

## sport

## Non-League Football

**Clapton have announced a new managerial trio of Halil Hassan, Glen Kendall and Paul Gissing ahead of the 2019/20 season.**

The management team have been appointed following the Tons 7-1 victory over Sporting Bengal United on the final day of the Essex Senior League.

They will take over the reins from Jonny Fowell who has moved onto pastures new by joining fellow ESL side St Margaretsbury.

Hassan and Gissing have worked together at Brimsdown FC, while Kendall was in charge at Leyton Athletic until midway through last season.

"We wanted to come to Clapton as we see it as an opportunity to elevate the club as we see big potential in Clapton as having their own ground," Hassan said.

"We were at Brimsdown in the Spartan South Midlands League for the last two and half years.

"Paul and I have been working together at Brimsdown, so we know each other well."

One of the managerial trio Hassan says he is excited to be back at the club after spending some time at The Old Spotted Dog during his playing career.

"The most exciting thing about managing Clapton is that it was a team I played for when I was 20, quite a few years ago as I'm going to be 49 now!" he said.

"Hopefully we can get as high in the league as possible but we'll give it all we've got."

The Tons are already preparing for next season and the new management has worked on putting together a pre-season schedule.

"Pre-season is all in place but we're in the process of contacting clubs and getting games pencilled in," said Hassan. "Once that's finalised we will put that out on social media."

Clapton ended Fowell's reign as boss in style after they thrashed Sporting Bengal United at The Old Spotted Dog on Saturday.

Brian Kyungu, Landre Vigo, Kirk McPherson, Ryan Reed, Giovanni Palmer, Greg Potts and Andy Greenslade all netted for the hosts to help them finish the 2018/19 season in 11th place.

It ended what has been a rollercoaster season for The Tons, with a number of players leaving.



Newham & Essex Beagles under-13 girls' relay squad.

## Young Beagles show their potential as they sprint home in super second place finish

## Athletics

**DAVE EVANS**

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**Newham & Essex Beagles made a superb start to their Youth Development League campaign with an excellent second place in their opening Lower Age Group match.**

The Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford was the venue for the match and it proved conducive to the Beagles sprinters who dominated the day.

In the end, they missed out on the win by just a single point to Lewes but there were a whole host of excellent performances.

For the under-13 girls, Karis Wilson was in fine form with individual wins in both the 75 metres with a time of 10.5 seconds and the 150m in 21.3.

Chenoa Acquah won the B 75m in 10.7.

Niniola Salmon-Alaran was third in the B 150m and was also fifth in the sprint hurdles and second in the B javelin.

Acquah won the long jump, with Wilson taking the B event, while Sharla Sullivan also collected plenty of points.

The sprint relay team of Sullivan, Acquah, Salmon-Alaran and Wilson were second.

Funbi Osunsami showed his potential in the under-13 boys with victory in the 100m in 14.0



Newham & Essex Beagles under-13 boys' relay squad.

seconds, the 75m hurdles in 15.5 and fourth in the B 200m.

Tobias Tinubo won the B long jump and added a couple of thirds, while Jon-Marc Nwosa won the 800m and was second in the high jump.

There were a couple of seconds for Christopher Thompson, while Ben Lane managed a second, a third and a fourth on the day.

Kevin-Jake Richardson, Eduard Tiris and Jayden Harlley all scored useful points.

And the relay team of Tinubo, Osunsami, Nwosa and Thompson won the sprint relay.

For the under-15 girls, Sarah Shoyelu-Armstrong did the sprint

double in style and was also third in the long jump,

Camille Cabral-Oluwole took the B 100m, while Chinazo Machie won the B 200m and was also placed in the long jump and shot.

Betty Agyeman won the hammer and was third in the discus.

Nia Manning won the 300m, while there were good points scored by Lauren Browne, Megan Price, Chloe Waterhouse and Freda Bullem.

Beagles also won both relays, the sprint by five seconds and the 4x300m by a whopping eight seconds.

The under-15 boys also managed some fine results.

Ossari Acquah did the sprint double, while Omari Watson and Jonty Walcott backed him up with wins in the B races.

Brothers Nathaniel and Noah Hanson had very busy and very successful days, while Louis Willson seemed to be picking up points all over the stadium, including second place in the pole vault.

In the relays, Watson, Walcott, Noah Hanson and Acquah stormed to victory in the 4x100m, while in the longer event, Willson, Oladokun and the Hanson boys finished second.

All in all an excellent day for Sarah Alexander's team and so close to a memorable victory.

**Result: Lewes 551; BEAGLES 550; Ashford 507.5; Orion 394.5; East Grinstead 328; Medway 215; Hastings 208.**

## sport

## Basketball

**St Bonaventure's bagged two Jr NBA titles after an impressive season for the year seven and eight teams.**

Both won their respective leagues before having successful play-off runs, seeing off the likes of Bishop Challoner, Oaks Park School and Chadwell Heath Academy to advance to the final four.

St Bons had made it to the year seven Jr NBA finals in four consecutive years, managing to win two and come third twice, but they made it a third title in their fifth outing.

They sealed a 41-18 victory over St Thomas Moore, who played as Toronto Raptors, in a thrilling contest.

In the final St Bons outclassed Holy Trinity (Dallas Mavericks) to win 62-4.

The year eight team were competing as Milwaukee Bucks in the first-ever year eight competition.

After a nervy start in their opening game against Wimbledon College (Atlanta Hawks) they sailed to victory with a 54-18 win.

They went on to face Kingsdale School (San Antonio Spurs) who were last year's semi-finalists.

The final game started well for St Bons with them taking an early 11-6 lead, but things slowed down midway through the first half as Kingsdale went on a 6-0 run.

St Bons would eventually gather their strength and eventually cruise to victory with yet another impressive win 45-23.

Stephen Onireti, basketball coordinator and coach, said: "Winning one Jr NBA title was nice but winning two in a space of two days was special. Not only that, defending last year's title is more rewarding."

"It has been a successful campaign, one that will go down in St Bons' sporting history."

\*Marc Mendoza and Noah Myers spent two days at the University of East London as Jr NBA ambassadors.

They mainly spoke about their Jr NBA experience and what it took to get selected for Jr NBA Europe camp.

Myers is looking to follow in Mendoza's footsteps as he jets over to the Jr NBA camp in Italy.

He will be hoping to make the top 10 players representing Europe in the Jr NBA Global competition in Atlanta USA in July.