**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**A successful weekend for the Northants Basketball Club**

**Five teams from the Northants Club were in action over the weekend and four of them picked up wins including the Junior Men maintaining their 100% record.**

**Easy win for Junior Men over Warwickshire “Hawks”**

**Under 18 Boys Midlands 2 Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 93 – 42 Warwickshire “Hawks”**

The Northants Junior Men made it three win from three National League starts with a convincing win over Warwickshire “Hawks”.

The two teams traded scores at the start of the game but a 10-3 charge and a brace of three pointers at the end saw “Thunder” take the first quarter 24-12 and this lead was extended to 43-21by half time. “Hawks” started the third quarter in spirited fashion opening with an 8-3 run but nine personal points from Benas Maldutis restored “Thunder’s” superiority. By the end of the quarter “Thunder” had established a commanding 62-34 lead and the game was over as a contest.

With “Hawks” looking tired a dispirited “Thunder” went on a fourth quarter scoring rampage led by Rapolas Radavicius, pouring in 34 points while “Hawks could manage just eight.

In the overwhelming win the “Thunder” scoring was led by Maldutis with 23 points while Jack Lemon, Ellis Phillips and Radavicius all scored in double figures

**Defensive effort helps Under 16 Girls open their season with a win**

**Under 16 Girls East Conference**

**Northants “Lightning” 49 – 34 Norfolk “Inceni”**

The Northants Under 16 Girls opened their season with a win over Norfolk “Inceni”. The victory was firmly based on a determined defensive effort in a low scoring encounter.

“Lightning” missed a lot of scoring opportunities in the first quarter and found themselves trailing 6-9 after the first ten minutes of play. “Lightning” played with a great deal more confidence in the second quarter and thanks to the efforts of Jennifer Oamen who scored 13 points in the quarter and Karly Osgood, took control of the game. The Northants girls won the quarter 18-5 to establish a 24-14 half time lead.

This lead was extended to 40-21 by the end of the third quarter with eight “Lightning” players contributing to the 16 points scoring during the quarter. “Lightning” were guilty of missing nine free throws in the fourth quarter and this was the main reason for them losing the quarter 9-13 but the final result was never in doubt “Lightning” holding on for the 15 points win, Oamen top scoring for “Lightning” with 15 personal points.

Ahead of this Saturday’s away game against Braintree “Blue Devils”, Coach Lee Meadows pronounced himself pleased with the all-round team effort but he won’t be pleased with the fact that his team missed 20 free throws.

**Under 14 Boys breeze past “Hawks”**

**Under 14 Boys Midlands Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 64 – 47 Warwickshire “Hawks”**

The Northants Under 14 Boys picked up a comfortable win over Warwickshire “Hawks” but will be reflecting on the number of scoring opportunities they failed to convert.

“Thunder” won all four quarters of the game but their overall performance was not as impressive as it should have been. “Thunder” defended well and dominated the rebounding battle when “Hawks” missed shots but were guilty of failing to score from the ensuing fast breaks.

In the comfortable win Logan Tanner top scored with 22 points, good support coming from Cameron Ivienagbor and Elijah Badero who both made double figure contributions

The win makes it two out of two for “Thunder” and seem to have successfully made the transition from YBL to National League play but against better teams they will not get away with missing so many easy scores

**Another ‘tough day at the office’ for Under 14 Girls**

**Under 14 Girls North 2 Conference**

**Encon Derbyshire “Arrows” 70 – 48 Northants “Lightning”**

The young Northants Under 14 Girls travelled to Dronfield last Sunday and suffered a 22 points defeat at the hands of Econ Derbyshire “Arrows”. A poor third quarter which “Lightning” lost by 7 points to 23 was almost totally responsible for the loss. During this quarter the inexperience of the “Lightning” players was exposed and they were guilty of turning the ball over on a number of occasions.

In the other three quarters “Lightning” were competitive with “Arrows” only holding a three point lead at half time and only14-11.

For “Lightning” Jennifer Oamen scored 20 points with good support coming from Campbell Spatcher with 11 points.

**No problem for Under 13 Boys against “Hoops”**

**Under 13 YBL East Conference**

**Oxford “Hoops” 19 – 93 Northants “Thunder”**

The Northants Under 13 Boys opened their YBL season with an impressive 74 points win at Oxford “Hoops”.

After a slow start which “Thunder” took 12-7 they started to dominate the game in the second quarter thanks to the effectiveness of their fast break based on the relentless rebounding efforts of Luca Garrett, Osagie Efosa, and Jowell Stiete-French. “Thunder” won the second quarter 22-4 to establish a 34-11 half time lead.

“Thunder” continued to dominate the game in the third and fourth quarters with strong performances in the back court from Freddie Schryver, Sam Dominici and Jerome Maroodza which created numerous scoring opportunities while determined defence limited “Hoops” to just eight second half points.

In the overwhelming win forward Oliver Casey scored 21pts including 10 pts from the free line with excellent support coming from Dominici, Efosa and Garrett.

Coach Pete Dewsnap was pleased with the win and commented, "The team have a lot to learn and improve on, but this was an encouraging start"

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTIVITIES**

**Saturday 22nd October**

**NO “BALLERS” SESSIONS**

Under 16 Boys travel to Coventry Elite

Under 16 Girls travel to Braintree “Blue Devils”

**Sunday 23rd October**

No games

**There are no home games this weekend**

For further information on this Press Release contact:

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