

25th September 2017

The new basketball season got under way last weekend with our U15 girls travelling to Cork for an invitational tournament. This was an ultra competitive tournament with all 4 of last season's U14 AICC semi-finalists taken part.

Our girls eased into the tournament with a solid win over Fr Mathews. The Cork side put in a very determined performance but our girls always had the upper hand with all of the squad getting plenty of court time.

The girl's second pool game was against top Dublin side Meteors.

This game was played at a terrific pace. Our girls got off to a quick start and opened up a 6 point lead in the first quarter. They maintained this lead throughout and actually increased it slightly entering the final quarter. Meteors threw everything at our girls in the final quarter but came up short on a scoreline of 41-33. This was a high quality game typified by the compliments given to both teams on their skill levels and commitment by the match officials.

After winning their pool, the girls would have expected an easy quarter final. Instead they faced up to our old friends and rivals from Midleton. This was a tough game, with both teams showing early signs of tiredness. Our girls were able to come away with a win on a scoreline of 43-21 to set up a semi-final with the tournament favourites Brunell.

Brunell were quick into this game and opened up an 8-0 lead. Our girls came storming back to go in at the end of the quarter tied at 10 points apiece. The second quarter was another tight affair with little separating the sides as Brunell eked out a slender 21-17 lead. The third quarter opened with a big three pointer from Brunell which rocked our girls back on their heels. The girls kept their heads up, worked hard but some mistakes attributable in the main, to fatigue, allowed Brunell some easy scores. All of a sudden Brunell led 34-21 going into the final quarter.

Brunell, who are a terrific team and the benchmark for our girls, worked tirelessly in the final quarter to maintain their lead and ran out deserving winners on a 46-31 scoreline.

There were huge positives to be taken from the 4 games played. The girls showed in their displays, that they will be a force to be reckoned with during the coming season.

All team members contributed to a very successful tournament with a high level of basketball displayed over a long day.

Our U15 and U16 girls travel to Waterford next weekend for their opening Cork League games against Wildcats.