Back to Netball gets into the Festive Spirit

On Tuesday 11th December 2012, 65 enthusiastic ladies attended the Nottinghamshire Back to Netball Christmas Festival that was held at Lee Westwood Sports Centre, Nottingham Trent University. Seven teams where formed from several Back to Netball sessions across Nottinghamshire from Portland leisure Centre; Clifton Leisure Centre; Nottingham Community Sports Ltd; Nottingham Girls High School; Long Eaton; Eastwood and Aldercar. For the majority of the ladies this Festival was their first competitive netball since being at school and the excitement and passion they portrayed seemed to take them back to their school years.  All teams celebrating getting ‘Back to Netball’

All teams played 6 games in a round robin formation. Clifton Celts coach Justine Drury was pleased with her team’s performance as they won some games convincingly. There were some fantastic phases of play from all teams and despite the pressures of competition all shooters scored some long range shots. Portland Jets were very pleased with their performance throughout the evening as they successfully won all their games putting them in first place. The ladies have only been attending the Back to Netball programme for eight weeks and have never played together as a team. Coach, Kaylea McQuade said ‘I am delighted with how well the ladies played tonight. It was really nice to see them working together and performing skills we had worked on in training. I look forward to seeing them compete in the City of Nottingham Back to Netball League in 2013.’

Later that week Back to Netball Nottingham joined up with Nottingham School Sports Partnership to run a Secondary School Teachers Netball Festival. Five Schools entered the festival: Nottingham Girls Academy; Nottingham Academy; Trinity School; Emmanuel School and Top Valley School. The festival took place at Nottingham University’s Jubilee Sports Centre on Thursday 13th December. Lots of great netball was played and Nick Robb, Physical Activities, Sport and PE Manager said, ‘I am really pleased with how the festival went. It was great to see such sportsmanship between the different schools.’ The final game saw Nottingham Academy face Trinity School in what was an end to end game. After 12 minutes of goal for goal netball, Nottingham Academy finally pulled away winning by two goals. Well done to all 12 teams who competed this week. We look forward to next round of competition in March 2013.

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