

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014

It was a very disappointing weekend results wise for the club.

Our U12s, U14s, U16s and U18s all were well beaten by Limerick Celtics in the North Munster league and none of the teams can have any complaints.

Celtics were by far the more determined team in all 4 games, and wanted the wins more than our girls.

While our girls did compete in some quarters, each team was let down by a number of their players who failed to play with any urgency or passion.

Celtics were allowed to rack up scores during these periods which paved the way for their deserved victories.

It is little consolation that both our U14s and U16s did beat their Celtics B counterparts, but had to work too hard to record these victories.

Players that did play well on the day and should be acknowledged are Lauren Walsh, Megan Haugh, Siofra Gleeson, Jane Clohessy, Laura O' Shea and Fiona O' Connell.

The performances on Sunday should not distract from a gritty performance by the U15 girls against Glanmire in the Cork League the previous day. The girls had a big task against a very strong Glanmire team laced with a number of international players. While Glanmire, proved too strong in the end winning out 64-21 the performance by the girls was a huge improvement from the first time the two sides met earlier in the season.

The big task now for the club is to get all teams playing with more urgency and grit.

Our senior ladies are in North Munster Cup semi final action against Celtics, while our U18s will need a huge performance when they tackle Malahide in Dublin, in the semi final of the National Shield.

10<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Our U18 girls bowed out of the National Shield at the semi final stage after a defeat to Malahide in Dublin last Sunday.

There was a sizable crowd in attendance to watch an excellent game of basketball between two fully committed teams. The first half was an even affair with the home side holding a slender 22-19 interval lead.

The long half time interval certainly did not suit our girls as it took them some minutes to replicate their intensity in the first half. A couple of cheap turnovers also did not help their cause and suddenly Malahide had opened up a sizable gap on our girls. The damage was unfortunately done in this 4 or 5 minute period and though the girls continued to compete to the very end, they never really looked like recovering and eventually lost out on a scoreline of 32-53.

The girls should take great heart from this performance as it shows that when they apply themselves, they are a match for a number of the top teams in the country.

Top scorers for Colms were Ciara O' Halloran 11, Caoimhe Gleeson 8 and Eimear Dollard 4, with other good performances by Grace Kavanagh and Chloe Dineen.

Our Juvenile Wheelchair team again continue to set the bar for all other teams to achieve. The team travelled to Clontarf in Dublin and came away with two comfortable wins against Killester and Fr Mathews.

It was great to see a lot of old faces as the club held a social night last Saturday night. A big thanks goes to Joanne De Loughery and Geraldine Dollard who did Trojan work in organising this event which raised a sizable amount towards the running of the club.

Next week, our U15 girls travel to Midleton for a Cork League game.

24<sup>th</sup> March 2014

The club will be back in action with a bang this week, after a week with no games.

Our U12 and U16 girls have North Munster semi finals to look forward to with the U12 girls hosting UL Huskies and the U16 girls away to Celtics.

Both teams will be hoping to join their U14 and U18 counterparts who have already qualified for the finals.

Our senior ladies play their final North Munster league game of the season as they host Limerick Celtics.

Finally our U15 girls face a busy schedule with away games on consecutive days against Ballincollig and Skibbereen in the Cork League.

31<sup>st</sup> March 2014

There were mixed fortunes for our U12 and U16 teams in their North Munster Cup semi final games during the week.

Our U12s got the week off to a positive start with a win over UL Huskies. The girls conceded the first basket but thereafter took control of this game to lead by 10 points at the interval. Despite a late rally by UL, our girls were never seriously troubled and won out in the end on a scoreline of 31-23.

Aoife Morrissey top scored for Colms and had great support from Aoife O' Neill, Lucy Liston and Bronagh Dollard.

Our U16s have only themselves to blame for their 31-39 loss to Limerick Celtics. The girls had enough chances to win their semi final comfortably but spurned way too many chances. The girls' defence was excellent restricting their opponents to outside shooting. Unfortunately for the girls, Celtics outside shooting started finding the target in the second half, laying the basis for their win.

Best for Colms on the night were Jane Clohessy and Ruth Dollard.

Our senior ladies finished their North Munster League campaign with a defeat to league leaders Limerick Celtics. True to form, our ladies were slow out of the blocks and allowed their opponents open up an early 10 point lead. Once the team settled, they began to dominate the game and gradually clawed back the lead. With the ladies on a roll, the last thing they wanted was a break for the interval. It took a little while for the ladies to get back into their stride immediately after the interval. This was sufficient time for Celtics to stretch their lead out to 18 points. For the rest of the game, Colms were playing catch up but could never bridge the gap losing out on a final scoreline of 44-62.

Best for Colms on the night were Emma Cleary, Laurie Brosnan, Aoife O' Connell and Niamh Barton.

Next week there will be a report on the North Munster cup finals together with how our U18 girls fared in their Cork league encounter with St Anthony's.