

# **NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The season so far.**

At the start of 2018 it seems an appropriate time to review the season so far. Pride of place would probably go the “Thunder” men’s team who currently sit proudly at the top of the Division 4 Midlands Conference with a Played 11, Won 9, Lost 2 record. Derby “Trailblazers II” are unbeaten but have played 3 games less and “Thunder” travel to Derby this weekend.

The club’s Junior Men occupied top spot in the West Midlands Conference for several weeks but came badly unstuck against Conference leaders West Bromwich Albion, a few weeks ago. The team relies heavily on just four players for most of their points something Coach Darjius Maldutis will be looking to address at the start of 2014 in an attempt to improve on their current 2<sup>nd</sup> position and Won 7, Lost 3 record.

The Cadet Boys (Under 16’s) are playing in a conference where the top three teams have all defeated Premier League opposition in the National Cup. The team is currently 5<sup>th</sup> in the Midlands West Conference with a Played 9 Won 5, Lost 4 record. For various reasons some key players were unable to play in the months leading up to Christmas and Coach John Collins is hoping to welcome those players back as the New Year gets underway.

The Club is currently rebuilding the girls programme and the Under 16 team is made up totally of two year players. Coach Janis Kosnikovskis’s team have won 3 of their 9 games to lie 4<sup>th</sup> in the North Conference and are confident of improving on that record in the second half of the season.

The future is looking bright for the younger girls’ team in the Club with no less than 30 Under 14 Girls currently registered. The National League team is very young and they have won just 2 of their 10 games but the commitment of the girls is very pleasing.

It’s a case of all the fives for the Under 14 Boys having won 5 and lost 5 games to stand 5<sup>th</sup> in the Midlands West Conference. Many of Coach Rob Crump’s team played their first competitive games this season so the ‘learning curve’ has been pretty steep but the improvement in the team since the start of the season has been impressive. Again, it is encouraging that with a squad of well over 20 many younger players are getting the opportunity to receive high level coaching and the these players will now play in the Northants *Hoopsterz* Central Venue League tournaments.

Some of the very youngest players in the Club also play in the *Hoopsterz* CVL and they are part of the Junior “Ballers” which boasts over 40 registered payers. These boys and girls are coached by qualified coaches supported by eight ‘helpers’ who are all players from within the Club.

The Club is always looking for new players of all ages and abilities. Any parents or players who are interested should contact Karen Goodrich, the Club’s Administrator for more information at [northantsbasketballclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northantsbasketballclub@hotmail.co.uk).

## THIS WEEKEND'S ACTION

### Saturday 6th January

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 9-30 am to 11-00 am | Junior "Ballers"                               |
| 11-30am             | Under 14 Girls versus Oaklands "Wolves"        |
| 1-30pm              | Junior Men versus City of Birmingham "Rockets" |
| 3-30pm              | Under 16 Girls versus Lancashire "Spinners"    |
| 5-50pm              | Cadet Boys versus N.E.B.C. "Titans"            |

**These games will be played at the Basketball Centre which is situated at Northampton School for Girls in Spinney Hill Road, Northampton**

**Spectators are welcome and admission is FREE**

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Senior Men travel to Derby "Trailblazers II"

**For more information contact: John Collins on 07801 533 151**