

5<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Our Senior Scholars team were the only local team in action during the week. The Scholars responded well to last week's defeat with an excellent win over Foynes. The ladies went into the game minus Anna Keyes (Exams) and Nuala O' Flaherty (Injury) and lost Noreen Campbell early in the game due to illness. As a result the Scholars took some time to settle into the game and were happy to establish a first quarter lead of 13-8. Once the Scholars overcame these early mishaps, they took complete control of this game outscoring their opponents 39-8 for the remainder of the game to ease to a comfortable 52-16 win.

Top scorers for Scholars were Ciara Meaney, Joanne DeLoughrey and Deirdre Barton on 10 points apiece.

The Scholars host UL in their next North Munster League game while the Saints are also at home to Kingfisher.

Our U18 girls have a tough Cork League game against Waterford Wildcats.

Our U12, U14 and U16 teams open their North Munster campaign with home games against Newport with our U12s also playing Rockets in a challenge game.

Our U17 girls returned from a memorable trip to Florida with 4 wins out of 5 games. Their only defeat came at the hands of the highly rated Rampage Elite team who are unbeaten in Florida for the past two seasons. This game was of a very high standard between two evenly matched sides. In the end it was the home side that edged it by 3 points on a scoreline of 38-35. Other highlights on the tour was a visit to the Amway Arena for an NBA game between Orlando Magic and Houston Rockets, as well as a guided tour of the famous Rollins College, where the girls played one of their tour games on the main court ahead of an exhibition game between Rollins College and the Chilean National team. The girls also visited two theme parks and enjoyed a shopping spree on what was a great trip that will live long in the memories of these girls.

The girls were great ambassadors for the club and were a credit to themselves and their families. New friendships were forged and old friendships strengthened on the tour. The club would also like to express it's gratitude to all the parents who helped in the fund raising and those who travelled with the girls.

12<sup>th</sup> November 2012

St Colms finally got their North Munster League campaign up and running. Our U14 and U16 girls played their first games of the new season at home to Newport. Our U12s will have to wait another week to play their first game as they were awarded a walkover against Newport.

7 of the U12 squad played up at U14 level last Sunday to give them some vital court time and all acquitted themselves well in a 38-20 win.

Top scorers for Colms were Ruth Butler 10. Laura O' Shea 6, Meagan Haugh 4 and Orla Zundel 4.

Our U16 girls went into their game minus the injured Chloe Dineen, but proved much too strong for Newport. The girls did the damage in the first quarter opening up a 19-0 lead. Newport came back into the game in the second quarter to trail 23-10. However our girls soon re-established control and ran out comfortable winners on a scoreline of 57-16.

Top Scorers for Colms were Jane Clohessy 21, Fiona O' Connell 13 and Eimear Dollard 9.

Our U10 girls picked up some match experience when they entertained the U12 Rockets in a challenge game. While the result did not go their way, there were some bright performances by our girls, most notably Alex Fitzpatrick, Bronagh Dollard, Abbie Pigott and April Hartnett.

Our U12s and U14s travel to Dromcollogher next weekend for games against Springfield.

Our U18s are still coming to terms on how they managed to lose their Cork league game against Waterford Wildcats. Wildcats started the brighter and led 14-8 at the end of the first quarter. Thereafter our girls dominated this game and were well on top leading by five points going into the final 3 minutes. However these final 3 minutes would prove crucial as our girls turned over the ball 4 times and were punished each time. Wildcats somewhat to their bemusement, snatched an unlikely win on a scoreline of 43-40.

Top scorers for Colms were Caoimhe Gleeson 12, Ciara O' Halloran 10 and Chloe Dineen 6.

The girls have a quick chance to atone for this defeat as they travel to Waterford next weekend for the return fixture. The girls are also away to Brunell and home to Carraig Na BhFear in a very busy weekend for the girls. Our u15 girls also play Brunell and Carraig na Bhfear.

Our senior ladies both recorded wins to lie first and second in Pool A of the North Munster league.

The Scholars fell 2-8 behind early in their game against Kingfisher, before rousing themselves to record an easy 55-22 win.

Top scorers for Scholars were Caoimhe Gleeson 15, Lynsey Purcell 9, Karen Hartigan 6 and Martha Topielecka 6.

The Saints game against UL was a much closer affair. The Saints raced into an early 13-5 first quarter lead and an easy win looked on the cards. However UL to their credit stuck to their task and stayed 6-8 points behind up to the interval. Scholars found themselves in foul trouble in the third quarter with UL capitalising fully to tie the game going into the final few minutes. However the greater experience of the Saints told in the end and they held out for a 50-46 win.

Deirdre Barton was the stand out player on the night top scoring on 19 points followed by Eimear O' Malley on 9 and Ciara Meaney 7.

Our Juvenile wheelchair team travel to the Mardyke in Cork next Sunday for a one day blitz and carry the club's best wishes.

19<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Our juvenile wheelchair basketball team travelled to Cork to play their first games of the new season. This team have only been together since the end of September and for most of the players, these games would be their first competitive games ever.

The team exceeded all expectations by winning their first two games against a regional selection from Dublin/Midlands and also the Kerry representatives. This set up a decider against strong favourites Fr Mathews from Cork. In the end, our lads just fell short losing out 7-15 but not after giving the host club a scare or two along the way. Those that shone on the day were Maurice Noonan, Sean Byrnes, Derek Murphy and Ciaran Murphy. Maurice and Derek capped a fine day by both been selected on the All Star team of the day.

The Wednesday sessions in CBS are proving a resounding success and are open to anyone between 6 and 16 years of age to try out this fast and enjoyable sport.

