



# PRESS RELEASE (for immediate publication)

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PAHC09/02

## **NOTTINGHAM LEAVE IT LATE TO WIN 'UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE'**

### **University of Nottingham HC 17 – 14 Manchester University HC**

The University of Nottingham Handball Club's Men's team won a low scoring, but action packed match against the league's other University team, Manchester, coming from behind to secure victory in the last three minutes. Manchester Uni opened their campaign at University Park sports centre – where they won last season – but left empty handed despite holding the lead for most of the match. Nottingham mounted a brave second half come back to thrill the home crowd and secure their second win of the new season.

Nottingham looked to have settled better early on, taking a 3-0 lead with the away team wasting the few opportunities they were allowed. The home side lost their composure after 10 minutes, however, as Manchester Uni scored 5 unanswered goals and then took a 10-6 half time lead. With both sides missing important players, it was a low scoring but highly competitive match and Nottingham bravely fought back in the second half. They looked to have thrown away their chance when they were reduced to 5 men late in the second half but somehow repelled the visitors' attacks to draw level at 14-14, 3 minutes from time. A late surge saw the home side celebrating a victory in a match which could easily have gone either way.

With several veterans of previous campaigns, Manchester Uni looked a settled side, if rather rusty following the summer break. Their majority of their goals came from the line position, with Castro (4 goals) and Hough (4) the top scorers. Nottingham on the other hand seemed to take more time to accommodate the new players, in only their second match together. They relied on brilliant play from the wings, with Cedric Biguenet (8) again the top scorer as well as several strikes from line players Ali Karakipirik (3) and Dana Muhammed (4).

Nottingham's season has started well with two wins out of two, narrowly defeating two teams who won last season's encounters. They hope to continue their record with a match against reigning North League champions Manchester Handball Club at Sutton Bonnington sports centre. The match promises to be another exciting contest, with the away team having already lost this season and the home team looking incredibly hard to beat. For more information, see [www.handballclub.co.uk](http://www.handballclub.co.uk)

**ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

The University of Nottingham Handball Club was established in February 1992 and is currently the only handball club in the East Midlands. The men's team are taking part in the National Division One North League in 2009/10.

The club trains on Tuesdays (9-10:30pm) and Thursdays (8:30-10:30pm) at Nottingham University Park Sports Centre. Training is open to students and guests, male and female, of all levels from beginners up.

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