

Marist Basketball – Round 3 vs. Iona College

	Result	MVP
7A	Marist 32 Iona 31	Marley Williams
	<p>This group of boys continue to impress. Matching up against a much bigger Iona side I told the boys the key to winning this game was to box out and win every rebound we can. Iona built a small lead in the first half and our boys didn't back down from the challenge. They played amazing defence inside the paint. Got almost every rebound and loose ball and it was clear they wanted the win more than Iona did. They stuck together and fought extremely hard and never gave up which led to a Josh McLean basket putting us up 1pt with 6 seconds left. Marli Williams played amazing defence all game and was very aggressive in rebounding the ball and he was the MVP of the weekend.</p>	
7B	Marist 21 Iona 17	Parker O'Neill
	<p>The boys got off to a hot start playing some great basketball. The ball was flying around the court our defence was superb and our results were reflected. Iona slowly brought the lead back and then the power went out in the stadium. Being moved to an indoor court in the heat the group did a great job of staying focused on the task at hand and with a very. Close second half they closed the game out holding onto their 3pt lead. Next week we'll look to improve the way we break pressure bringing the ball up the court but overall very happy with the performance this weekend.</p>	
7C	Marist 30 Iona 29	
7D	Marist 33 Iona 29	Aston James Daniel Dau
	<p>This weeks game was the toughest yet, being a back and forth contest throughout. Much of the team had to step up and play extra minutes, propelling the team to a hard fought win against a tough Iona squad.</p> <p>With a change to venue at the last minute, it took a while for the team to adjust, however after a close three quarters, we were able to build a strong lead in the fourth quarter with some brilliant individual and team efforts led by Daniel Dau and Aston James, encouraging the team to hold onto the lead and take another deserving victory.</p>	

	Result	MVP
8A	Iona 48 Marist 27	
	Coming up against a very big Iona side the boys had a challenge ahead. A slow start didn't help however they rallied together and put some pressure back onto Iona with a full court press. After some couple steals that lead to points we began our comeback but Iona just held off for long enough that the time pressure forced us to play very fast and resulted in some easy points for Iona.	
8B	Iona 48 Marist 18	Archie Breitkreuz
	Unfortunately, Marist wasn't able to get into the stride of the game, ending up down by more points every quarter, until the 4th were we got some energy and started playing the best basketball we've played that day, sadly the deficit was too much to come back from. If we bring the right energy next game the team could bounce back next week	
8C	Iona 32 Marist 26	Ryan Williams
	A game that was there for the taking unfortunately we were not able to convert on our chances to bring back a strong Iona team. In patches the boys played to their full potential and would get points on the board but would then let themselves down on the other end by allowing easy baskets. A strong fourth quarter brought us to within reach with great defensive plays including 4 block shots from Ryan Williams. Still things to work on and I'm sure the boys can bounce back next week.	
8D	Iona 37 Marist 24	Mason Wise
	The team started with a strong first quarter, finding themselves up 8 points at the end of the first. Mason Wise contributed significantly, making a number of contested shots. The game was end to end, and tightly contested. Ultimately, Iona put up a good fight and broke away with the lead in the fourth quarter. If the boys can work on maintaining their intensity and focus for the entirety of the game, I'm confident they can bounce back next week.	

	Result	MVP
9A	Iona 71 Marist 31	

9B	Iona 38 Marist 30	Fletcher Byrnes
	<p>In a challenging game against Iona College, the Marist 9Bs faced their first loss of the season. Iona jumped out to a quick 10-4 lead at the end of the 1st quarter with their high press and on-ball defence, making it difficult for Marist to score. A power outage disrupted the game as the second quarter commenced, forcing a long break. This break reset the momentum, and Marist had to start again from an eight-point deficit. Despite a strong fightback led by Fletcher, Raf, and Owen with fast-break layups, clutch shots and free throws, it wasn't enough to close the gap. Marist ultimately fell short, but the team is determined to bounce back next week.</p>	
9C	Iona 37 Marist 33	Tom Clune
	<p>The 9Cs knew that this game would likely determine their place on the ladder for the season. Iona was the team to beat in the competition, and the boys were ready for the challenge. We came out much stronger than previous games and were competitive from the first whistle. This week's MVP Tom set a high standard for the boys to follow, playing with the most energy and drive of anyone on the court, winning us the ball and getting great looks thanks to his hustle.</p> <p>The most impressive takeaway from the game was the boys ability to break Iona's press, something we hadn't encountered so far this season. The bigs Coen and Connor did a fantastic job of flashing inside to disrupt the press and get our guards going on the fast break. Offensively, Harry and Ashton did what they could to organise our offence, but we often rushed into a bad shot, something we'll need to practise this week. Defensively, it was the best the boys have ever played, with great communication and effort, holding Iona below the 40 point mark, although the rebounding continues to be a skill we need to practise.</p> <p>The boys were rightfully disappointed with the end result, as we knew winning was well within our grasp. This week's focus will be our tempo on offence, as we struggled to know when to speed up and when to slow down and get into our sets. The boys should be very proud of how they played against such a strong team, and go into the rest of the season knowing that they can compete with anyone.</p>	
9D	Iona 54 Marist 20	Tarkyn Howard
	<p>The Marist 9Ds gave it their all this week but suffered a disappointing loss to Iona. Despite their best efforts and displaying strong Marist values, the team couldn't clinch the victory against a much more dominant side.</p> <p>Marist trailed throughout the first half, and even with Tarkyn's commendable offensive drive, the team couldn't turn the game around. Tarkyn did the best he could trying to get open in the paint but unfortunately, it wasn't enough to help Marist get on top. Unfortunately, too many unnecessary shots and bad looks really damaged our confidence in the first half.</p>	

