

04th March 2019

Everyone at St Colms would like to offer our congratulations to Sophie Moore on making the final cut of 16 players on the Irish U16 team. This achievement is well deserved, as Sophie puts in a huge amount of her time and effort in improving her game.

Sophie helped her U16 team mates reach two championship finals in the past two weeks. The girls had a close encounter with Cobh in the Cork Championship before running out narrow 40-36 winners to reach the Cork Championship Final. They followed that up with a 13 point win over a determined Springfield side to reach the North Munster Final.

Our U12 girls became the second team within the club to reach the North Munster Finals this week after a highly competitive semi final against Springfield.

Matches between these two sides have been highly competitive affairs this season and little separated the sides again at the end of the first quarter with our girls just shading it on a 5-4 score line. Grainne Culbert had a big impact on this game in the second quarter scoring 8 points to help establish a 17-10 interval lead. The girls relaxed a little bit in the second half which allowed them to play with a bit more control. They gradually built on their lead to run out winners on a 35-22 score line. Top scorers for the girls were Grainne Culbert 10, Grace Liston 8, Sarah Jane Murray 4 and Ruth O'Connell 4.

Our U14 girls continued their rich vein of form with another solid win in the Cork league. They proved much too strong for a Fr Mathews team that have shown considerable improvement since the reverse fixture in December. However, our girls have also made huge strides as the season has progressed. It was great to see a wide spread of scoring, with 9 of the players on show, getting on the scoresheet. Top scorers for the girls were Amy Buckley 16, Nofeesat Muniru 10, Alana Moran 10, Melissa Do 8 and Kate Barry 8.

Our U18 girls had a tough ask in their Cork League game against Brunell. The girls were competitive up to half time with only one point separating the sides. However a full court press in the third quarter coupled with fatigue allowed Brunell open up a sizable gap which our girls could never bridge.

Its a busy week ahead for our U16 and U14 girls.

Our U16 girls have a double header of games in the Cork League taking on Midleton and Fr Mathews and will hope to consolidate their position at the top of the league.

Our U14 girls have a North Munster league game against Morning Star, followed by a Cork league game against Ballincollig and finishing up with a North Munster cup game against Celtics.

Best of luck to all the girls.

1 MARCH 2019

Our U14 girls qualified for the AICCs to be held at the end of the month. Qualification was achieved with an away win against Morning Star in the North Munster league. The girls opened up a 12-0 first quarter lead and were never troubled thereafter in a comfortable win. There were good performances by Ciara Downey, Aoife Brown and Anna Zundel in a solid team effort.

The following day, the girls were in Cork league action against Ballincollig. The girls knew that a home win would set up a winner take all clash against Bantry next month. This was quite a competitive affair in the first half with the teams all square at 16 points apiece. The girls could not be happy with their first half performance as they gave away too many fouls and failed to convert some easy scoring chances. The girls showed considerable improvement in the second half. They showed much more intensity in defence and the scores began to flow. In the end the girls had 13 points to spare in a 44-31 win.

Top scorers for the girls were Amy Buckley 20., Aisling Downey 8, Nofeesat Muniru 8 and Kate Barry 5. There were good defensive performances by Ava O' Halloran and Hannah Hehir.

Our U16 girls had also a busy weekend with two games in the Cork League. The girls faced Midleton on Saturday and opened up a commanding 19-8 first quarter lead. Both sides scored 10 points in the second quarter as our girls continued to control the game. The game came to a halt midway through the third quarter when one of the Midleton players suffered a dislocated shoulder. Our club would like to wish Lisa a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her back in action in the future. Midleton conceded the game with the score 31-22 in favour of our girls.

The girls were back in action against Fr Mathews the following day. This game was over as a real contest at the interval as our girls held a commanding 33-12 lead. The second half was all about squad rotation as the girls eased to a comfortable 55-39 win. The highlight of the game was the scoring accuracy of Abbie Pigott who finished the game on a game high 28 points despite sitting out a large period of the game. Others to play well were Julia Cunneen, Bronagh Dollard and Jana Zundel. Both wins keep the girls top of the Cork league.

25 MARCH 2019

Last weekend was North Munster Finals weekend and the club was well represented with four of our teams in action.

Our U14 and U16 girls came out on top in their finals while our U12 and U18 girls unfortunately fell at the final hurdle.

Our U16 girls got the weekend off to a great start with a solid win over Limerick Celtics. The girls were completely on top in the first quarter and led by 20-4 with Jana Zundel leading the scoring stakes.

Sophie Moore hit a three pointer on the buzzer to cap a great first quarter performance. Jana Zundel got into some foul trouble early in the second quarter which helped Celtics come back strong. Our girls settled back down to establish a comfortable lead at half time. All the bench players made telling contributions and each and every player got on the scoresheet. This was a great squad effort which was very pleasing to the coaches Dorothy and Emily Kavanagh.

Three of the U16 girls played up with their U18 counterparts in the U18 final later that evening. The girls acquitted themselves well for large periods of the game but could not cope with the height advantage that Celtics had inside. Most of the girls will be underage again next season and there are high hopes that this squad will be to the forefront of top level basketball next season.

Our U14 girls had a great tussle with old foes UL Huskies in their U14 final. The first quarter ended 6 pts apiece as both sides showed signs of nerves in front of a sizable crowd. UL Huskies got on top in the second quarter to open up a 8 point lead before some late scores by our girls had the deficit down to 5 points at the interval. However our girls have gained great experience over a long campaign and this stood them in good stead as they went about their business in the second half. Good defence

allowed UL Huskies only 5 points while improved options in offence helped the girls score 15 points to lead going into the final quarter 29-24. The girls were well on top now and closed out a memorable win 44-32. This win was just reward for a hardworking group of girls who have showed huge improvement over the season.

14 girls were rotated in the U12 Final to give this young squad some big game experience. With a significant age and experience gap between both sides in this final, it was always going to be a big ask for our girls to win. The girls were competitive up to half time but lost their way a little in the second half as their inexperience told.

However this group of girls are great ambassadors for the club and work their socks off in training. Rewards for their hard work will surely follow.

Up next week are the senior ladies teams who face each other in the North Munster league while our U16 girls are in Cork league action way to Skibbereen.

And its a big weekend for the U14 girls who travel to Gormanston to compete in the AICCs.. Best of luck girls.

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