

11 FEBRUARY 2019

It was a week of mixed emotions for our U14 girls last week. They lost their long unbeaten record when they lost out in a titanic Cork championship game against Bantry. However they were soon back to winning ways in a North Munster league encounter with UL Huskies.

The game against Bantry was one that could have gone either way. Bantry led at the end of the first quarter 7-5 but a strong second quarter performance led by Amy Buckley had our girls ahead at the interval 18-16. The third quarter was basket for basket, with the girls holding the slenderest of leads 29-28 going into the final quarter. The intensity and importance of the game was evident with a high foul count against both sides. It was inevitable that some players were going to be fouled out. Nofeesat Muniru followed one of the Bantry girls when she was fouled out very early in the final quarter. The girls seemed to get over this setback as they put themselves in a winning position by opening up a 5 point gap. However one minute of panic turned this game on it's head . The girls lost their way for that one minute and gifted Bantry 8 quick points. Despite a late rally by our girls, Bantry held out to be deserving winners on the night 46-42.

Amy Buckley had a huge game for the girls scoring a game high 30 points.

Saturday saw all our underage teams take on UL Huskies in the UL Arena.

The U10s were first up and put on a great display of basketball to entertain a big crowd of Moms and Dads. All players are showing great improvement with the skill levels rising noticeably week to week.. The team was Cliodhna, Blaithin, Eabha, Robyn, Tiegan, Laura, Niamh, Kate O'B, Kayla and Samanta.

Our thanks to UL Huskies for such a sporting game.

Finally all the U10s would like to wish Roisin a speedy recovery as she has been ill for the past number of weeks.

Following the disappointment on Thursday night, the U14 girls had a quick opportunity to get back on track in their North Munster game against Huskies. The girls had lost to UL by 14 points back in October, so they faced a big ask in this game. Not alone did they need to beat UL, but they also needed to win by more than 14 points to seal their place in the AICCs in April. The first quarter was a cagey affair with neither side able to dominate. UL led by a point. The girls really upped their performance in the second quarter to lead by 10 at the interval, 20-10. The girls really upped their defensive intensity in the second half. They cut out any second chances for UL and restricted the home side to only 8 points in the second half. The girls kept working the scoreboard on the offensive end to run out comfortable winners on a score line of 38-18.

This performance shows the huge strides this panel of 16 players have made over the season. There is great competition for places with the girls pushing each other at each training session.

Top scorers for St Colms were Amy Buckley 12, Nofeesat Muniru 10 and Alana Moran 4.

Our U12 girls faced UL Huskies missing a number of players through illness. Nevertheless the girls proved too strong to win all 4 quarters and close out the game comfortable 28-16 winners.

Top scorers for the girls were Grace Liston 12, Grainne Ni Cholbaird 6 and Sarah Jane Murray 4.

Our U16 girls rested a number of their front line players against UL which allowed a number of the younger U15 players to get some game time. Our girls showed their match experience by completely dominating this game against the home side. The girls raced into a 17- 3 first quarter lead and were never troubled thereafter winning out 52-20.

Top scorers for the girls were U15 players Abbie Pigott 19 and Susannah Holland 12 with Meabh Brown scoring 9.

Earlier in the week, our U18 girls recorded a comfortable 74-40 win away to UL Huskies in the North Munster league. Both sides fielded a number of their U16 players in the game. However there was a big gulf in game experience between both sets of players.

Top scorers for the girls were Sophie Moore 23, Amy Higgins 14 and Jody O' Halloran 11.

Next week our U16 girls play Cobh in the semi finals of the Cork Championship, with our U14s heading down to Cork to take part in the U14 Johnny Murphy Tournament. Best of luck to the girls.