**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**

Logo

Description automatically generated

**PRESS RELEASE**

**A big weekend for the Northants Basketball Club with four teams playing in**

**YBL Play Off Finals**

As the 2022 / ’23 season draws to a conclusion four team from the Northants Basketball Club will be in action in the YBL Play Off Finals this Saturday with all four Finals being played at the University of Worcester.

The Northants “Storm” Under 11 Mixed team will take on Nuneaton “Predators” who like “Storm” are undefeated this season. “Storm” cruised through their Conference programme withdrawals meaning that they played two teams from Coventry “Tornadoes” and their own development team. In the Play Off semi-finals “storm” looked very impressive in beating West Bromwich Basketball but Coach John Collins is worried that his team’s effectiveness will be adversely affected because the Final will be played on an undersized court.

Like the Under 11 Mixed team the “Lightning” Under 13 Girls went through their Conference programme undefeated. They also played three ‘challenge’ games losing two of them to teams fielding over-aged players. Shropshire “Warriors”, “Lightning’s” opponents in the Play Off semis gave “Lightning” the game and in the Final the Northants girls will face Leicester “Riders” a team they have beaten on two occasions.

After beating Worcester “Wolves” in the semi-final thanks to a stunning second half performance the Northants “Thunder” Under 13 Boys will take on West Bromwich in this weekend’s Final. The West Midlanders are likely to be athletic opponents, but Coach Peter Dewsnap’s team can look back on a season when their only defeat came at the hands of a ‘friendly’ game against a very talented Milton Keynes “Breakers” team.

The Northants “Thunder” Under 15 Boys will face Birmingham “Bears” in their Final a team they shared games in the regular season losing by three points in Birmingham avenging this defeat by five points in the return fixture. A tight game is to be expected and Coach Whitney Bain’s team will be at their very best if they are triumph.

All in all, Saturday is likely to prove to be a day to remember for the Northants players, and coaches involved as well as their family and friends.

The Try Outs for the 2023 / ’24 squads attracted a large number of players. The Summer Programmes for the new squads will commence next week but if any boy or girls missed the Try Outs, they can still be seen and should contact Karen Goodrich on northantsbasketballclub@hotmail.co.uk

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTIVITIES**

**YBL Play Off Finals**

All four of these games will be played at the University of Worcester on **Saturday 13th May**

**10-30am** Under 11 Mixed Final Northants “Storm” versus Nuneaton “Predators”

**11-45am** Under 13 Girls Final Northants “Lightning” versus Leicester “Riders”

**4-15pm** Under 13 Boys Final Northants “Thunder” versus West Bromwich Basketball

**6-30pm** Under 15 Boys Final Northants “Thunder” versus Birmingham “Bears”

For further information on this Press Release contact: **John Collins** on 07801 533 151