

NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB



PRESS RELEASE

Under 14 Girls Invitational Tournament a great success

Six teams from as far afield as Manchester and Southend participated in an Under 14 Girls Invitational Tournament staged at the Northants Basketball Centre last Saturday. The Northants club entered two teams in preparation for the new National League with older team recording two wins while the younger girls battled hard but failed to record win.

Northants	28-20	Brentwood	Lightning	14-40	Brentwood
Northants	25-38	Hounslow	Lightning	12-38	Hounslow
		Northants	26-10	Lightning	
Northants	11-53	Manchester	Lightning	7-46	Manchester
Northants	22-26	Southend	Lightning	16-44	Southend

The tournament was won by Manchester “Mystics” who won all five of their games with their only serious challenge coming from Hounslow “Hawks”; with Brentwood placing 2nd. In the last game of the tournament Hounslow and Southend were tied at 28 points each at the final buzzer. The two coaches settled for a draw the two teams finishing with identical records to tie 3rd place.

Tournament organiser Karen Goodrich pronounced the event a massive success with 65 girls enjoying the opportunity to play competitive basketball.

This Saturday it’s the turn of the Under 13 Girls with teams from Hounslow Manchester and Southend travelling to the Basketball Centre

Double loss for young Under 14 Boys team

Leicester “Warriors II” 66 – 63 Northants “Thunder”

The Northants Thunder Under 14 Boys travelled to Gateway College to face Leicester Warriors I and II in a triangle tournament. For many of the players suiting up this was their first experience of playing against teams who have competed in the National League.

First up for “Thunder” were the Warriors second string and this proved to be a close encounter which saw “Warriors” win the first quarter 16-14. “Thunder” displayed a strong appetite on offence in the second quarter, looking to capitalise on the fast break and eight points came from Ashley Kitchen as “Thunder” closed the gap. The Northants boys displayed lack of experience on the floor with moments and a lapse of concentration on defence allowed the Leicester team to nail a deep three to give them a 38-32 half time lead.

A more determined “Thunder” returned in the second half, with the team displaying a more promising defensive performance. This saw Thunder take a 46-42 lead midway through the quarter, however, some sloppy turnovers allowed “Warriors II” to regain the lead 54-50 to conclude the quarter.

“Warriors” dominated the fourth quarter and with a minute to go had opened up an eight point lead. “Thunder” put some pressure on the “Warriors” with an aggressive full court defence, whilst fouling to send “Warriors” to the line. The Leicester outfit did miss consecutive free throws but it was too late for “Thunder” to regain the lead.

Leicester “Warriors” I”

63 – 26

Northants “Thunder”

A fatigued Thunder faced an older and bigger “Warriors” side with the game proving to be a difficult challenge. This was evident in the opening stages of the first quarter with the “Warriors” storming into a double digit lead from which Thunder would never recover.

Despite trailing 41-11 at the half, “Thunder” did display a more confident performance containing the Warriors to 23 second half points. Despite back to back three pointers from Ashley Kitchen in the fourth the result was never in doubt as “Warriors” ran out comfortable winners.

Coach Crump commented “It pleasing to get the team on the floor and compete against National League opposition. Effort levels were high but on reflection from both performances, it is clear there are areas we need to work on to improve as a team. This will come with experience and hard work in practice.”

THIS WEEKEND’S ACTION

Saturday 23rd September

9-30am until 11.00am

Junior “Ballers”

11-30am until 5.00pm

Under 13 Girls Invitational Tournament

6.00pm

Senior Men versus Nottingham Trent University “Hoods”
(National Shield)

The tournament and Shield game will be staged at the Northants Basketball Centre which is based at Northampton School for Girls in Spinney Hill Road, Northampton

Spectators are welcome and admission is **FREE**

Sunday 24th September

Cadet Boys travel to Rutland “Thunders”

(National Cup)

Under 14 Girls travel to Bristol “Storm”

For more information contact: John Collins on 07801 533 151