

Phoenix Junior Men find it tough in Cup.

Perth Phoenix Junior Men were in action last Thursday night in the Senior Men's local cup competition. The Junior Men play in this competition to support the activities organised by Basketball Tayside and Fife, and drew Frews Madsons Senior Men's team from Dundee. With the tip-off being scheduled for 8.45pm a number of the Phoenix regulars were not able to travel for the fixture, but a squad was assembled between the U-16's and U-18's in the club to fulfil the fixture.

Phoenix found it tough from the beginning as Frews made the most of their physical presence to race into an 18-8 first quarter lead and exploit a number of peculiar officiating decisions. Still the young Phoenix side came out battling in the second quarter and by half time every player in the 10 man squad had seen some court action. However, Frews managed to extend their lead to 17 points at the half as they found some scoring form from the three point line against the Phoenix zone defence. The third quarter followed a similar pattern to the rest of this physical encounter with the home side pressing forward their physical advantage and making the most of every opportunity they were presented with as well continuing their scoring form from three point shots. This enabled them to win the third quarter and extend their lead to 24 points. In fairness to the young and inexperienced Phoenix team, they stuck to their task throughout the game in spite of the other things that were occurring during this bruising encounter, and won the final quarter 24-15 on the back of some excellent scoring from the field and the free throw line and a great job on the defensive boards restricting second chance opportunities for the home team. Top scorer for Phoenix was team Captain Jake Warrington with 32 points. He was supported by Scott Thomas with 11 points and Darnell Starks Jnr with 10 points.

This weekend there is no National League action due to the basketball Scotland Scottish Cup finals being on at the Pleasance Sports Department in Edinburgh. However, on Friday Night the Senior Men host Abertay at Perth Academy with an 8pm tip-off.