

Basketball – Junior Inter-town

By Gina Timms

Round 2 saw some upsets in the NWBU junior coastal roster.

Burnie's U16 girls defeated an undermanned Devonport Warriors. Burnie's Tallissa Wilson dominated at both ends of the court and Devonport's defence just lacked intensity. Devonport being a younger side with mostly first year players struggled against a very competitive Tigers line-up.

Due to the Basketball Tasmania U14 camp, some games were rescheduled.

Devonport U18 girls stole victory from a weaker Burnie Tigers, winning by 28 points. Jess Russell was again outstanding for the Warriors, proving why she is heading away with the state under 18 team next month. Burnie's Jemma Allen was best on court supported by Chloe Gillett and Rachael Newton.

On the edge of your seat was the game between the Tigers and Warriors U16 boys.

The Warriors came out of the blocks hard and fast leading by 14 points at quarter time. Devonport's Ryan Cook and Jakeb Morrison kept the scoreboard moving and Burnie's Mitchell Salter and Eli Templeton displayed great teamwork for Burnie.

Burnie did come back and with only a couple of minutes to go, scores were level. Devonport dug deep fending off some physical Tigers' defence to win by just 6 points.

The Warriors U14 boys went down to the Tigers by 5 points also another exciting game.

Devonport's Matt Brazendale is "back" top scoring with 22 to lead his team to victory over the Tigers by 31 points.

Smithton hosted Ulverstone Hoppers and the U16 boy's game was literally a walk over. Smithton only managed 9 points all game and the Hoppers dominated at the other end of the court with a whopping 106 points.

Smithton's U18 boys however had the Hoppers worried all game. Smithton's Michael Bransden kept the scoreboard ticking away but Ulverstone's Mason Bragg dominated in offence supported by Cohan McDermott to allow the Hoppers to win by 1 point. Smithton's Matt Elliott was outstanding in defence but struggled to shut down the accurate shooting of the Hoppers.

The Hoppers off-season preparation is certainly paying dividends with all 6 teams winning against the Saints.

Wynyard's Josh Handley along with James Allen took care of the U16 Latrobe Demons. Scoring 36 points and 20 points the Wildcat boys ran away with a 70-point victory. The game was a very one-sided affair, with Wynyard outplaying Latrobe in all aspects of the game.

The Demon's U14 boys however did win their game with a much disciplined team effort, Matt Smith top scored with 12 points.

The Wildcat women took care of the U16 Demon girls. Wynyard played an excellent defensive game forcing many turnovers from lack lustre Demons. Wynyard's Mikayla Scholes and Kelsey Johnstone were awesome in the scoring department penetrating through the top of the key on numerous occasions without much pressure from Latrobe. The Wildcats came away with a 23-point victory.

The U14 girl's game was a nail biter, with scores 34 all at the final siren forcing the game to overtime. Latrobe was in foul trouble with two of their player's fouled out leaving only one player on the bench. The girl's composure was flawless, with Latrobe adding another 7 points to their tally, keeping Wynyard scoreless to take game honours.

Penguin hosted Somerset and the closest game was the U16 girls game with a 16 – 4 point 2nd quarter saw Penguin lead by 5 points at half time, which was the result with the Blues coming out on top.

Penguin's Hayley Saunders top scored with 21 for her team in the U18 girls with Somerset's Emily Smith equalling also with a personal score of 21. Somerset doubled Penguin's points in a 74-37 final score.

Somerset U18 and U14 boys both came away with wins putting the "Heat" on the Blues. The Heat's Sam Douglas and Ben Richmond dominated offensively and Joe Lade and Thomas Guard fought hard in defence. This was a close game with a 13-point victory to Somerset. The U16 boys game saw Somerset go down to Penguin by 21 points thanks to Dylan Peach and Michael Forsythe's accurate shooting. Thomas Simpson played great defence supported by Josh Abel and Lachlan Barker.

Somerset's Kyle Clarke top scored in the U14 boy's game with 20 and Penguin's Jesse Jewell top scored with 11. Somerset's Gabe Dennison was best on court.

Game Results:

U14 Girls: Ulverstone 56 d Smithton 44, Latrobe 41 d Wynyard 34,

U14 Boys: Somerset 60 d Penguin 39, Ulverstone 64 d Smithton 56, Burnie 36 d Devonport 31, Latrobe 51 d Wynyard 38,

U16 Girls: Penguin 48 d Somerset 43, Ulverstone 74 d Smithton 24, Burnie 63 d Devonport 48, Wynyard 52 d Latrobe 29,

U16 Boys: Penguin 55 d Somerset 34, Ulverstone 106 d Smithton 9, Devonport 48 d Burnie 42, Wynyard 99 d Latrobe 29,

U18 Girls: Somerset 74 d Penguin 37, Ulverstone 87 d Smithton 12, Devonport 67 d Burnie 39, Latrobe 49 d Wynyard 43

U18 Boys: Somerset 53 d Penguin 40, Ulverstone 41 d Smithton 40, Devonport 68 d Burnie 37, Wynyard 48 d Latrobe 47