

# behindtheglass

## Tonight's Teams

### University of Nottingham    Warwick & Kenilworth

Nick <b>Matthew</b>	Iker <b>Pajares</b>
Richie <b>Fallows</b>	Mahesh <b>Mangaonkar</b>
Adam <b>Auckland</b>	Daniel <b>Mekbib</b>
Lewis <b>Walters</b>	Nick <b>Wall</b>
Coline <b>Aumard</b>	Sarah-Jane <b>Perry</b>

**David Ross Sports Village**  
Beeston Lane, Nottingham NG7 2RD

If you are interested in supporting our University of Nottingham Premier Squash League team then please call 0115 748 7000 or email [christine.bailey@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:christine.bailey@nottingham.ac.uk)

Phone: 0115 748 7000  
Email: [sport@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:sport@nottingham.ac.uk)  
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ISSUE 03 / March 2019



University of  
Nottingham Sport

**University of Nottingham**  
vs Warwick & Kenilworth  
5 March 2019  
David Ross Sports Village



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# Get social with us



University of  
Nottingham Sport

## Welcome

Welcome to David Ross Sports Village for tonight's Premier Squash League action between University of Nottingham and Warwick and Kenilworth.

The University is delighted to be working in partnership with Nottingham Squash Rackets club and Toyota Nottingham to host tonight's Premier Squash League match. The University has a rich and proud heritage in squash with players such as Gawain Briars, Emma Beddoes and Peter Marshall graduating from the University.

The investment in David Ross Sports Village has reinforced our intent with squash following the creation of one

of only a handful of permanent all glass courts in the UK.

The University helps to provide a significant opportunity for young people to secure a world class education, alongside one of the most comprehensive higher education performance squash programmes in the country, and we hope this venture with the PSL will further embed our status as one of the leading Universities for squash in the UK.

