

**2016/17 Game Report**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Team** | Newcastle Eagles Under 16 Boys | | | | |
| **Opposition** | Sheffield Junior Sharks | | | | |
| **Home/Away** | A | | | | |
| **Competition** | EBL Under 16 Boys North Premier | | | | |
| **Date** | 22nd October 2016 | | | | |
| **Score** | Newcastle Eagles | **39** | **V** | **79** | Sheffield Junior Sharks |

Report

After sealing back to back wins last week with a victory in the league against Trafford, the Eagles U16s were in high spirits for their trip to Sheffield. The away side were aware however that the Sharks would provide tough opposition, and after 40 minutes of hard play from both sides, this theory was borne out.

The Eagles started brightly with Cameron Wilson opening the scoring from outside the arc. This was followed by a strong finish inside for Jeremy Lievin and the away team found themselves up by 5 with only a minute gone. This was the only time in the game that the boys from Newcastle would lead however and after 4 minutes they found themselves down 13-7. Sheffield were doing a very good job of pushing the tempo of the game and this alongside some outstanding shooting from 3 point range meant the away side found themselves down 30-7 after the first quarter.

The Eagles would not give in however and despite losing by a large margin, the away side competed much better over the remaining three quarters. The second quarter would see a more composed effort from the Eagles and with fewer turnovers came fewer opportunities for the Sharks to score. The away side also did a better job of moving the ball on offence and led by 7 points in the quarter from Dan Ridley they only lost the second by 5 (18-13)(48-20).

The third quarter was much lower scoring for both sides. The Eagles defence did a better job of containing the basketball and this led to a number of good stops, late in the shot clock. The offence did however struggle at times to manufacture any good looks at the basket and with the Sharks rotating between zone and man-to-man the Eagles only managed to put 7 points on the board, finishing the quarter down 33 (12-7)(60-27).

Undeterred by the score-line, the Eagles would keep battling to the end but on the day they were just not good enough, allowing Sheffield to dominate in large spurts and turning the ball over too many times in key areas of the court. The game finished 79-39 to Sheffield (Q4: 19-12).

The Eagles will be looking to bounce back next weekend with two big games, firstly against Cheshire Wire in the League (at Home) and then on Sunday away to Manchester Giants in the Cup.

Scorers: Dan Ridley 17, Jeremy Lievin 10, Cameron Wilson 9, Sauveur Kande 3