

Rugby Union: Around the Grounds – Round 4

1st XV

Another tough away round where the team had to deal with Old Boys Day and other events prior to kick off. The side continued to build on the dominant performance from last week, and again scored a decisive 43-17 victory over a willing Padua side. The forward pack established the upper hand on their rivals at set piece which laid a platform for attacking, running rugby. Harry Condon had his best performance at 9 with his tactical kicking a welcome addition to controlling the game and exiting our own half.

Dwayne Ludwick was threatening every time he touched the ball and the left edge made the most of early opportunities in attack. The locks (Pat Gavin and Matt Osborne) had significant involvements with both scoring tries. Jack Condon's (7) leadership on and off the field has forged and galvanised a team willing to play for each other and show a resilience we've come to expect from a Marist 1st XV. We look forward to a home round v Iona this week.

3rd XV

Thirds played their best game yet to win 38 to 0. Wingers did well and Frankie and ishy had strong games at lock. Ziggy led well and credit to assistant coach George perrers.

4th XV

A dominant performance underpinned by the set piece. Lineout was top shelf, scrum attack a bit mixed, but defensive scrum a highlight. Midfield was relentless in their pressure and forced error after error well behind the Padua ad-line. Well led all day by Hugh McCann and our centre rotation.

In attack our game plan this week included Operation PATARCY (a sub plot to get anyone whose name rhymed with Pat or Darcy over the try line). But seemingly with a lack of interest by some players, was replaced by operation ANDREAS TRIPLE - with front rower Andreas Roska rampaging through defenders to bring up two tries in the first half. Crowned his triple with a nice pattern run off Angus Brown to go over under the posts mid second half for his third try. Nice work Andreas, now a legitimate threat for leading try scorer.

Individual try of the day goes to Jack L'Enfant. The sideline was wondering what he was doing running 1 inch from the touch line with Padua defenders everywhere, but apparently, he knew. Great gas and evasion, top job Jack.

Team highlight of the match was the final minutes of the game. Initiated by a less than urgent effort in our kick return, Padua would set up for a scrum 5m from our try line – and this would be the start of the seven-minute siege. This would include 10 penalties, 8 of them under advantage, and three quick yellow cards putting us down to 12 – almost all probably deserved. The down beaten Padua suddenly became very keen, but under enormous pressure the boys continued to make stop after stop. Until eventually 2 minutes past regulation time, we forced the error – and without advantage! Top job by all out there (the bench was going nuts to be a part of it) - a great example of what we prioritise in our footy.

We look forward to this weekend, with an expectation to deliver our best performance of the season against an undefeated Iona.

5th XV

A tough day at the office for the Fighting Fifts as they lined up against Iona 3rds on Saturday on McMahon Oval.

Iona brought with them a large and disciplined forward pack that had the measure of the Ashgrove forwards who had dominated most of their teams this season so far. Iona crossed 4 times before half time in what were uncharacteristic lapses in defence for Ashgrove. The 5ths trailed 24-0 at half time.

Ethan Schnaubelt crossed in the 31st minute to put Ashgrove on the board until Iona again responded.

Frank Baker made a strong run from broken play and scored in the 44th minute. The lads won the second half, but Iona had already bolted away. Very proud of the way the boys hung in and did not lie down right up until the final whistle.

6th XV

The mighty 6th's played against Padua 5th's and notched up their first victory of the season. Finally things started to click as a team with better shape in attack and increased intensity in our defence. Paddy Manning decided to take things seriously after a few pre-game home truths and the team followed his lead. But it was the forwards that ultimately allowed our backs to take advantage of their improved work at the breakdown. After falling behind by 2 tries late in the first half the team recognised that it was only through application that they could claw their way back. Defensive line speed put Padua under pressure and led to us holding them in their half for the remainder of the game. The continued defensive pressure resulted in Marist scoring 3 second half tries to win 22-17.

7th XV

Despite a 14-28 defeat, the 7ths put up a strong fight against the Iona 4ths. The boys got off to a slow start, however they managed to find their rhythm and fight back late in the second half to get 2 quick tries in to put points on the board and close the gap. Particular mention goes to Carter Bidgood, who continues to demonstrate his dedication to the sport with his efforts at training, and having played a solid game over the weekend. We look forward to seeing Carter and the boys continue to improve in the weeks to come.