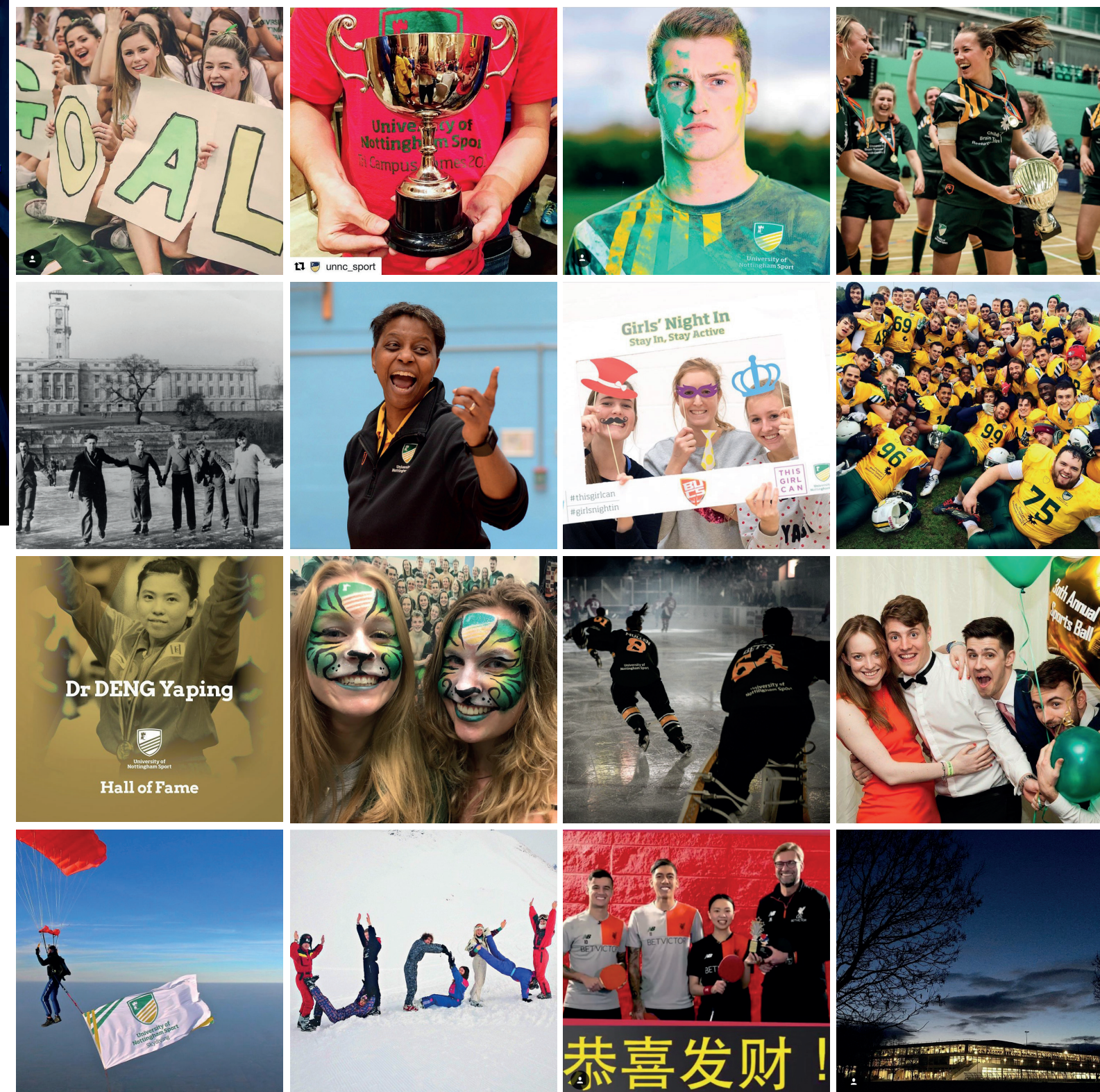


**Dan Tilley**  
Director of Sport  
University of Nottingham

We are delighted to welcome our friends from Warwick and Kenilworth this evening and hope that they enjoy playing David Ross Sports Village.

Finally, I would like to thank Toyota Materials Handling for their continued sponsorship of our Premier Squash League team.

I hope you all enjoy the action with us this evening.



f t i s @UoNSport



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# Standings

## Premier Squash League 2018/19

Northern Divison - A	P	W	L	TF	TA	GF	GA	Pts
Warwick/Kenilworth	7	6	1	25	10	54	32	72
Team Pontefract	7	5	2	19	16	43	38	58
University of Birmingham Lions	7	4	3	19	16	44	38	56
University of Nottingham	7	3	4	15	20	38	44	47
Northumberland/Newcastle	7	2	5	13	22	35	50	41
UWE /Elite Squash Bristol	7	1	6	14	21	37	49	40

Southern Division - B	P	W	L	TF	TA	GF	GA	Pts
Tradition @ RAC	7	5	2	25	10	55	32	70
Luxfords St George's Hill	7	6	1	24	11	50	33	68
Welsh Wizards	7	5	2	20	15	46	28	61
Coolhurst	7	3	4	14	21	35	46	44
Bexley	7	1	6	12	23	37	52	40
Chichester	7	1	6	10	25	31	53	34

University of Nottingham found themselves on the receiving end of a 5-0 defeat away to Pontefract in the last rounds of Premier Squash League action and will be looking to make amends this evening.

In the last round, tonight's visitors bounced back from their first defeat with a comprehensive 4-1 home win over UWE/Elite Squash Bristol. This strengthened their division lead as they opened up a 14 point gap between themselves and current second place Pontefract.


With two rounds to go and only the top two in each division going onto the semi-finals, WarKens have a good lead in the Northern Division with all other teams still in with a chance. The southern division looks to be between three, Tradition@RAC, Luxfords St Georges Hill and the Welsh Wizards.

## Friday's fixtures

### DIVISION A - ROUND 8

-  **Birmingham**  
vs **Bristol**  
8 March, 7pm
-  **Newcastle**  
vs **Pontefract**  
8 March, 7pm



-  **NEXT UP - ROUND 9**  
**University of Nottingham** vs  
**Birmingham**  
19 March, 7pm @ NRSC

# Interview

## with Adam Auckland

Injury has kept UoN Scholar Adam Auckland off court for long periods of this season, but after a successful period of recovery he is back in action tonight looking to get amongst the points.

University of Nottingham Sport Scholar, 26 year old squash star Adam Auckland has been a loyal Green and Gold competitor since he started his physiotherapy course with us.

