

3rd November 2014

St Colms began the new North Munster underage league season with contrasting wins over Springfield at U12, U14 and U16 level.

Our U13 Cratloe based team played their first ever league game and almost stunned Springfield with a highly encouraging performance.

Our U12 girls with 3 Cratloe based players making their debuts proved much too strong for Springfield. Despite missing some key players, St Colms controlled this game from the off and were well worth their 38-6 win.

Top scorers for Colms were Bronagh Dollard 10, Sarah O' Brien 8 and Sarah Moloney 5. There were also strong performances by Sinead Moynihan, Aoife O' Neill and Cliona Murphy.

Our U14 girls never turned up mentally in their first half encounter and were fortunate to only trail 13-16 at the break. Springfield scored the first basket of the second half to open up a 5 point lead and a major upset appeared likely. However an inspirational Hazel Dineen brought St Colms back into the game. The girls defence improved dramatically shutting down the Springfield attack resulting in the girls turning this game on it's head to win out on a final scoreline of 33-19.

The girls know full well that they must perform for the whole game in their upcoming fixtures.

Top scorers for Colms were Orla Zundel 8, Hazel Dineen 6 and Aoife Morrissey 6.

Our U16 girls came out on top in a low scoring affair in their game. Six of the U14 girls played up at U16 level and all played much better than in the U14 game. Ruth Butler marshalled the defence superbly which was the foundation for this snug enough win.

The scoring was shared between Ruth Butler, Laura O' Shea, Caoimhe Lee, Orla Zundel and Caoimhe Hogan.

The U13 Cratloe based girls must be wishing they could replay their game again. Nerves had a serious impact on the girls as they trailed 0-12 at the end of the first quarter. However once they settled they outscored Springfield 17-13 for the remainder of the game and can be rightly pleased with a very encouraging performance.

Players to shine on the day were Jody O' Halloran, Fiona Crowe, Lucy Earls, Ana Radojicic, Amy Higgins, Ella Keilthy, Mia Quain, Cliona Murphy and Ava Gardner.

Both our Senior ladies are in North Munster league action with Saints hosting Shannon and Scholars at home to Thurles IT.

Our U18 girls are in National Cup action and are in a tough pool with defending champions Glanmire as well as Sligo.

Our juvenile wheelchair team play their first games of the new season in Galway.

17th November 2014

The club had an extremely busy week on the playing front with a mixed bag of results.

Our U18 girls bowed out of the National Cup following defeats to the defending champions Glanmire and Sligo All Stars in their pool. The experience from those games was much in evidence as they overpowered UL Huskies in their North Munster League game. The girls kept UL scoreless for the first 14 minutes of the game and were able to ease to a comfortable 49-19 win

Top scorers for Colms were Fiona O' Connell 14, Eimear Dollard 12 and Ruth Butler 10.

Our U16 girls had a busy weekend with two North Munster League games. The girls were no match for a very strong Celtics team in their Saturday encounter. Their game against UL Huskies on Sunday was easily the most exciting game of the weekend with Huskies edging a nail biting encounter 31-29. These U16 games are great experience for the younger U14 players as they must play to a higher level.

Top scorers for Colms were Ruth Dollard 12 and Laura O' Shea 5.

Following their exertions in the U16 game, a number of the U14 players readied themselves for their U14 game against UL Huskies.

This game was decided by an early flurry of scoring by our girls in the first quarter.

The entire squad of 12 players got plenty of court time in this comfortable 38-13 win.

Best for Colms were Hazel Dineen and Megan Haugh on 10 points each with Orla Zundel and Elaine Murray others to play well.

Our Cratloe girls are still finding their feet in the North Munster League and fell to a 11-26 defeat to UL Huskies. The girls are showing definite signs of improvement and will only improve further with a few more games under their belt.

Best for the girls on the day were Amy Higgins and Andrea Murphy Wright.

Our U12 girls picked themselves up after their narrow 6 point loss to Celtics the previous day, to completely outplay UL huskies in a one sided affair. The girls were totally dominant in this 42-8 win with Bronagh Dollard the dominant player over the two games.

