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HAVE YOU HEARD . . .

It has been a busy few months at the Sports Academy with various sports competing in some major competitions around the country. Christmas is getting closer and a well deserved break will start for everyone but there is still a lot to come before that.

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Powerchair Football Update

National League

Two team from the Academy have already taken part in two week-ends so far this year with the next one not until February now it is all focusing on practice to keep them at the same understanding level they were at from the last week-end.

Northern Thunder, who play in the Premiership, have had some very good results in the league so far and after finishing 2nd last year, hopes are high for matching that or even better. The first weekend showed that the competition they were against was still as strong as ever and with one draw and one loss in the league and two wins in the Cup competition they showed some strength but also some areas they needed to work on.

The second weekend however showed the strength and ability the team has. The weekend ended with two wins and two draws with the team showing how good they

are, at one point during the game against the team currently sitting at the top of the table everyone was gathered around the pitch which gave a huge motivation to the team.

Northern Thunder Blues who play in the Championship stormed their way through the first weekend in the League with two wins, although unfortunately had an unlucky draw in the Cup having to play their teammates from Northern Thunder who showed why they are playing in the Premiership. The second weekend for the Blues didn't go quite as well with two draws and two loses giving them challenges to overcome before the next weekend.

Regional League

The Sports Academy has held two Regional League days so far for the teams who train here. Including the two National league teams there are also teams from the Academy ses-

sions and Grass Roots

which is where players will start to learn the skills required for this game. The days have showed some great football with the scores reflecting this. All the results can be found on the Northern Thunder website.-

www.northernthunder.co.uk

The Cup that is being played for has been named The Joyce Walton Cup in memory of the Grandmother of one of the players who sadly passed away a few months ago. Joyce did a lot for the Academy and instead of flowers at her funeral money was collected for the academy.



The Player Profile will now be included in every newsletter and is to help us get to know the athletes here at the Academy.

Wheelchair Basketball

Junior Session

The session is still as popular as ever and numbers are still growing every week. There have been a number of beginners joined the club since it restarted after the summer and the club is being split into under 15s and under 19s as the number can allow this.

Regional Competition

Both the under 15s and 19s teams have taken part in the Regional Junior Basketball weekends recently which takes place at Stoke Mandeville. The last competition showed the under 15s storm through the day winning all of their games. The under 19s unfortunately came up against some very strong opposition losing the games they had during the day. The team gained a lot of insight into the type of competition they would be up against. The next competition is on the 20th November with both teams traveling to the same venue to take part in another day of competition.

Eagles 2 Division 3 Team

A new team has formed for Basketball this year and has entered the League in Division 3. The team is made up of some already experienced players as well as some juniors and some people new to the sport who are now too old to play in the junior league. The team trains twice a week and have played five games so far with 2 wins and 3 loses.

Stewart Pimblett and Michael Lomax who are both Super League players coach the team. The team was set up to give those too old for juniors a chance to play and also those who have the potential to play for the Super League team a chance to gain experience of playing in competitive games.

Percy Hedley Sports Academy recently hosted the DSE Regional Boccia competition which took place from the 12th-14th October. The event was very successful with over 100 competitors taking part. People

from all over the North East came to the days including a lot from the various schools and colleges that Percy Hedley run or are involved in. The days were split up into groups for, Rammers, Throwers and P39s. The team has now been named and

18 competitors will be traveling down to Sheffield to represent to North East on the 28th-29th November in the DSE National Boccia Competition.

Boccia DSE Regional Competition

New Member of Staff

A new member of staff has joined the Academy, after completing a 6 week placement Kathryn Easson has continued to work at the Sports Academy and coaches in many of the different clubs. She is currently in her third year at Northumbria University studying Sport Science with Coaching.

Player Profile

Name- Rob Thompson

Age- 22

Sport- Powerchair Football

Studying- Sport Development with Coaching at Northumbria University

Hobbies- Anything to do with sport

Favourite Food- Spaghetti Bolognese

Favourite TV Programme- Benidorm

Events coming up.....

28th-29th November- DSE Boccia National Competition which will be held in Sheffield.

5th December- Eagles 2 vs. Vikings at Percy Hedley Sports Academy

12th December- Eagles 2 vs. Cardinals at Percy Hedley Sports Academy

13th December- Eagles (Super league) vs. Outlaws at Percy Hedley Sports Academy

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