

22nd September 2014

St Colms hosted a pre season tournament last Saturday with invited teams from Kerry, Cork, Tipperary and Limerick participating.

This was an ideal opportunity for both our senior teams to get some games under their belt ahead of the new basketball season.

Both St Colms teams topped their pools with some impressive performances.

After the pool stages the semi final pairings were Saints v Ballincollig and Scholars v UL Huskies.

The Saints for some unexplained reason never got going in the first half of their semi final and left themselves a mountain to climb as they trailed 21-9 at the interval. The performance levels improved in the second half but they could never reel in the Cork side eventually losing out on a scoreline of 20-27.

The second semi final was a one sided affair with the young Scholars team proving too strong winning out 38-23 against a never say die UL Huskies team.

The final proved to be a close and very exciting game with both teams giving their all. Ballincollig who used their height advantage to telling effect in their semi final win employed similar tactics in the final. This allowed them open up a 16-11 interval lead. This lead was quickly wiped out by the Scholars with Aoife O' Connell in particular to the fore. Scholars kept their noses in front and appeared to have done enough to win out.

However a late rally by Ballincollig sealed the win on a 30-28 scoreline.

Catherine O' Toole from Ballincollig was a deserving winner of the MVP award for the tournament.

There were some superb performances by both our club teams with Aoife O' Connell, Fiona O' Connell, Eimear Dollard and Lynsey Purcell best for Saints. Niamh Barton, Deirdre Barton and Joanne DeLoughrey stood out for Scholars.

A big thanks goes to Joanne and the rest of the players who did Trojan work to make it a memorable day. A huge thanks goes to Joan for all the catering with some pounds taken off in pre season work going back on again!!!

Thanks to the referees Jason, Diarmuid and Aidan and also to CBS.

Photos from the day can be seen on the club's facebook courtesy of DOD Photography.

All teams are now back in full training with the first games in the Cork league starting shortly. The senior North Munster leagues will be starting up in early October with the juvenile leagues starting a few weeks later.

The club is looking forward to celebrating 50 years in existence, with a number of events to be planned over the next 15 months or so. Keep checking in for these upcoming events.