

14th January 2013

St Colms Basketball Club were back playing after a short break over the Christmas period with three of our teams in action.

Our Senior Saints ensured that 2013 got off to a winning start way to UL Huskies. The Saints were always ahead in this game but still made hard work of putting the result to bed. It was not until the final quarter before the ladies asserted and ensure the win. Saints led 15-10 at the end of the first quarter thanks largely to a 7 point contribution by Deirdre Barton. The lead was stretched out to 25-17 by half time. Although the Saints maintained their scoring rate in the third quarter, they eased up in their defensive work allowing UL right back into the game. The scoreline read 39-32 entering the final quarter. Saints restricted UL to only 3 points in the final quarter with Anna Keyes and Eimear O' Malley dominating our defensive boards, before seeing out the game on a 51-35 scoreline.

Top scorers for Saints were Deirdre Barton 15, Eimear O' Malley 10, Joanne DeLoughrey and Anna Keyes on 7 each.

Our Senior Scholars were in action the following night away to Kingfisher in Ennis. The Scholars went into the game minus 4 players but still proved too strong for their opponents. It took a while for the girls to blow away the cobwebs after their Christmas break. It was only really late in the game when the scores started to flow resulting in a comfortable 61-25 win.

Top scorers for Scholars were Lisa Ann Demsey and Lynsey Purcell on 14 each followed by Emily Kavanagh on 11.

Over the next two weeks both teams will square up to each other in back to back games. The results of these games will go a long way to determining if one or both teams play in the top division.

Our U16 girls are also in action as they play UL Huskies away in the quarter finals of the North Munster Cup.

Our U15 girls received a walkover against Carrigaline in the Cork League.

Our U12 girls proved way too strong for Division 2 Opponents Newport in the North Munster Cup. The girls raced into an early 18-0 first quarter lead with the result never in doubt thereafter. There was a welcome return for Aoife Morrissey after over 6 months sidelined by injury.

Top scorers for Colms were Megan Haugh 14, Lauren Walsh 10, Emma McDonnell 8 with Shiofra Gleeson and Aoife Murray on 6 points apiece.

The club had a memorable reunion night in Dolans over the Christmas period. Players from both our Mens and Ladies National league teams of the 70s and 80s gathered for a night of nostalgia. Nobody has aged to which the attached photo can testify!!!

21st January 2013

Our two senior teams served up an enthralling North Munster league encounter which was finally decided after three periods of overtime. Nothing separated the two sides at the end of a low scoring first quarter with the game tied at 9 points apiece. The introduction of Noreen Campbell at the start of the second quarter helped the Saints open up an 8 point lead at the interval 22-14. A quick fire 2 pointer by Laurie Brosnan followed by a three pointer by Deirdre Barton soon stretched this lead out to 13 points. However strong play by Emily Kavanagh and Lisa Ann Dempsey for the Scholars brought them slowly back into the game. By the end of the third quarter the deficit was down to only 5 points. A good inside score by Caoimhe Gleeson followed by a “3” by Aoife O’ Connell had the sides soon level.

Saints composed themselves and two late baskets by Joanne De Loughrey seemed to be enough as these scores pushed her team ahead by 3 entering the final few seconds of the game. However a brave “3” pointer on the buzzer by Caoimhe Gleeson forced the game into extra time. Two periods of overtime failed to separate the sides. It was only in the third period of extra time that Scholars did enough to seal a hard fought win on a scoreline of 57-53.

Top scorers for Scholars were Caoimhe Gleeson 17 and Lisa Ann Dempsey 16.

Top scorers for Saints were Joanne De Loughrey 18 and Eimear O’ Malley 13.

The two teams must do it all again next week as they play the reverse fixture.

Our U16 girls were away to UL Huskies in the quarter finals of the North Munster Cup. The girls went into the game minus Eimear Dollard and Laura O’ Shea but still proved much too strong in a very one sided contest. The foundation of the win was built on a strong first quarter performance as the girls opened up a 23-2 lead. The girls played at a very high tempo which always troubled their taller opponents. They very rarely allowed UL settle and played the game at their pace throughout.

