

19th November

Following a small break from competitive action, the club were back playing with all our underage teams in action over the weekend.

Our U16 girls continued their unbeaten start to the season with a win against Ballincollig. After 4 wins on the road, a home fixture at last was very welcome. The girls were never in trouble in this game. Early baskets by Abbie Pigott had the girls in control and they led by 26-8 at the interval. Ballincollig came back well in the third quarter outscoring our girls 14-6 to narrow the gap. However the girls regrouped well in the final quarter to close out the game 49-28.

Top scoring honours were shared between Bronagh Dollard, Sophie Moore and Abbie Pigott.

The following day, the club hosted UL huskies in the North Munster league.

The day began with an U10 non competitive game with a number of our younger members making their playing debuts for the club. A full hall witnessed an excellent game between two committed teams who demonstrated a high level of skill. The U10 panel was Niamh, Roisin, Samantha, Sabhb, Laura, Kate O' B, Kate C, Kayla, Eabha, Robyn, Tiegan and Zaynah.

Our U12 girls got their North Munster campaign off to a winning start with 14 players taking to the floor. This was a strong performance from the girls who lead from start to finish running out comfortable winners. There were three girls making their debut for the club, with Sarah Jane Murray, Emily Markham and Ruth O' Connell all performing well on the day. Laura Chambers, Jade O' Neill and Caoimhe Sweeney all stepped up from last year's U10 squad and also played very well, Top scoring honours were shared between Maxim, Sarah Jane, Ruth and Gráinne.

Our U14 girls fell short in their opening North Munster league game against a good UL side. The girls started brightly and led at the end of the first quarter by 2 points. However UL upped their game in the second quarter to lay the foundation for their 40-26 win. This year's panel is quite large and it may take time to get the quarter combinations right in future games. The game was an opportunity for Katie and Hannah Hehir to make their debuts for the club. Others to play well on the day were Kate, Nofeesat, Ava and Ciara.

With a number of girls away on International training the U16 game was played as a challenge game allowing our U15 girls to get valuable playing experience.

The girls were without starting point guard Julia Cunnenn who was a late withdrawal. However Àine Tierney, in her first competitive game for St Colms took over the role with great skill. She was ably supported by Lily and Sarah.

Sussanah worked very hard under the boards Abbie once again showed her talent not just when playing but also encouraging her team mates during time outs and breaks in play. UL put the girls under pressure at the end but they held out for a very good 44-37 win. The future looks bright for this group of players

The U18 game proved to be a real thriller which went right down to the wire. The girls were without injured duo Orla and Evelyne, while both Bronagh and Sophie were away on international training. This meant that the rest of the panel had to step up big time. The first quarter was poor in truth with a lot of scrappy play. The second quarter was a much more open affair with our girls opening up a 27-18 interval lead. A poor third quarter by the girls allowed the momentum to swing to UL and they went into the final quarter with a 3 point lead. The girls were guilty of a lot of missed opportunities which allowed UL to maintain a four point lead going into the final minute. An excellent lay up by Jody O' Halloran brought the deficit down to two points. A great offensive rebound by Jana Zundel drew the foul and under extreme pressure, Jana hit the two free throws to draw the sides level. Just as it seemed that overtime would be needed, there was one final twist. A steal in the front court allowed Izzy Murphy to convert the match winning lay up to cap a fine individual performance by her. Top scoring honours were shared between Amy, Jody, Izzy and Jana.

The final game of the day saw our U14 squad divide into two teams for a challenge game under game conditions. This was an opportunity for a lot of the new and younger players to garner match experience. The game was very competitive and played at a fine pace with excellent skills on show.

Next week our U18 girls are away to Cobh in the Cork League, while a number of our league and development teams will be away to Celtics.

26th November

This week our senior girls traveled to Tralee to compete in the annual St Brendans Tralee Basketball Blitz.

The girls had 3 tough games on Saturday against St Brendans, Tolka and St Marys.

With 4 U18 players stepping up to assist their senior colleagues, including new players Brenda and Jess, the girls played some excellent basketball to qualify for Sundays semi-finals.

The girls upped their performance again on the Sunday. However under tough conditions against the home side they just failed to get the win.

However the girls were a credit to the club with their performances, team spirit and sporting attitude.

Our underage teams were in action this week against Celtics.

First up were our Under 14s who faced off against a strong Celtics outfit on Wednesday.

This young team are full of fighting spirit and put in a real battling performance lead by Kate Barry and Aoife Brown. While the girls did not get the win on the night this tough game will stand to them as they continue their Cork League and North Munster League campaigns over the next few weeks.

Sunday saw the U10s and U12s visit Celtics for their games.

First up were the under 10s who continue to go from strength to strength. Coaches Gerry and Noreen have been very impressed with how this team have improved since the start of the season and this improvement was plain to see in a excellent team performance with Laura and Eabha particularly impressive on the day.

After their excellent win over Huskies last week the U12s were full of confidence going in to their game.

They put in another excellent performance battling hard from start to finish. While it was not enough to get the win on the day, it is safe to say if they continue to show the same team spirit and skill over the coming months they have a successful season in front of them.

Best for Colms on the day were Ava Shire, Gráinne Culbert and Sarah Jane Murray.

Best of luck to our U14s who continue their Cork League campaign this week with games against Mallow and Ballincollig.

While the U16s will home to continue their unbeaten season against Carrigaline.