**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Seven games for teams from the Northants Basketball Club last weekend with just one defeat and that when two teams from the club played each other.**

**Junior Men see off “Breakers II”**

**Under 18 Boys Midlands 2 Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 76 – 41 Milton Keynes “Breakers II”**

Despite missing four Moulton College based players who were playing in an international tournament in Italy the Northants junior men were able to record a convincing win over the Milton Keynes “Breakers” second string.

“Thunder” made a stunning start to the game with three decisive runs giving them 25 points to 12 lead after the first quarter. “Breakers” were able to stem the tide in the second quarter which “Thunder” edged 17-12 helped by the Milton Keynes’ team missing six free throws at the end of the quarter.

Trailing 24-42 at half time “Breakers” needed a good start to the third quarter but they were ‘torched’ by a

17-3 “Thunder” blitz which as good as ended the game as a contest. “Thunder” took the quarter 21-8 to extend their lead to 63-32 and despite an undisciplined final quarter closed out the game to win by a massive 35 points and consolidate their second position in the Midlands 2 Conference.

In the comfortable win nine “Thunder” players scored led by Benas Maldutis with 19 points good support coming from Rapolas Radavicius with 11.

**Under 14 Boys win a nail-biter**

**Under 14 Boys Midlands Conference**

**City of Birmingham “Rockets II” 67 – 68 Northants “Thunder”**

In the closing minute of this Midlands Conference game “Thunder” were trailing by three points at

62-65 when a 4-zero run gave them the lead by a single point. Things looked bad for “Thunder” when “Rockets” Guidamut was fouled and awarded two free throws but nerves got the better of the Birmingham player who missed both free throws but he grabbed the rebound and scored to give C.O.B. the advantage. With seconds of the game remaining “Thunder’s” Logan Tanner scored with a running ‘floater’ to give his team victory by a single point.

“Thunder” had made a good start to the game executing their half court offence well and took a 21-16 lead, after the first ten minutes of play, despite “Rockets” shooting well from the perimeter. The two teams traded baskets in the second quarter with the short-handed “Thunder” outfit beginning to look fatigued and at 36-31 in favour of “Thunder” at half time it was ‘game on’.

“Rockets II” were playing excellent basketball defying their lowly Conference position and an 11-zero run at the start of the third quarter gave them the lead. “Thunder” coach Brad Hughes called a time out and begged his team to dig deep and they did this by responding with an 11-4 charge of their own, but they still trailed

50-51 going into the final ten minutes of play and that exciting finish.

In the dramatic one point win Logan Tanner led the “Thunder” scoring with 20 points, Oliwer Andrzejczak, Cameron Ivienagbor, Alfie Serbyn, and Lewis Spacey supporting well with double point hauls. The win keeps “Thunder” in contention for the Conference title with just a single loss but they will reflect on the fact that C.O.B. missed no less than nine free throws in the fourth quarter.

**“Storm” and “Storm Too” dominate under 11 Tournament**

**YBL Under 11 Group A Tournament**

**Northants “Storm” 39 – 17 Northants “Storm II”**

**Northants “Storm” 60 - 17 Coventry “Tornadoes Blue”**

**Northants “Storm” 47 - 8 Coventry “Tornadoes White”**

**Northants “Storm II” 49 - 14 Coventry “Tornadoes White**

**Northants “Storm II” 44 – 20 Coventry “Tornadoes Blue”**

Coventry “Tornadoes Blue” 34 – 18 Coventry “Tornadoes White”

The hard work put in by the “Storm” Under 11 squad over the past few weeks paid off with both their teams beating teams from Coventry “Crusaders” with “Storm II” initially putting up a very determined performance before losing to the “Storm” first string.

Both teams played some excellent defence throughout the tournament as well as showing an ability to play offence at pace.

**CHRISTMAS BREAK**

Last Saturday’s games saw the conclusion of the Club’s activities for 2022 and there will be a break in all activities until 7th January 2023.

The Club’s Management Group, all the players coaches and team managers wish everyone

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