**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**



**PRESS RELEASE**

***It was a busy weekend at the Northants Basketball Centre with five teams from the Northants Basketball Club playing and collecting three wins between them.***

**Junior Men hit a ton against short-handed Giants**

**Junior Men’s North 2 Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 105 – 70 Mansfield “Giants”**

The Northants “Thunder” Junior men made it back-to-back wins with a comfortable victory over a short-handed Mansfield “Giants”. “Thunder” netted ten three-pointers and topped the ton with no less than six of their players scoring in double figures, but they can’t be very happy to have conceded 70 points to a team with just six players.

The game was as good as over as a contest after the first quarter as “Thunder” charged into a 31-17 lead which was extended to 56-35 by half time. After a sluggish third quarter it was business as usual in the fourth as “Thunder” moved to 3 and 2 in the North 2 Conference.

**Poor third quarter costs “Thunder” Under 15 Boys dear**

**Youth Basketball League Under 15 Boys Primis**

**Northants “Thunder” 47 -51 Leadonites**

Leading 32–24 with just four minutes of the third quarter played “Thunder” were then outscored 19-4 over the next sixteen minutes as Leadonites took an unexpected lead into the final quarter. “Thunder” battled hard in the remaining ten minutes but were guilty of missing a number of easy scores as they slipped to a disappointing four point defeat.

After a first quarter where both teams found scoring difficult “Thunder” outscored their opponents 18-15 in the second to take a narrow 23-21 half time lead. Then after a positive start to the third quarter they hit the slump that was to prove decisive and with key players in foul trouble were unable to close the gap.

For “Thunder”, Thomas Bates scored 18 points but none of his team mates could get into double figures.

The Northants boys will have the chance of early revenge as they travel to Herefordshire this coming weekend

**Blank weekend for Under 14 Girls**

**Under 14 Girls Midlands Conference**

**Northants “Lightning” versus Daventry “Swifts”**

“Swifts” forfeited this game because they were unable to raise a team.

**Under 14 Boys hammered by “Titans”**

**Under 14 Boys East Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 31 – 96 NEBC “Titans”**

The “Thunder” Under 14 Boys came a distant second when they took on a talented NEBC “Titans” team at the Basketball Centre last Sunday. From the outset “Titans” were able to impose themselves defensively restricting “Thunder” to single figures for the first three quarters of the game. That defensive pressure forced a number of turn-over and easy scores as “Titans” built up a 50 points to 11 half time lead.

To their credit the inexperienced “Thunder” team never gave up and battled hard to the end with their guards Alex Bot and Kane Young able to penetrate the “Titans” defence on a number of occasions. “Thunder” were able to enjoy a small victory as they prevented “Titans” reaching a hundred points and they will hoping to restore some confidence when they travel to Cambridge “Cats” on Saturday.

In the game against “Titans”, Young with ten personal points was the only “Thunder” player able to score in double figures.

**Under 14 Boys ‘B’ team lose in overtime**

**Under 14 Boys East Regional League**

**Northants “Thunder Too” 43 – 46 Braintree “Blue Devils”**

 **(41-41)**

Trailing 38-41 with just seconds remaining to play Osagie Efosa launched a speculative three-pointer which crashed off the backboard and into the basket to tie up the scores and send the game into overtime. By this time Braintree had been reduced to just four players but “Thunder’s” two most experienced players Mylo Isaac and Seth Wilborn had also fouled out of the game. In the event the task proved too big for “Thunder Too” and they were outscored 5-2 in overtime to slip to a 43-46 defeat.

Throughout the game both teams found scoring difficult and the Northants boys found themselves adrift 15-22 at half time after missing no fewer than eight free throws in the second quarter. A solid third quarter saw them battle their way back into the contest before Efosa’s dramatic buzzer beater and the disappointing period of overtime.

**Tanner the star as Under 13 Boys go two and zero**

**Under 13 Boys Youth Basketball League**

**Northants “Thunder” 68 – 41 Warwickshire “Hawks”**

The “Thunder” under 13 boys made it two wins on the bounce with a comfortable 27 points win over Warwickshire “Hawks”. The win was based on two excellent quarters of basketball with “Thunder” outscoring their opponents 45-19 in the combined first and third quarters with the Northants boys combining excellent defence with some up-tempo offensive basketball thanks to Wilson Carr and Tyreese Dumbuya.

Coach, Steven Matthews will be pleased to see eight of his players contributing to the final total led by Logan Tanner with a 25 point haul with Baxter Reading and Elijah Badero both scoring in double figures the latter also rebounding superbly.

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTION**

 **Saturday 13th November**

 **9.30 am – 10.30am** “Budding “Ballers”

 **9.30am – 11.00am** “Junior Ballers”

Under 12 Mixed team travels to North Herts “Knights”

 Under 13 Boys travel Bournville

 Under 14 Boys ‘A’ travel to Cambridge “Cats”

 Under 15 Boys travel to Leadonites

 **Sunday 14th November**

 Junior Women travel to City of Leeds

 Under 16 Boys travel to Nottingham “Hoods”

For further information about this Press Release contact ***John Collins*** on **+44 7801 533151**