**NORTHANTS BASKETBALL CLUB**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Six games ‘on the road’ for teams for the Northants Basketball Club last weekend**

**with a ‘full house’ of wins**

**Cadet Boys get back to winning ways**

**Under 16 Boys EBL Midlands 1 Conference**

**Coventry “Elite” 32 – 72 Northants “Thunder”**

The Northants Cadet boys got back to winning ways with a convincing victory over Coventry “Elite” last Saturday.

“Thunder” led 26-14 at half time without ever playing at their best and grateful for 18 points from Fran Guei and James Kellett-Maughan. They exploded into life in the third quarter thanks for five long range ‘twos’ and a three-pointer from forward Harry Dutton as “Thunder” took the quarter 20-12 to lead 46-26 going into the final stanza.

By now the “Elite” resolve was broken and in the final quarter seven players contributed to the scoring as “Thunder” poured in 26 points and conceded just six to close out the game at

72 points to 32.

In the forty point win which keeps the team in top place in the Midlands 1 Conference the “Thunder” scoring was led by Dutton with 20 points, Guei and Kellett-Maughan supporting well with 12 points apiece

**Under 14 Girls swamp “Trailblazers”**

**Under 14 Girls NBL Midlands Conference**

**Derby “Trailblazers” 10 - 117 Northants “Lightning”**

The Northants “Lightning” under 14 Girls opened their national league campaign with an away game at Derby “Trailblazers” and recorded an overwhelming victory over an inexperienced Dery outfit.

The “Lightning” team were on a different level to “Trailblazers” but Coach Mark Spatcher explained that he would have preferred a tougher challenge before this weekend’s game against Conference leaders City of Birmingham “Rockets”.

Against Derby no less than six “Lightning” players led by Macy Latimer, Michelle Makuna and Campbell Spatcher scored in double digits.

**Under 15 Boys hold on to beat “Bears”**

**YBL Under 15 Boys Primis**

**Birmingham “Bears” 47 – 57 Northants “Thunder”**

The Northants Under 15 Boys maintained their 100% Primis record with a hard-fought win over Birmingham “Bears”. “Thunder” held a narrow 24-17 lead at half time after a low scoring first half.

During the half time Coach Brad Hughes called for more intensity on defence and his team produced this in the third quarter with their trapping zone defence causing “Bears” all sorts of problems. Wilson Carr and Jay Jay Lothian worked hard on defence forcing the home side to turn the ball over on numerous occasions allowing Joe Safo and Logan Tanner to score freely on the fast break. “Thunder” outscored their opponents 23-11 over the ten minute period to lead 47-28 going into the last ten minutes of play.

Holding an unassailable lead “Thunder” were guilty of poor clock management in the fourth quarter and they also missed a clutch of free throws. This allowed “Bears” to take the quarter 19-10 but the final result was never seriously in doubt “Thunder” holding on for a 57 to 47 win.

In the ten point victory Joe Safo and Logan Tanner led the “Thunder” scoring with 14 and 12 points respectively good support coming from Anton Kelly with eight points. This weekend the team return to national league action when they take on Coventry “Tornadoes” who recently beat the club’s under 16 team.

**“Storm Too” clinch first win over Derby**

**Under 12 Boys NBL Midlands Conference**

**Derby “Trailblazers” 32 – 58 Northants “Storm Too”**

The Northants “Storm Too” team picked up their first win of the season after a 26 point victory over East Midlands rivals Derby “trailblazers”. “Storm Too” showed good concentration and this allowed them to execute their transition game winning all four quarters being particularly dominant in the second quarter which they won 21-8.

The top scorer for “Storm Too” was Deev Patel with 14 points good support coming from Henry Daly and Mark Spatcher with 11 and nine points respectively.

**Under 9’s impress in Daventry**

**Under 9 YBL Tournament**

**Daventry “Swifts” 10 - 48 Northants “Storm”**

**Coventry “Tornadoes” 12 – 38 Northants “Storm”**

A little bit of history was created last Saturday when an Under 9 team from the Northants club played games in a formal league.

Saturday’s games were against the tournament hosts, Daventry “Swifts” and Coventry “Tornadoes” and the “Storm” team well prepared by Coach Corinne Douglas comfortably won both games. Stand in coach Karen Goodrich expressed pleasure with the way the team played passing well and playing defence with an intensity that was far too much for their opponents.

**THIS WEEKEND’S ACTIVITIES**

**Saturday 18th November**

**9-30am to 10-30am** Budding “Ballers”

**10-30am to 11-45am** Junior “Ballers”

**12-15pm** Under 12 “Storm” versus Warwickshire “Hawks”

Under 14 Girls versus City of Birmingham “Rockets”

**2-30pm** Under 16 Girls versus Wolverhampton “Slam”

Under 13 Boys versus Coventry “Tornadoes”

**4-45pm** OEH Group Junior Men versus Oxford “Hoops”

Under 14 Girls II travel to Braintree to play Braintree and Norfolk

**Sunday 19th November**

**10-30am** Under 16 Boys versus “Ballers Heaven”

**12-30pm** Under 14 Boys versus Coventry “Tornadoes”

**2-30pm** Under 15 Boys versus Coventry “Tornadoes”

**The “Ballers” activities and home games will take place at The Basketball Centre which is based**

**at Northampton School for Girls, Spinney Hill Road, Northampton NN3 6DG**

**Spectators are welcome at the games; refreshments will be available, and admission is FREE**

For further information on this Press Release contact:

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