Adam has spent most of the 18/19 season recovering from an injury but he is back to play in his second PSL fixture of the season. The last PSL fixture Adam played in was the first round against Northumberland where he confidently won 0-2 against Chris Wiggins. This contributed to Nottingham securing a 5-0 win to start the season.

In the summer of 2018, Adam was selected to represent Great Britain in the FUSI World University Team Championships. The team came home with a gold medal, after they beat silver medallists Malaysia.

**We caught up with Adam to find out more about here tonight's fixture and look ahead to what the rest of the season has to offer >>**

### What kind of challenge will Warkens bring this evening?

Warwick have a strong team all the way down the order so every match will be crucial in getting the win on the night! The talent on display in the league this season is first class and Warkens will present a serious challenge for us tonight but we are looking forward to it.

### How does it feel to be back playing in the premier squash league after recovering from an injury this season?

It has been a very long and frustrating 6 months but in the last month the hip has shown great progression and I can now play without any pain. This will be my first competitive match being completely injury free so I couldn't think of a better way to get back into it playing at home at the university in PSL!

### What is it like to be a full time student and play in the Premier Squash League?

I think studying alongside being a pro and playing in the PSL has given me the right balance and has definitely helped me improve as a player and also academically. It is great to compete in the same team as former world champ and world number 1 Nick Matthew and other pros!



#### NICK MATTHEW OBE

Otherwise known as 'The Wolf', Nick Matthew OBE first drew the squash world's attention when, in 2006, when he became the first English player to win the British Open men's title since 1939. From then on his career rocketed, seeing him reach World No.1 in June 2010 and winning both the British Open and the World Open three times. The British No. 1 has enjoyed an illustrious career which was crowned by an honour from Her Majesty the Queen of England who awarded Matthew an OBE in her birthday honours list in 2015. Having secured the Premier Squash league title last year as captain, Nick will be looking to repeat the feat in 2018.

#### DECLAN JAMES

Declan, who is originally from Nottingham, has been rapidly climbing his way up the world rankings reaching the top 20 this season for the first time. After a promising start to the year at the Tournament of Champions, Declan drew attention World No.1 Mohamed Elshorbagy, who named him "certainly one of the best young English players coming through. James is now the highest ranked player in England.

#### NICOLAS MÜLLER

Nicolas is firmly established as Switzerland's greatest player, being the only Swiss player ever to reach top 20 in the World rankings in 2012. He then reached a career-high of #17 in December 2014. In 2016, he reached the semi-final of the IG Open De Paris, where he narrowly lost out to Declan James over five games. He also reached the semi-final stage of the CCI International JSW ISC but was knocked out of the tournament by Mohamed Abouelghar over three games. Securing the Charlottesville Open Title in late September showed he's in strong form this season.

#### CHRIS BINNIE

Jamaican national Chris Binnie is the Jamaican and Caribbean top ranked player. With a career-high ranking of #72 from 2016, Chris won his 8th Caribbean championship title in August 2017 without dropping a game. Off the court, Chris is the Assistant Men's coach for the Trinity College Connecticut squash programme in the United States.

#### NOVEMBER PSA RANKINGS

#N/A	Nick Matthew
#20	Declan James
#25	Nicolas Mueller
#57	Richie Fallows
#131	Adam Murrills
#88	Chris Binnie
#65	Chris Hanson
#291	Adam Auckland
#294	Julian Tomlinson
#426	Lewis Walters
#404	Matt Broadberry
#34	Coline Aumard
#61	Hana Ramadan

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM TODAY'S PSL GAMES AT DAVID ROSS SPORTS VILLAGE

You can catch all the action from tonight and our other matches via our Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/uonsport](https://www.facebook.com/uonsport)





# Meet the Players

The University of Nottingham squad features some of the world's top squash players including former world number 1, Nick Matthew and University of Nottingham student's Coline Aumard and Hana Ramadan, both amongst the world's top 75.

The 2017/18 season came to postive end with the Team England selection of both Nick Matthew and Declan James for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games . Declan James returned home with bronze medal at his maiden games after finishing 3rd in the Men's Doubles with James Willstrop.

Here's a quick overview of some of the players who make up the University of Nottingham Premier Squash League team.

