**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**



**PRESS RELEASE**

***A busy day at the Basketball Centre last Saturday became less busy when the Daventry “Swifts” Under 16 Boys left the building claiming they weren’t given enough time to warm up. On either side of this debacle the Junior Men and Under 14 Boys both suffered losses.***

**Junior Men fall just short of beating “Dynamite”**

**Junior Men’s North 2 Conference**

**Northants “Lightning” 61 – 67 Leicester “Dynamite”**

When Ellis Phillips drained his second three-pointer of the quarter and Benas Maldutis converted one free throw to give “Thunder” a 58-56 lead with less than five minutes of the game remaining it looked as if they might complete a tremendous comeback win, but it was not to be. “Dynamite” was able to regroup and an 11-1 run saw them clinch a 67 points to 61 victory. During the last five minutes of the game “Thunder” were guilty of committing all the errors they had displayed earlier in the game rushed shots and appalling boxing out allowing their opponents to score too many points through put backs.

Earlier those errors had seen “Thunder” narrowly outscored in the first three quarters of the game going into the final quarter trailing 43-52 then came the four minutes of magic which saw them take the lead only to end the game in disappointing fashion.

**Under 16 Boys are kept waiting**

**Under 16 Boys East Midands Conference**

**Northants ”Thunder” versus Daventry “Swifts”**

This game was not played because the Daventry team claimed they were not being given enough warm up time so left the sports hall. The outcome will be decided by Basketball England

**Under 14 Boys suffer another heavy loss**

**Under 14 Boys East Conference**

**Northants “Thunder A” 33 – 88 Milton Keynes**

For the third week running the Northants “Storm” Under 14 Boys ‘A’ team faced one of the top teams of the East Conference and for the third time they came out second best.

Against a powerful Milton Keynes outfit “Thunder” showed they were able to compete matching the visitors during the first quarter thanks to some feisty defensive play. Unfortunately they weren’t able to maintain this intensity over the next three quarter and were guilty of missing easy shots and committing a lot of careless errors.

In the heavy defeat Alex Bott was the only “Thunder” player to score in double figures but Coach David Young was pleased with the rebounding of Harry Dutton, Kamil Jazwinski, and Ted Osborne.

**Youth Basketball League**

**Under 11 Mixed Central Venue Tournament**

 **Abingdon “Eagles” 22 – 36 Northants “Storm”**

 **Coventry “Tornadoes” 60 – 23 Northants “Storm”**

The Northants “Storm” Under 11 team battled their way through the A45 road works in Coventry to play their first Central Venue Tournament.

Their first game was against Abingdon “Eagles” who had suffered a heavy loss against Coventry “Tornadoes”

But having already played a game had a definite advantage against “Storm”. For many of the Northants players it was their very first organised game, and they took some time to relax and play to their full potential. They were also handicapped by the half-court defence rule which prevented them from pressurising the ball.

Traling after the first quarter of play “Storm” settled down in the following three quarters eventually winning by 36 points to 22.

With two very tall players “Tornadoes” were always going to be a handful and so it proved and with “Storm” once again prevented from playing their preferred full court defence the Coventry team dominated play close to the baskets. “Storm” battled manfully but were guilty of some very poor shot selection allowing “Tornadoes” to rebound and launch fast break attacks.

Coach John Collins was generally pleased with the way his team had performed and commented, “The boys and girls will with have learnt a lot from this tournament and I am confident we will continue to improve.”

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTION**

 **Saturday 27th November**

 **9-30 am to 10-30am** “Budding “Ballers”

 **9-30am to 11-00am** “Junior Ballers”

**There are no home games at the Basketball Centre this weekend**

 Under 12 Mixed team travels to Cambridge “Cats”

 Under 16 Boys travel to Leicester “Warriors II”

 **Sunday 28th November**

 Under 15 Boys travel to West Bromwich Albion

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