

2nd December 2013

It is very seldom that St Colms would have everyone of their teams in action in the one week, but this is what happened last week.

Our U10 girls were in Dromcollogher for the December blitz and played 3 games on the day. On the same day our U11 girls minus some of the U10 players played a non competitive game against Celtics.

Games are the best way for these young players to better themselves and these U10 Blitz days and U11 Non competitive games are a great way to get young players playing basketball.

On the competitive front, our U15 and U18 girls travelled to Cork to play Glanmire in the Cork League. Both teams were missing a number of players due to exams and school commitments. The U18 girls matched Glanmire for long stretches of the game. However Glanmire with their bigger bench were always able to freshen up their team to win out in the end. The big positives from these Cork League games is the rapid improvement in the younger players especially Fiona O' Connell and Eimear Dollard who are playing great basketball at the moment.

The U15 game followed a similar pattern. The girls were only a point down going into the final quarter, but were running on empty in the final quarter and eventually went down by 16 points despite the best efforts of Laura O' Shea and Emma McDonnell.

Our senior ladies all but lost their North Munster League game against Celtics after a sloppy first quarter performance after which they trailed by 18 points. They were never able to make inroads into this lead and eventually lost out by 23 points. They will be hoping for a much improved performance when they host Thurles IT for a place in the quarter finals of the North Munster Cup.

Our U12, U14, U16 and U18s had mixed results and performances in their North Munster League games against Celtics. Our U18 girls exacted revenge for their Cork League defeat the previous month with a very professional display. The girls were well on top in this game and effectively put this game to bed in the third quarter outscoring their opponents 18-6 to seal a comfortable 42-34 win.

Top scorers for Colms were Ciara O' Halloran 16, Eimear Dollard 8 and Lynsey Purcell 7.

Our U16 girls lost their unbeaten record to Celtics A but only just, after a terrific performance by the girls. There was nothing between the teams for the duration of the game with the lead been exchanged a number of times. In the end it was the failure of our girls to take their opportunities that cost them the game in the end on a scoreline of 32-26.

The girls then had to pick themselves up an hour later to play Celtics B who boasted an unbeaten record going into the game. The girls were clearly tired after their exertions against Celtics A and fell behind by 7 points at one stage in the game. However they summoned up enough energy to come from behind to win another exciting game by 32-30. Best for Colms over the two games were Jane Clohessy, Ruth Butler, Laura O' Shea, Naomi Keogh and Roisin Gleeson.

Our U14 girls also lost their unbeaten record, comprehensively beaten by Celtics A. The girls made too many unforced errors which proved costly. The girls, all bar two who are U13, will need to eliminate these mistakes from their game going forward.

To their credit they picked themselves up in their second game of the day to easily beat Celtics B, which was the tonic they needed ahead of their game against the fast improving Rockets next week.

Best for the U14 Girls over the two games were Caoimhe Hogan, Orla Zundel and Lauren Walsh.

Finally our U12 girls came up short in their game against Celtics. Again a slow start by the girls proved their undoing. However a strong finish by the girls was encouraging. Best for Colms were Aoife O' Neill, Aoife Morrissey and Sarah Moloney.

The girls have quick chance to get back to winning ways when they host Rockets in the North Munster League next week.

Finally our U15 girls are away to Fr Mathews in the Cork League.