However a worrying aspect of the game was the amount of open lay ups our girls missed throughout the game. This will need to be improved upon when they face Newport in the semi finals next month.

Top scorers for Colms were Jessica O’ Brien 14, Roisin Gleeson 13 and Chloe Dineen 10.

Some of our wheelchair basketball athletes travelled to Renmore in Galway for a one day tournament. The players teamed up with players from Dublin to form a team which proved to be the winners on the day after three close and absorbing games.

Players to shine on the day were Seamus Long, Emma McDonnell and Lauren Walsh.

Our U15 girls are in cup action next weekend as they host St Anthonys in the Cork Championship. Both our U12 teams are in North Munster league while our U14 girls play in the North Munster Cup, all against Morning Star.

28th January 2013

St Colms had an excellent week on the playing front with all their underage squads recording wins. Our U15 girls hosted St Anthonys in the preliminary round of the Cork Championship. Both teams were quite nervous which led to an error ridden first quarter. Colms just held the upperhand to lead 9-5. The girls upped their game significantly in the second quarter to stretch their lead out to 22-9 at the interval. The third quarter was a low key affair before Colms put in a strong 4th quarter performance to win out 46-19.

Top scorers for Colms were Roisin Gleeson 20 and Jane Clohessy 17.

The girls next have a home quarter final tie against Ballincollig.

Our U12 squads recorded solid wins over Morning Star in the North Munster League, while our U14 girls progressed in the North Munster Cup with a win over the same opponents.

Our U12 Scholars took a little time to settle in their game against Morning Star as evidenced by a scoreline of 6-6 at the end of the first quarter. The girls took complete control in the middle two quarters outscoring their opponents 24-1. A number of the girls were rested in the final quarter ahead of the U14 cup game later in the day. As a result Morning Star finished the stronger but were never really in a position to win. Scholars ran out winners on a 32-21 scoreline with Megan Haugh top scoring on 12 points followed by Emma McDonnell and Orla Zundel on 4 points each.

Our U11 Saints proved too good for their Morning Star opponents on a scoreline of 16-9. Most of this squad are under 10 and under 9 and are getting valuable court experience in these U12B games. Best for Colms were Bronagh Dollard, Julia Cunneen, Sarah O' Brien and Amber Gleeson.

6 of the U12 Scholars played up with the U14s in their cup clash with Morning Star with two of the girls top scoring in the game. The girls were quite poor in the first few minutes as stage fright seemed to be affecting some players. Gradually the girls began to play and took the lead for the first time just before the interval. The second half was one way traffic as the girls completely dominated the game to win out 40-23.

Top scorers for Colms were Megan Haugh 14, Ruth Butler 12 and Lauren Walsh 8.

Our two senior teams squared up to each other again in the reverse fixture of the North Munster League. While this week's game did not reach the drama of the previous week's thriller, it still proved to be an exciting game. It was a case of Déjà Vu with the Saints opening up a 6-7 point gap early in the third quarter only for the Scholars to come back in the final quarter to snatch a draw with a free throw by Lisa Ann Dempsey at the death. This week it took only one period of overtime for Scholars to win out 43-39.

Deirdre Barton had an outstanding game for Saints top scoring on 20 points, with notable contributions by Joanne De Loughrey and Eimear O' Malley.

However Scholars had a better spread of scoring which probably helped them in their win. Emily Kavanagh and Lynsey Purcell hit 9 points apiece while both Lisa Ann Dempsey and Aoife O' Connell contributed 8 points each.

Next week our U15 girls are at home to Ballincollig while our U10 girls participate in a blitz in Caherconlish.

Our juvenile wheelchair basketball sessions every Wednesday in CBS Sexton Street from 6.30 to 8.00 are proving to be great fun. These sessions are always open to new members. So come along and play this exciting and fun sport.