Our U18 girls had a very busy weekend with Cork league games on 3 consecutive days. A number of girls were not available for all 3 days, due to injury and exam commitments, so a rotation policy was put in place. This was to target the home game against Carraig na BhFear as a must win game. The policy just about paid dividends with the girls rallying from a 6 point deficit going into the last quarter to win out 50-44 in the end.

Top scorers for the girls were Lynsey Purcell 18 and Ciara O' Halloran 14.

Our U15 girls are slowly but surely getting to the pace of the Cork league. The fixtures list was unkind to the girls as they had to face the top 3 ranked teams in Cork in their first 3 fixtures with 2 of those games away. The girls found Brunell too strong last Friday night in Cork despite a game high 20 points from Jane Clohessy.

The girls improved the following day in their home game against Carraig na BhFear. They were competitive for a large part of this game before Jane Clohessy and Roisin Gleeson were fouled out in the second half. Once the girls cut down on avoidable fouls and find a little composure in their play, thus reducing silly turnovers, they should soon start to win their fair share of games. Carraig na BhFear eventually won out 48-27.

Top scorers were Roisin Gleeson 10 and Ruth Butler 6.

Our U12 and U14 girls travelled to Dromcollogher with depleted squads due to injury and illness hoping to sneak wins against Springfield in the North Munster League. The U14s were missing 4 regulars and as a result 6 of the U12 squad played up on the day. This was an even game with only a point separating the sides at half time. Springfield got a little run on our girls in the third quarter and this proved to be the difference in the end, with the home team winning out 36-28.

Top scorers for Colms were Ruth Butler and Ruth Dollard on 10 points apiece with strong performances also by Muireann Scanlon and Megan Haugh.

The U12s suffered a blow with leading player Orla Zundel going over on an ankle in training late in the week, ruling her out of the game. There were debuts for U10 players Lucy Liston and Bronagh Dollard who did not look out of place at U12 level.

Again this game was a close affair with Colms up 2 points going into the final quarter. The girls really stepped up in the final quarter to win out 24-12.

Top scorers were Lauren Walsh 8 and Emma McDonnell 6 with notable contributions by Caoimhe Hogan and Shiofra Gleeson.

Our U10 girls had an entertaining challenge game against Springfield U12B before losing out 17-10. These games are a big help to these girls. Those that shone on the day were Naoise Fitzpatrick, Sarah O' Brien and Jana Zundel.

This week our senior Scholars play their deferred North Munster League game away to Shannon.

Our U15 girls are in Cork League action at home to St Anthony's.

Finally our U12, U14, U16 and U18 teams are away to Celtics in the North Munster League.

26<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Our U15 girls recorded a welcome victory in the Cork league last Saturday at home to St Anthonys. This game took an age to get going with both teams guilty of poor shot selection especially the home side. After a stern talking to at the end of the first quarter, our girls took control in the second quarter. They worked tirelessly in defence and slowly began to find their shooting range to open up an 8 point lead at the interval. The girls extended the lead out to 16 at the end of the third quarter before closing out the game 39-24.

Top scorers for Colms were Roisin Gleeson 12, Jane Clohessy 11 and Laura O' Shea 7.

Our teams recorded a mixed bag of results in the North Munster League away to Celtics.

Our U18 girls survived a bruising encounter to deservedly win out their game on a scoreline of 41-38. The girls trailed this game by a point going into the final minute before two crucial scores by Caoimhe Gleeson and Lynsey Purcell sealed a narrow win.

Top scorers for Colms were Lynsey Purcell 14, Caoimhe Gleeson 10 and Ciara O' Halloran 9.

Our U12, U14 and U16 girls all lost out comprehensively to the home side in their games. Poor second and fourth quarter performances by our U12 girls proved their undoing as they turned the ball over too many times gifting the home side easy baskets on route to a 44-18 win. Best for Colms were Megan Haugh on 5 points and Orla Zundel on 4.

Our U14 girls were missing some key players and were not helped by Ruth Butler and Laura O' Shea sitting out large parts of the game, as both complained of feeling unwell. 5 of the U12 squad played up and acquitted themselves well with Ruth Dollard and Emma Cunningham best for Colms in their 41-14 defeat.

The girls gained some compensation defeating Celtics B in a low key affair by 21-6 with U12 players Caoimhe Hogan and Megan Haugh top scoring for the girls on 6 points apiece.

Our U16 girls were quite competitive in their game with little separating the sides at half time. However a poor third quarter allowed Celtics open up a healthy lead which they never relinquished easing to a 46-19 win. Chloe Dineen 6 and Jane Clohessy 5 top scored for the girls.

Our U10 girls continue to garner experience when they played Celtics U12B in a challenge game. These youngsters will have to wait a little longer before a win as they fell short this time on a scoreline of 14-4. Sarah O' Brien, Lucy Liston and Naoise Fitzpatrick were best for the girls.

Our Senior lost their unbeaten start to the North Munster league with an away defeat to Phoenix Shannon. The ladies have only themselves to blame as they spurned

numerous scoring opportunities in a game where most of the players failed to spark. Aoife O' Connell on 8 and Ashling Stapleton 6 were best for Scholars on a night best forgotten in their 25-36 defeat.

Next week the Scholars have a quick chance to redeem themselves with an away game against Foynes. Our Saints are also away as they travel to Kingfisher.

Our U15 girls have a double header in the Cork league with a home game against Mallow followed by an away game in Glanmire.

Our U18 girls are also away to Glanmire.

Our U10 girls are in Dromcollogher for an U10 Blitz.