She top scored against UL on 16 points followed by Abbie Pigott on 9.

There were also outstanding all round displays from Julia Cunneen and Hannah Barry.

Our Senior Scholars after a couple of blips were back to full strength in their North Munster league encounter with Springfield. The Scholars came out on top 63-48 in an entertaining and high class encounter with both teams scoring some great baskets.

Top scorers for Scholars were Lynsey Purcell 20, Aoife O' Connell 19 and Emily Kavanagh 13. A special welcome back to Laura Sheahan after over a year out of the game.

A special mention to our young junior wheelchair team who were outstanding in the Galway blitz. Despite losing their three games narrowly, this team have already set down a marker that they are a team for the future.

Players to definitely look out for in future games are Kate Delaney, Aoife Horgan, Sean O; Dwyer and Cian Horgan.

It is also great to see Limerick Scorpions senior wheelchair basketball team continuing their unbeaten start to the National League with their fourth win on the bounce, this time against Clonaslee. The Scorpions sit proudly at the top of the league.

Next week is another hectic one on the courts.

Our senior Scholars are away to Thurles IT in the North Munster Cup.

Our U14 and U18 girls are away to Celtics in the North Munster League.

Our U12 girls host Carraig na BhFear in the Cork league followed by a trip to Lee Valley in the Cork Cup.

Our U15 girls host league leaders Fr Mathews in the Cork League.

Finally our junior wheelchair basketball team are in Cork for the second blitz of the season.

24th November 2014

Our U12 Girls continued their impressive start in the Cork League with an excellent win at home to Carraig na BhFear. The girls, with Hannah Barry and Aoife O' Neill impressing in the first quarter built up a 13-3 lead. The second quarter unit led by Julia Cunneen and Sarah Moloney stretched out this lead to 23-9 at the interval. The girls kept up their good work in the second half to run out 41-15 winners. It was nice to see Sarah O' Brien back in action after her recent knee injury.

Top scorers for St Colms were Bronagh Dollard 11, Sarah Moloney 8 and Abbie Pigott 7.

Buoyed by this league win the girls travelled to Macroom the following day to play Lee Valley in the Cork Cup. Unfortunately, just as the girls arrived at the venue they were notified that the game was called off. The referees deemed the playing surface to be unsafe and would not allow the game to take place on health and safety grounds. The Cork girls will now have to travel to Limerick after losing their home advantage.

Our U15 girls put up easily their best performance of the season despite going down to Cork league leaders Fr Mathews. The girls put in a huge defensive effort ensuring that Fr Mathews had to work very hard for all their scores.

Orla Zundel stepped into the point guard position and dictated matters on the offensive floor.

Top scorers in the 26-55 defeat were Ruth Dollard 10, Orla Zundel 6 and Caoimhe Hogan 4.

Our Senior Scholars moved into the quarter finals of the North Munster cup after their opponents Thurles IT, could not field a team.

Our junior wheelchair team were back in action over the weekend, with 3 games in Cork. This young team are proving to be this year's talking point as they continue to play open and attractive basketball, and put it up to their more experienced and seasoned rivals. Mark and Aoife Leyden made their debuts for the club with both on the scoresheet.

Next up for the juniors is a trip to Belfast in mid January.

The senior Limerick Scorpions team lost their unbeaten record against a more experienced Kilkenny team and will hope to bounce back to winning ways in their upcoming games.

Our U20 girls travel to Leixlip next Sunday to play in the quarter finals of the U20 National Cup. They face tough opposition against Liffey Celtics.

Our U15 girls travel to Cork for another tough assignment in the Cork League, this time against Glanmire.

Our Senior Saints are in North Munster Cup action against Tipperary hoping to join their Scholars counterparts in the quarter finals.

The Scholars themselves are in action in a league game against Thurles LIT.

Finally we will have two teams in the U10 Blitz hosted by Limerick Celtics this coming weekend.