8th XV

Shunted to the backblocks of Runcorn, the 8ths managed to perform another entertaining running Rugby spectacle. The first 10 minutes saw our boys cross their line 3 times through our slick backline, but tries were disallowed. With our forwards driving hard through punch plays up wide of the ruck, points finally came our way with 2 tries.

This stung our opposition, who stepped up and managed to even the scores by halftime.

The second half unfolded with more heavy raids through the forwards, battering a tiring but resilient opponent. Eventually, the space was created for our fast men to use and they capitalised with two more skilfully executed tries. Brutal defence and a persistent focus on maintaining possession kept SLC pinned in their territory, and scoreless in the second half.

Try scorers: Roman Schutt(2), Ethan Tallis, Finn De Nino.
Harry Dyer 1 conversion.

9th XV

Amazing effort from the boys with only 1 sub. Kept it close all game and unfortunately were unlucky to not get the win. A back-and-forth battle, the boys are to be congratulated for their outstanding effort on the day.

10A

As one of only two undefeated teams left in the 10A competition this match was a highly anticipated one. After a disjointed start with the game starting late, we were on the back foot from the beginning and could not get much momentum against a hungrier Padua side. Trailing 10-0 the boys fought back well with Zane Seeto scoring an impressive set piece try in the corner to narrow the margin to 10-5. Despite crossing the line twice in the 2nd half we could not translate that into points on the scoreboard and with an unfortunate injury stopping the game short, the score remained 10-5. Congrats to all boys on working extremely hard in what was a grinding and tough affair. Our forwards were exhausted by the end of the game and deserve special commendation for their efforts. We look forward to the remaining matches in what has been a tight competition this year.

10B

Another solid display by the 10B's, still haven't played a full error free game but can not fault the effort of the team. Looking forward to a home battle this week end against Iona, Premiership title is on the line. Final score 20-0

9A:

The 9A rugby team suffered a close defeat (10-16) at the hands of a committed Padua on Saturday. It is fair to say that The Ashgrove side did not play up to their potential. After either fighting their way out of their defensive end or after building pressure in the attacking half, Ashgrove turned over the ball through a careless error and hence found themselves back in the defensive end. The loss was the result of high error rate and costly infringements and certainly not due to a lack of effort. Many players, such as Zac Wilde, Jasper Barry, Tom Howard & Leo Henry, threw themselves at the defensive line. Hopefully we will see the Ashgrove side dominate the breakdown and clear past the ball in the following weeks. They are clearly capable; they just need to make it the priority.

9C:

A good win for the 9C squad even though it was not a 'complete' performance by the team. The team began well with Cooper Guise, Jack Riley and Trenton Hastie all scoring in the first half to go into the break 17-5 up. Oscar McVey, Jack Casey, Lachlan Berwick and Trenton Hastie all crossed in the second half in what was a much better team effort than that of the first half. If the team can work on respecting the ball in future games it will go a long way in showcasing their full potential. Cooper Guise and Jack Riley had solid games in the backline, whilst Lachlan Coleman and Tom Dreghorn were busy as always in the forwards. Next match against Iona should be the toughest match of the season.

7A

The 7As turned up at Banyo knowing they were going to be really challenged. The game started at a breakneck speed and quickly Padua asserted themselves by scoring quickly. Marist responded by playing tough and smart rugby and made their way down the field to score 2 tries to take a 10-5 lead.

This was the last time Marist crossed the line, but the final score did not represent the spirit and toughness that Marist played with. After losing our captain to a high shot the Padua applied pressure that Marist could not handle and scored 3 late tries to win 22-10.

7C

Another great team effort that showed how dominance at the breakdown can translate into points on the board. The early stages of the game saw Ashgrove go for 10 phases holding onto the ball. Wonderful stuff for a grade 7 team.

Standouts:

The athleticism of Lincoln Stockwell

Harry Franklin's power at running the ball – 2 tries!!

Harry Prole's slick passing to ignite the backline

Etan Bell – the picture of determination when running with the ball.

The gutsiness of Aurelius Ferdinands

Owen Barker's speed and illusiveness

Luke Speedy's great service to the backline – one of this best games

Determined running and evasiveness by Jett Collison – his best game to date.

James Milasis – wonderful to see with ball in hand – an instinctive player.

Let's keep this great team effort going boys – play hard, fast and fair.

7D

During the week at training, we worked on our defence and also our spacing on offence. The boys learnt from training and put it into practice during the game against Padua as we managed to score 91 points to nil. It was great to see everyone getting involved as we had 11 different players score tries. Looking forward to this week as we hope to improve even more.