

PRESS RELEASE

More Than Basketball
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THE MORE THAN BASKETBALL HIGH SCHOOL SEASON TIP OFF IS BACK! BUT WITH A NEW HOME AND A GREAT CAUSE!

*After a two-year hiatus the annual event has relocated to the west coast with a loaded field!
The event is December 3-4, 2022, at Santa Monica College with doors opening at 2:30pm
Saturday and 1:30pm Sunday.*

[Los Angeles, CA] — In their first event since the pandemic More Than Basketball Founder/CEO Arize “Ace” Ifejika has announced the return of the More Than Basketball High School Season Tip Off. The 2-day event features six teams but with a new location and a new twist. For years Ifejika who is a Washington, DC native, had been running events in his hometown since 2009, but is bringing the event to Southern California matching three teams from the DMV area (DeMatha, St. Frances, Jackson Reed) to match up against three of SoCal’s best (Southern California Academy, Campbell Hall & Notre Dame of Sherman Oaks).

The event will also be used to raise funds to gift 10,000 kids with Christmas care packages that include but not limited to shoes, clothing, under garments, toiletries, skin care products, toys and games. Financial donation can be made via GoFundMe and PayPal on the event website (<https://morethanbasketballthebrand.com/socal-vs-dmv-1>) and product donations can be sent to...

MORE THAN BASKETBALL
1550 N EL CENTRO AVE
UNIT 504
LOS ANGELES, CA 90028

The star-studded event features several of the top teams and players in the country. The SoCal teams include Notre Dame of Sherman Oaks who has a pair of high major transfers in class of 2023 Duke commit Caleb Foster and 2024 Houston commit Mercy Miller who is also the son of Hip Hop Mogul Percy “Master P” Miller. Paired with 2023 Gonzaga commit Dusty Stromer, they will be a force to be reckoned with nationally.

Southern California Academy, who spent all of last year towards the top of the national rankings has retooled their roster with a bunch of high-level talent. They are absolutely loaded. From 2023 Providence commits Garwey Dual and Drew Fielder and 2023 Arizona State commit Braelon Green. With a national schedule and a passionate coach known in the basketball world as JuV look out.

Campbell Hall, who has a lost history of producing NBA talent including Jrue, Justin and Aaron Holiday is headlined by one of the biggest risers in the 2024 class Aaron Powell. The guard has racked up several high Division I offers and the list is growing. They also just received a high-level transfer with NBA lineage in Tanner Jones who is the son of NBA vet Dahntay Jones who is now coaching with the Clippers. They are deep and well coached and are expected to have a big season.

On the DMV side the biggest attraction is DeMatha Catholic. This storied program led by first year head coach Mike Jones may not boast the usual big names we're accustomed to, but they are a prideful group that will have the identity of their new coach and will compete and represent the DeMatha name the started with legendary coach Morgan Wootton to Mike Jones who left in 2020 to be the associate head coach of Virginia Tech to last years interim coach Pete Strickland. 2023 Isaiah Arnold (Augusta commit), Mason So (UNC Greensboro commit) and 2024 Malcolm Thomas, son of former NBA player Etan Thomas.

Jackson Reed, formerly known as Woodrow Wilson, has risen to national prominence the last 9-10 years and this year's team is not different. 2024 Rob Dockery is the name that rings out nationally but he's far from a one man show. Despite the loss of Virginia Tech commit Darren Buchanan, they return their core and have another year together on the national scene under 2nd year coach David "Tee" Johnson.

St. Frances out of Baltimore is the toast of Baltimore. The first al black Catholic school is a prideful group with a passionate coach who brings the best out his teams regardless of who's on the roster. But make no mistake, they have plenty of talent. 2023 shooting guard Jahnathan Lamothe is headed to Maryland next fall and his back court mate Carlton Carrington Jr is headed to Pitt. They also have 2025 Tyler Jackson who is only a sophomore has a slew of high major offers.

The event will be at Santa Monica College and doors open at 1:30pm each day. Several notable media members will be in attendance and Legit Stats will provide box score statistics. There will be raffles, games and giveaways.

All sponsorship and donation information as well as inquiries for media credentials, tickets, vendor space and general inquiries can all be found on the event website using the link below.

Event Website

<https://morethanbasketballthebrand.com/socal-vs-dmv-1>

Instagram promotional video

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CjOnREMoaeE/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY=>

Twitter promotional video

https://twitter.com/_morethanbball/status/1576990602729644032?s=46&t=TyraLp4l2lVzKOzQpGA49A

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