

6<sup>th</sup> December 2015

The club had all their teams in action in a very busy week of basketball.

Both our senior ladies teams progressed to the next round of the North Munster Cup.

Our Saints travelled to Tipperary Town and came away with a hard fought 5 point win. Noreen Campbell took over the coaching duties for the night, as Colm Barry was unavailable and oversaw a solid performance led by Joanne DeLoughrey and Orla Blake.

Our Scholars went into their game against Newport Glen Cruisers minus a few players but still had too much firepower for their opponents. The girls after a patchy first quarter performance took control of this game and were never really troubled easing to a 57-38 win. Sarah Murray really impressed in this game scoring 9 points in a very good all round performance. Lynsey Purcell and Aoife O' Connell top scored for the girls on 14 points apiece.

Our U16 girls are improving with every game and although they lost out to a strong Mallow side, they should be happy with their performance. The girls were a little off the pace in the first few minutes and allowed Mallow open up a 7-0 lead. Once they settled, the girls really improved and brought the game to their older opponents. They really upped their defensive intensity and allowed Mallow only 9 points for the rest of the half. However they could never claw back that early deficit. The girls got into foul trouble late in the game which allowed Mallow some cheap scores from the foul line. In the end Mallow came out on top on a 35-21 scoreline.

Two of the new players Amy Higgins and Jody O' Halloran are really improving with each passing game. Other members of the squad are really benefitting from more court time with Caoimhe Hogan, Caoimhe O' Neill, Siofra Gleeson, Isabelle Meaney and Elaine Murray stepping up.

Top scorers foe Colms were Aoife Morrissey and Orla Zundel.

Our U12 girls and Springfield served up a cracking contest in the North Munster League. Springfield came into the game top of the league and unbeaten against a St Colms team that are still developing under their hard working coaches Colm Barry and Deirdre Barton. Both teams gave it their all in a free flowing game that was only really decided in the dying moments of the game with Springfield scoring two late baskets to win out on a scoreline of 44-37.

Best for Colms were Julia Cunneen, Julina Ryan, Abbie Pigott, Jade McNamara, Amy Minihan and Lily O' Halloran.

Our U14 girls opened up a 14-2 first quarter lead against Springfield in their North Munster league encounter but were very wasteful for the rest of the game. The girls played a high intensity game throughout but just need to sharpen up their scoring to be a very good team. The team have 7 new players and it will take a little time for all of them to gel as a unit. Isabelle Meaney had her best game of the season before being fouled out late in the game. Others to impress were Fiona Crowe, Bronagh Dollard, Sophie Moore, Cliona Murphy and Mia Quain in a 39-18 win.

Our U13 girls played Springfield in a challenge game and were well in control in the first half opening up a 19-10 interval lead. However a serious drop in concentration in the final quarter allowed Springfield back into the game to win out 31-28. Best for Colms were Julia Cunneen, Abbie Pigott, Krista Berzina And Buki.

Our U11 girls also entertained Springfield in a challenge game. Like their older counterparts in the club, the U11s allowed Springfield open up an early lead, this time 11-2 , before deciding to play. In the end they were unfortunate to lose out on a 17-12 scoreline. Best for our U11s were 8yo Grace

Liston and Kate Barry on 4 points each ably assisted by Ella georga O' Shea, Elisha Noonan and Melissa Do.

Nest week our U14 girls are in North Munster cup action against Morning Star, while our U13 girls play Glanmire in the Cork Leaguer.

14<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Our U13 and U14 girls played their final games of 2015 and certainly saved their best performances to last.

Our U13 girls put in a breath-taking performance of high intensity, fast flowing basketball as they brushed aside a talented Glanmire squad in their Cork league encounter. The girls were on the front foot right from the start and piled on the scores in a dominant first quarter performance to lead 16-2 against their shell shocked opponents. Glanmire rallied early in the second quarter scoring the first 6 points, but that was as close as they got. After a quick time out by their coach, the girls returned to the court much more focused and outscored their opponents 18-5 for the rest of the quarter to lead at the interval 34-13. The girls were completely on top in the third quarter tagging on a further 22 points as Glanmire simply had no answer to the pace and intensity at which our girls were playing. In the end the final whistle was a welcome relief for Glanmire, as the girls ran out 68-26 winners.

Top scorers for Colms were Sophie Moore 18, Bronagh Dollard 14 and Bukola Adejomehin 10. There was great defensive work by Krista Berzina, Grainne McKeogh and Aoife O' Neill.

Our U14 girls faced up to Morning Star in the first round of the North Munster Cup and completely dominated this game from start to finish. Our girls were way too good for their game opponents who were unable to play at the pace of our girls.

Top scorers for our girls in a comprehensive win were Aoife Morrissey 13, Sophie Moore 9, Abbie Pigott 8 and Bronagh Dollard 7.

Our U12 girls play their final game of 2015 in the first round of the North Munster Cup against UL Huskies.

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015

Our U12 girls bowed out of the North Munster Cup after an absorbing game against UL Huskies. This team is a development in progress and has made huge strides in the past few months culminating in this performance.

UL had won the league encounter by 24 points earlier in the season, and they looked set for a comfortable win when they opened up with an 11-4 first quarter lead despite the best efforts of Anna Harney and Amy Minihan. Our girls with U13 players Abbie Pigott and Julia Cunneen to the fore rallied in the second quarter to trail by 14-17 at the interval.

UL Huskies with their strong 5 on court reasserted in the third quarter and stretched their lead out to 27-18 going into the final quarter. The two baskets by Lily O' Halloran in this third quarter meant that our girls were well in this game, with our strong 5 still to play the final quarter. Our girls dominated the final quarter and had UL on the ropes as they got to within 3 points with over a minute to play. The girls had a few chances to score in the final moments but just could not convert them.

In the end it was UL Huskies who progressed on a 32-29 score line after a superb game played in the right spirit.

Players to look out for in the coming months for St Colms are Susannah Holland, Kate Barry and Amy Minihan.

The club will be taking a short break over the Christmas period and would like to wish all players, coaches, committee members and parents a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

Our U16 girls will ring in the New Year with a Cork Cup game away to St Anthonys on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January.