

NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB



PRESS RELEASE

Weather and “Riders” the winners

A combination of the inclement weather and a gas leak at Northampton School for Girls meant that all but one of last weekend’s fixtures had to be postponed

“Thunder” slip to third consecutive defeat

Men’s National League Division 4 **(Midlands Conference)**

Charnwood College “Riders” 102 – 93 Northants “Thunder”

For the second week running the Northants senior men were left wondering how they had managed to lose a game. The latest defeat the teams third in a row, at the hands of Charnwood College “Riders”, came despite a spirited fourth period rally which saw them put pressure on the Loughborough based team.

“Thunder’s”, Thursday practice had been called off because of the snowy weather and it showed at the start of Sunday’s game as “Riders” cruised into a 25-18 first quarter lead with “Thunder” looking lethargic and lifeless. Things didn’t improve much in the second period of play with “Riders” extending their lead still further. A time out from stand in coach Grahame Yates stirred “Thunder” into life and led by the efforts of Jacob Holt and Matt Yates they closed the gap to ten points at 40-50 at half time.

With the momentum having swung in “Thunder’s” favour the last thing the team needed was the half time interval and at the start of the third quarter the team returned to their previous bad habits and the “Riders” were able to regain control of the game. “Riders” took the period 29-25 to open up what appeared to be an unassailable 79-64 lead.

To their credit “Thunder” gave everything in the fourth quarter and with the lead decreasing there were a few nerves in the Charnwood camp. “Thunder” took the final period 29-23 but it was a case of too little too late as “Riders” held on for the 102 to 93 point win. In the hugely disappointing nine point loss, Holt and Yates led the “Thunder” scoring with 32 and 31 points respectively. No other “Thunder” player could score in double figures although Antonio Darkwa battled hard for his eight.

“Thunder” stay in fourth place in the Conference table and they face a stiff test this coming Sunday when they face Warwickshire “Hawks” a team they only narrowly defeated earlier in the season.

Weather 4, Basketball 0

Under 18 Boys National League
(Midlands Conference)

Northants "Thunder" versus City of Birmingham "Rockets II"

Under 16 Boys National League
(Midlands Conference)

Northants "Thunder" versus Shropshire "Warriors"

Under 16 Girls National League
(North Conference)

Lancashire "Spinners" versus Northants "Lightning"

Under 14 Boys National League
(West Midlands Conference)

City of Birmingham "Rockets II" versus Northants "Thunder"

A combination of hazardous travelling conditions and closed facilities meant that these four fixtures had to be postponed; they will be played at a later date.

Northampton School for Girls Primary School Initiative

This programme for girls in year 4,5 and 6 is completely free of charge and offers an opportunity for complete beginners to play basketball in a fun-based approach. The coaching is led by former England player Karen Goodrich assisted by players from the Northampton School for Girls under 16 team.

There will be three more sessions on Mondays 12th, 19th, and 26th March from 5pm until 6pm.

Any parent or teacher who would like more information should contact Karen Goodrich on kgoodrich@nsg.sch.uk or girls can just turn up with their kit.

THIS WEEKEND'S ACTIVITIES

Saturday 10th March

9-30 – 11-00am

Junior Ballers sessions

Under 18 and Under 16 Boys travel to West Bromwich Albion

Under 14 Boys travel to Worcester "Wolves"

Under 14 Girls travel to Bucks "Hornets"

Sunday 11th March

12.00 noon

Senior Men versus Warwickshire "Hawks"

This 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

For more information contact: John Collins on 07801 533 151