Northants JMs u14 Netball club travelled to Sheffield at the weekend to play in the National U14 Club Finals after qualifying as runners up in the East Midlands regional competition.

The competition consisted of two days playing against the top teams in the country and JMs started their campaign with a match against Ribble (North West Champions who went on to win the whole thing). The game was very one sided with a team that was very slick and well drilled which reflected in the score line- 31-7 loss to JMs

After the initial heavy defeat JMs had to try and pick themselves up for the next game against Leeds Athletic. This game was extremely close with only one goal in it at half time with Chloe Essam being the star shooter. Unfortunately JMs lost a bit of focus which meant we went on and recorded another loss 17-14 despite great defensive efforts by Maddie Munro-Hall.

After a significant break in proceedings we then had to play Turnford which was quite a physical game and JMs appeared to get rattled by the physicality of it all and lost their heads losing 20-9.

Going into day 2 we were playing off for 13th - 18th position so we were desperate to start off with a win, and made some crucial changes to the squad line up. We played with determination and drive to record our first victory against Oaksway 26-18 playing some stunning netball. Lauren Coull worked so hard in the centre court to bring home the win.

The second game was to be against Chevrons who looked determined from the off. The JMs line up that got the previous victory looked tired and couldn’t claw back the deficit loosing 11-22.

Waiting for the results to come in we soon realised that we were playing off for 15th and 16th against our fellow Northamptonshire side Futureprint Netball Club which was always going to be a good derby, and the team we beat at regionals to gain our qualifying place. The game went goal for goal until the last quarter when Futureprint capitalised on some JMs errors and went on to win 16-13.

"The girls appeared to run out of steam in their last game which is a little disappointing but we are proud of the girls and being 16th in the country for netball is a great achievement, the squad has loads of potential, so it is exciting times for us" Coach Kelly Washington