

NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB



PRESS RELEASE

Young “Thunder” hang on to beat Nottingham Trent

National Shield Round 1

Northants “Thunder”

64 – 60

Nottingham Trent “Hoods”

The Northants senior men advanced to the 2nd Round of the National Shield after a battling win over the students of Nottingham Trent University. Work commitments and injuries forced “Thunder” to field a very young team and at one stage of the game had four players under the age of 20 on the court at the same time.

“Thunder” made an aggressive and effective start to the game jumping out to a six point lead and they maintained that lead to the end of the period thanks to a buzzer beating three-pointer from Matt Yates.

“Thunder” were rocked early in the second quarter by three, three-pointers against their match up zone forcing Coach John Collins to take a time out and make adjustments. The “Thunder” effort was hampered by an ankle injury to the influential Jacob Hold who left the game with 6 points and as many rebounds. Collins was forced to move young Ayo Oluyede to power forward but “Hoods” took the period 15-9 to tie the scores at 28 all at half time.

It was during the third quarter that “Thunder” fielded their young line up with Junior team member Zac Kitchen pairing up with Oluyede as the “Thunder” ‘big’ men. Midway through the quarter the Nottingham team took the lead 43-42 but then began to struggle against “Thunder’s” press turning the ball over on a number of occasions. A 10-5 run at the end of the period saw “Thunder” take a 52-48 lead going into the final ten minutes of play.

That lead was extended to ten points early in the fourth quarter thanks to back-to-back scores from returnee Jacke Wyatt. With the game seemingly won “Thunder” were rocked by two three pointers but responded by consecutive scores from Matt Yates. They were guilty of poor clock management but despite not scoring from the field during the final three minutes of the contest held on for a deserved win and a 2nd Round tie against Warwickshire “Hawks” who defeated Northants “Taurus”.

In the four point win the “Thunder” scoring was led by the Yates brothers with Johnny netting 20 points and Matt 16. “Thunder” coach John Collins was full of praise for Oluyede who contributed 10 points and Wyatt who playing his first competitive game for several years, hauled down an impressive 14 rebounds.

Cadet Boys exit National Cup at first hurdle

National Cup Round 1

Rutland “Thunders” 69 -68 Northants “Thunder”

The Northants cadet boys were dumped out of the National Cup by an enthusiastic Rutland “Thunders” team after an a close and exciting contest. “Thunder” had the chance to take the game into overtime when they were fouled when shooting a three-pointer just before the final buzzer sounded. The first two free throws were successfully converted but the third missed leaving the home side winners by 69 points to 68.

The game was nib and tuck over all four periods of play with “Thunder” struggling to contain Rutland guard Hickman and their big man Hibbitt. For the Northants team Adam Lewandowski and Patrick Adeji were their team’s main scoring threats.

The Northants coaching staff were disappointed that a clear Lewandowski three-pointer was only recorded as two on the score sheet and the possession arrow was changed by the referee at a very critical time near to end of the game.

In the one point defeat Lewandowski scored 26 points and Adeji 24 the rest of the “Thunder” team managing just 18 points between them. Coach John Collins was disappointed that his team shot so poorly from the free throw line and had failed to convert a number of offensive rebounds in the closing stages of the game.

Southend “Swifts” dominate Girls Under 13 Invitational Tournament

The Northants Basketball team welcomed teams from Hounslow, Manchester and Southend to the Basketball Centre for an Under 13 Girls Invitational Tournament. The Club fielded two teams meaning that 18 Northants girls enjoyed competitive basketball, some for the very first time.

Southend “Swifts” dominated the tournament winning all four of their games although they were seriously challenged by Hounslow “Hawks in the last game of the day winning by just one score.

The older Northants team only managed to win one game beating the club’s younger “Lightning” team but they could be proud of their effort against Hounslow only losing on the ‘golden basket’ rule after the game had ended at 10 apiece.

Tournament results:

Northants	14-28	Southend	Lightning	6-20	Manchester
Manchester	21-34	Southend	Lightning	8-32	Hounslow
Northants	10-10	Hounslow	Lightning	20-40	Southend
	(10-12)				
Northants	30-22	Lightning	Manchester	12-19	Hounslow
Northants	20-8	Manchester	Southend	24-22	Hounslow

Final positions:

1st	Southend “Swifts”
2nd	Hounslow “Hawks”
3rd	Manchester “Mystics”
4th	Northants BBC
5th	Northants “Lightning”

THIS WEEKEND'S ACTION

Saturday 30th September

9-30am until 11.00am	Junior "Ballers"
11-30am	Under 14 Girls versus Derby trailblazers
	Under 14 Boys Pres Season game
2-00pm	Under 16 Girls versus Derby "Trailblazers"
4-00pm	Junior Men versus Team Birmingham Elite II
6-00pm	Senior Men versus Derby "Trailblazers II"

These games 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**

Cadet Boys travel to Coventry "Tornadoes"

Sunday 1st October

4-30pm	Senior Men travel to Northants "Taurus" at Moulton College (National Cup Round 2)
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For more information contact: John Collins on 07801 533 151