**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**



**PRESS RELEASE**

**Stunning second half gives Cadet Boys victory over “Warriors II”**

**Under 16 Boys East Midlands Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 92 -38 Leicester “Warriors II”**

After establishing a 42-22 lead with two minutes of the second period remaining “Thunder” were guilty of committing a number of unforced errors leading to “Warriors” embarking on an 8-zero run to close the gap to 42-30 at half time.

The message to the team at half time was very simple “Maintain your concentration and execute”, and the team certainly took this message on board. From the second minute of the third period to the close the “Warriors” second string were kept scoreless while “Thunder” poured in 26 points establishing an unassailable 72-32 lead going into the final ten minutes of play.

“Thunder” duly completed their second Conference win of the season with their scoring led by Tom Greenfield and good support coming from Dylan Dominici, Ashley Kitchen and Benas Maldutis while Fareed Issifu made a promising debut after the late arrival of his international clearance.

**Under 14 Girls too strong for “Royals”**

**Under 14 Girls South Conference**

**Northants “Lightning” 67 – 45 Winchester “Royals”**

The “Lightning” under 14 girls recorded their second Conference win of the season with a convincing win over Winchester “Royals”. “Lightning” put together three solid periods of play based on some tough defence which restricted “Royals” to just 29 points while scoring 57 points themselves.

They weren’t able to maintain their level of performance in the final period of play which “Royals” edged 16-10 but the final result was never in doubt and if the “Lightning” girls hadn’t been guilty of missing a massive 20 free throws the winning margin would have been much larger.

In the 22 points victory all ten “Lightning” players contributed to the scoring led by Brooke Leo with good support coming from Aishia King and Latisha Betsy.

**Under 14 Boys far too strong for “Warriors II”**

**Under 14 Boys Midlands East Conference**

**Northants “Thunder” 120 – 35 Leicester “Warriors II”**

Leicester “Warriors II” arrived at the Basketball Centre with just six players and were ‘put to the sword’ by a rampant “Thunder” team who with the exception of the third period totally dominated proceedings despite having to resort to half court defence, not running fast breaks and making a number of passes before shooting.

In the overwhelming win no less than eight “Thunder” players scored in double figure and while the team’s undefeated start to the season is pleasing they need to accept that there are more testing challenges to come.

**Basketball Centre to host Great Britain team**

Next Sunday the Northants Basketball Centre will welcome the Great Britain Maxis teams for one of their Selection sessions.

Last summer the Maxis 50+ team claimed a very creditable 4th place in the FIMBA World Basketball Championships in Finland and they will be looking to do even better in next summer’s European Championships to be staged in Malaga, Spain.

Trying out for the 40+, 45+ and 50+ teams will be several players who graced the British game for a number of years.

Northants Basketball Club administrator, Karen Goodrich commented, “We are delighted to welcome the Maxis to Northampton and help them in their preparation for the European Championships”

Team GB Maxis representative, and former international player, Sadie Mason MBE said, “GB Maxis really appreciate the supports offered by Northants Basketball Club, in enabling us to prepare and select the best female masters teams possible ahead of what we expect to be a very challenging European Championships in 2020.”

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTION**

**Saturday 19th October**

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

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

 **11-00am to 12-30pm** “Ballers” Academyand Under 12 Girls

  **1-00pm “**Lightningstorm”Under 14 Girls versus London “Thunder”

 Under 12 Boys versus Leicester “Warriors”

 **2-15pm** London “Thunder” versus Sussex “Storm Blue”

 Leicester “Warriors” versus City of Birmingham

  **3-30pm** “Lightningstorm” Under 14 Girls versus Sussex “Storm Blue”

 Under 12 Boys versus City of Birmingham

The “Ballers” sessions and the three games will be staged at the Basketball Centre which is situated at Northampton School for Girls in Spinney Hill Road, Northampton NN3 6DG

Spectators are welcome and admission is **FREE**

“Thunderstorm” Under 16 Boys Regional team travel to Southend to play Southend

and Barking & Havering

**Sunday 20th October**

 **10-00am to 4-00pm** Great Britain Maxis Practice and Selection Session.

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