## HANA RAMADAN

Joining the PSA World Tour in 2011, Hana claimed her first World title in 2015 at the Brqthru Pharco Alexandria Open, breaking into the top 50 in the following year. Originally from Egypt, Hana now studies physiotherapy at the University of Nottingham and won the British Universities women's singles title in 2016 and 2017.

## COLINE AUMARD

Coline is one of the best French players on the world PSA Tour, with a huge year in 2014 where she lifted three tour titles. Coline went on to break into the World top 30 in 2016 and continues to rise up the rankings. Coline is also a current student at the University of Nottingham, studying for an MA in Education.

## CHRIS HANSON

Chris has swiftly climbed the world rankings since making his first PSA World Tour appearance back in 2010. Born in New York, Chris became the US National Champion at the end of the 2016-17 season as well as winning two bronze medals from the Pan American Championships so heads into the Premier Squash League season in top form.

## RICHIE FALLOWS

Richie is another of England Squash's top young players and is a former National and European Champion. He competed in the PSA World Tour for the first time aged only 17 in 2012 and has been a consistent presence ever since. This year saw him break the World top 60 after victory at the PSA Tour event in Toulouse.



*"I think studying alongside being a pro and playing in the PSL has given me the right balance and has definitely helped me improve as a player."*

## What are your hopes for the rest of 2019?

My goals are to stay healthy and injury free and to get back playing tournaments and hopefully finish the end of the season on a win. However, we have the semi finals of the BUCS against Birmingham next Wednesday so the full focus will be on that after tonight so having PSL is a great preparation to help sharpen me up for next week.

The team will be buoyed by the return of Auckland to bolster their squad as they head into the business end of the season. Adam will play third on the all-glass court tonight against Daniel Mekbib looking to secure a crucial point for University of Nottingham.

**Tonight's one to watch**  
**Adam Auckland**  
v Daniel Mekbib  
All-Glass Court, DRSV

**"This will be my first competitive match being completely injury free so I couldn't think of a better way to get back into it playing at home at the university."**



# THE VISITORS WarKens



Travelling from the West Midlands, Warwick look set to bring a strong side to David Ross Sports Village and the squad has been blessed with a number of internationals in their PSL team this season.

The University of Warwick and Kenilworth Squash PSL is currently leading at the top of the Northern Division. Warwick named a strong squad for the 18/19 season including recently named world number one Ali Farag, Raphael Kandra and Sarah-Jane Perry.

Warwick started the season strong winning the first 5 fixtures which comfortably secured them a top of the league place but in the 6th round they did suffer a defeat against Birmingham Lions. They bounced back from this in round 7 against UWE/Bristol Elite but will Nottingham stop them in their tracks tonight?

Last time Nottingham and WarKens met in this season the score for the evening was 4-1 after WarKens secured wins from home hero Sarah-Jane Perry and debutants Nick Wall, Daniel Mekbib and Iker Pajares. Until the final match where former world number 1, Nick Matthew salvaged the final point as he beat Raphael Kandra.

The ladies will be opening the evening at David Ross Sports Village with a competitive match between University of Nottingham postgraduate student Coline Aumard, current world no. 34 and WarKens, Sarah Jane Perry, and current world no. 8.

Sarah-Jane Perry won a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in 2018 and has been unbeaten in the Premier Squash 18/19 league so far.

The penultimate fixture for the evening hosts rising talent from Nottingham's Richie Fallows will be playing, current 64 rank Mahesh Manganar. Mahesh started 2019 causing a big upset on the PSA tour as he defeated number two seed Marwan ElShorbagy in straight-games in the second round of the CCI International PSA Silver tournament. Nottingham's Richie Fallows will also will be hoping for a win to start the week as he heads to the Canary Wharf Squash Classic this weekend to go head to head in the Wildcard Challenge against Josh Masters.

Closing the evening will be former world no. 1 Nick Matthews playing, Barcelona born, Iker Parjares Bernabeu. Iker will be hoping to stop the Wolf who remains unbeaten in the PSL league this season, it will also be Iker's second time playing in the no.1 spot for WarKens.

WarKens currently lie in 1st place of Division A in the Premier Squash League and will be hoping for a victory tonight against University of Nottingham to secure a place in the play-offs for the first time.

