

## ST COLMS BASKETBALL CLUB - END OF SEASON REPORT

### **Under 10's**

The under 10 kids played non-competitive games this season. We played Castleconnell Cheetahs, Springfield, UL and Donoughmore. The skills of this group improved throughout the season. Our group was mixed with girls and boys both training together. The group was Niamh, Roisin, Kate O, Kate C, Blaithin, Clíodhna, Freya, Jean, Kate D, Lexi, Taylor, Mia, Ava, Grace, Amy, Eibhne, Aoife, Aoibhinn, Ahna, Olivia, Shane, Jacob, Harry, Tadhg, Shao, Calvin, Killian, Ciaran, Denis, Mike, Ryan and Emmanuel. The inter team games at training were quite competitive with no quarter given. The roars of both victory and loss during hot seat and knockout were louder than the roars from Thomond Park after a Munster try. I'm sure people passing were intrigued by the noise. A big thank you to all the parents for their support during the season. Also thanks to Treasa who gave a helping hand which was much appreciated.

Our "oldies" will now go to U12's and we will miss Niamh, Roisin, Amy, Kate D and Grace. We will be watching from the side-lines next season to see how you are all progressing. Best of luck girls.

We ran a camp in February during the midterm. We have a group of 22 kids and from this group we got some new members to our u10's and u12's. Again thanks to Treasa and Grainne who helped at the camp.

We can't wait to welcome you all back in September.

Coaches Gerry and Noreen Campbell

### **Under 14's**

The U14 girls played in the North Munster and Cork League and Cup competitions this season.

They were progressing nicely in the North Munster league with 8 wins and one loss. They had one game left to play when all activities were suspended. The final league game would have been an excellent game if played. The girls qualified for the North Munster Cup final and the All Irelands Inter Club Championship in Gormanston but unfortunately these were cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

The girls played in the Cork B league. They were 10 from 10 when the competition was suspended but the girls were awarded the league title which was fitting. They unfortunately didn't get a chance to play in the top four. They did play in the Cork Championship final, their last game together. They didn't win on the day but their fighting spirit and never say die attitude was evident throughout the game. Baskets just didn't fall on the day.

Congratulation to Nofeesat who was awarded MVP of the U14B Cork League. Nofeesat also represented the Club on the South West Schools team at the Tom Collins Tournament in October which was played in UL.

Injuries plagued the team this season and with a small squad (not height wise) we asked the u12's to come and help us out on more than one occasion. Thanks to the U12 coaches who supported us throughout the season.

The u14 team was: Aisling, Anna, Ava, Ciara, Emma, Grace, Grainne, Maxine, Melissa, Natasha, Nofeesat, Sarah Jane and Treasa. The under 12's who played for us were Claire, Jade, Alice and Caoimhe.

We also had 5 players on the U14 South West Academy: Aisling, Ciara, Grace, Melissa and Maxim. Well done to the girls.

Six of our squad were also selected on the North Munster Inter Area Team. This tournament was due to be played on Easter Monday but again was cancelled. Congratulation to Treasa, Melissa, Nofeesat, Ciara, Aisling and Grace on making the team.

Treasa and Nofeesat also represented their schools with Castletroy College making the All Ireland Under 16 C League final and Laurel Hill winning the Munster Final.

The girls born in 2006 will now move to U16's and the girls born in 2007 will still be u14. We hope to see you all on the court next season.

Thanks to the parents for their support this season and to those who drove to Cork.

Coaches Noreen and Gerry Campbell

## U 16 and U18s

The 2019/2020 basketball season will certainly be remembered by everyone. However, despite the surreal ending to the season, the U16 and U18 girls can look back with a great sense of satisfaction.

The U18 girls continue to rewrite the history books within our club and the 2019/2020 season was no different. The girls were the first team from the club to progress to the knockout stages of the National Cup.

They overcame Liffey Celtics and Malahide from Dublin in their qualifying pool games. They then pipped former Champions St Marys from Castleisland in a double overtime thriller, before rallying from 10 points down to beat Templeogue by a point to guarantee a home quarter final against DCU Mercy.

This game could have gone either way, but it was DCU who progressed after a classic in front of a packed crowd (those were the days!) in St Clements gym.

The girls continued to compete at the highest level in the Cork league and were well in contention for a top 4 position before the season came to an end. The girls were finishing the season strong as evidenced by wins over Cobh and Waterford Wildcats, two other teams that were in top 4 contention.

The girls had also qualified for the NM U18 Cup final and were also in a strong position for NM League honours.

Three of the girls were selected on the South West Schools team, namely Bronagh, Jana and Abbie. Jana also helped her club team mates, Izzy, Jodie, Orla, Amy and Isabelle on the Laurel Hill U19 Schools team who won the South West Schools league.

Julia, Sophie, Buki also starred for their schools during the season.

It was great to see Julia and Orla back training with the girls before the season end after their injury woes.

A huge congratulations go to Sophie and Bronagh who were both selected on the Irish U17 team and now go forward to the Irish U18 squad. This is due reward for their talent and huge commitment over the years. Well done girls.

Bronagh capped a memorable season by making the short list of players for the MVP in Cork.

With most of this squad underage again next season, it is hoped that they continue to rewrite the history books.

Our U16 girls went into the unknown last season moving up from U14B to U16A in the Cork league. This was a huge learning curve for these girls. After a shaky start to the season, the girls slowly began to find their feet. The girls had lost a few close games through inexperience, but it was evident that the girls were making huge strides by playing at this higher level. They soon got their first win against Bantry under their belt and further wins followed. Before the season ended the girls had really moved up the table and were hovering just outside the top 4 positions.

Abbie was a huge influence on her younger team mates and deservedly was shortlisted for the U16 MVP award in Cork. She was also selected on the U17 South West Schools team. Both Kate and Nofeesat were selected on the U15 South West Schools team.

Abbie, Aoife, Kate and Treasa helped Laurel Hill Colaiste capture the Munster U16s schools title.

Amy and Alana were also selected on the Munster Academy squad, while Julia (before her injury), Susannah, Sarah and Aine excelled during the season.

A big thanks as always go to the parents who give up their time, again and again to support their girls throughout a long and hectic season.