring better but only 9 points agaist Manchester’s 22 and that brought the game to a close, the Manchester Magic with a totally dominant performance beating the SOE U18 Eagles 83 points to 36.

The Eagles will be looking to lick their wounds and bounce back on Saturday at St Cuthbert’s .. Tip 4pm against Team Birmingham Elite.