

**News release**

4 March 2024

**Caledonia Gladiators Shoot Hoops in Skypark Fundraiser for**

**Hillhead High School**

**Hillhead’s rising basketball star Aymen Kraria will go up against Scotland’s basketball franchise Caledonia Gladiators as they compete at a Skypark fundraiser for Hillhead High School’s appeal for new basketball team strips.**

The pro basketball team, based at Playsport arena in East Kilbride, and Skypark have rallied together to spearhead a basketball fundraiser in support of the local school in the west end of Glasgow.

Aymen Kraria, who also plays for Great Britain Under 18s, will launch the fundraiser alongside players from the Caledonia Gladiators on 13th March at 2.30pm. The event will feature 'shoot the hoop' challenges for the aspiring young athletes, while Skypark tenants will also join the challenges to raise funds.

Rising star Aymen recently participated in the NBA’s Basketball Without Borders Europe Camp 2023 after he was spotted playing for Great Britain U17 Men’s basketball team.

**Commenting on the school teams’ success Aymen Kraria said:** "Hillhead High School has helped me throughout my whole career. The time that teachers and coaches have dedicated to supporting my development has been so important to reaching the level I have so far. As a school we have been very successful at a local and national level and won the U18 Glasgow League, U18 Glasgow Cup and Open Boys Scottish Cup last year. My goals are to continue to work hard and develop my skills to help me become a professional basketball player.

“I am really grateful for the opportunity presented by Skypark to compete against (and beat!) the Caledonia Gladiators and the funds raised by this will be really useful in helping younger players to also work towards reaching their goals."

**Jack Richardson of Hillhead High School said:** “Our fundraiser is great for our young players as it captures the spirit of basketball and bonds the team together. As a multicultural and diverse school, we work exceptionally hard to keep the cost of the school day as low as possible so all funds raised will make a huge difference. Basketball develops lifelong skills in our young players, and it is brilliant that we have the Gladiators and Skypark tenants getting behind our school”.

As well as competing in the British Basketball League and Women’s British Basketball League, the Gladiators also run community youth sessions across Glasgow and beyond, nurturing the next generation of talent.

**Lisa Palombo, Head of BBL (Women) and Community at Caledonia Gladiators said:** "We are delighted to be part of the Skypark and Gladiators Charity Challenge. Hillhead High School are great friends of the club and do fantastic work around school basketball. We hope this helps support their fundraising pursuit".

**Skypark’s Strategic Lettings Advisor, Angela Higgins of Resonance Capital, said**: “As well as rallying for Hillhead High, the event aims to foster a sense of community and pride, thanks to the help of the iconic Caledonia Gladiators. We hope that the event will boost the confidence of the young players, offer a fun opportunity for staff to break out, and support Hillhead High School.”

Image shows: Skypark Glasgow.

Visit [www.skypark-glasgow.com](http://www.skypark-glasgow.com/) and [www.facebook.com/skyparkglasgow](http://www.facebook.com/skyparkglasgow).

**ENDS**

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About Skypark**

Skypark is one of Scotland’s biggest and most vibrant business destinations comprising six buildings totalling 560,000 sq. ft. and a workforce of almost 4,000 people. It is home to over 50 businesses that reflect Scotland’s economic diversity and accessible to all the transport links, restaurants, and leisure facilities that Finnieston has to offer.

**Resonance Capital**

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