	<p>Although our offence was effectively countered by Iona, our defensive efforts left much to be desired. Not nearly enough communication throughout the first half and too many needless turnovers. Definitely room to improve throughout the following week and hope that we can bounce back this weekend.</p> <p>Would like to congratulate the young men on keeping a level head when tensions ran high throughout the game. Not responding to the taunting and physicality of the Iona 9Ds truly emulates the quality of young men that Marist produces. Well done, Marist!</p>
--	--

	Result	MVP
10A	Marist 49 Iona 28	
10B	Iona 53 Marist 42	Matt Stephens
	<p>After a nail-biting win against Padua in round 2, the team gained the confidence to beat a strong Iona team. This showed as sharpshooters Matt Stephens and Frank Heenan knocked down multiple 3-pointers to lead Iona 27-16 going into the third quarter. However, complacency, fatigue and a lack of energy saw the team down by three going into the fourth. This mentality snowballed into a disappointing fourth quarter as the team gave up 20 points to an impressive Iona offence. In light of the loss, a strong shooting performance for Matt Stephens and tough rebounding from Bas Martinuzzi and Finn Cusack should give a much-needed boost in preparation for St Peters in round 4.</p>	
10C	Marist 35 Iona 31	Harry Davies Fletcher Murray
	<p>An unbelievably awesome effort by the 10C lads today taking it to Iona and avenging last year's C/D team losses. Down by 2 at quarter time, the boys played super smart, composed basketball to take the lead in the second quarter, and never give it away again. It was great to see the scenarios practised at training used to great effect: fast break transition from an opposition free throw, and not taking unnecessary shots when up by 6 with under two minutes to go. MVP Harry Davies was super strong at both ends, especially under the basket with his rebounding and shots. Fellow MVP Fletcher Murray had a great game both with his intense effort in defence and keeping the team settled as he brought the ball down the court in transition. James Milasas showed his leadership qualities driving hard to the basket and keeping cool, calm and collected at all times in an intense, hard fought but fair match. And Archie Powell was on fire with 5, yes FIVE, blocks under the basket. Excellent effort lads, lets keep this momentum going for the rest of the season.</p>	
10D	Marist 36	Jack Mahuru

	Iona 17	
	<p>Following a dominant victory against Padua, the Marist College 10Ds aimed to continue their strong form but started slowly once again. However, Jack Maharu's early injection into the game in the first quarter sparked the team to life. With renewed energy, Marist quickly shifted into gear, bolstered by strong defensive efforts that led to crucial turnovers.</p> <p>Jack Purcell dominated under the basket, securing both offensive and defensive rebounds, making his presence felt throughout the game. Ben Hawley demonstrated impressive pace up and down the court, frustrating the opposition at both ends with his relentless hustle. Ethan 'Ding-Dong' Bell showcased his prowess from the low post and beyond the arc, contributing significantly to the team's offensive output. Adrian Garbellini dropped some long bombs, effectively taking the game away from Iona and ensuring Marist's comfortable lead.</p> <p>Iona was never truly in the contest as Marist's 10D team, brimming with talent, played with patience and cohesion, making them a joy to watch. This performance highlights their growing confidence and dominance on the court.</p> <p>Another impressive display from the 10Ds sets them up well for their upcoming game against Laurie's. The team will be looking to continue their winning streak and further solidify their standing.</p> <p>Congratulations to the Marist 10Ds for another stellar performance!</p>	

	Result	MVP
11A	Iona 50 Marist 33	
11B	Marist 47 Iona 34	Julian Roszka
11C	Iona 29 Marist 28	Xavier Cheesman

	Heartbreaking lost for the boys getting run down in the 4th. A lack of composure ended up costing us the result. Cheese knocked down back to back threes on top of the hustle and overall all round game he produces each week. Onto next week.	
11D	Iona 30 Marist 4	

	Result	MVP
First V	Marist College First V 73 Iona 60	Harry Cook
	<p>The boys were treated to the privilege of playing Friday night basketball and the crowd and atmosphere didn't disappoint. We started the game of very well, trading baskets with Iona, our ball movement against their pressured zone got us plenty of good looks. The first half was very tight, with each team going on runs. Some sharp shooting from Austin Beaman helped keep the scoreboard ticking over while Harry Cook defended the paint with multiple blocked shots and defensive rebounds. Baxter Thompson was inserted into the game and brought a heap of physicality that helped lift the teams energy. Jack Forrester found his range with a few triples and his ability to grab rebounds he had no right in getting proved vital. Start of the fourth and our offseason work shown through, grinding Iona down the longer the game went. Matt Gibson did a great job of controlling the tempo down the stretch and making sure we got the looks we were after including knocking down a big three to ice the game and some free throws from Jack Riley pushed it out to a 13pt win. We want to thank everyone who helped organise Friday night, the boys certainly had a great time and enjoyed the night. Off to Indooroopilly next week to keep the momentum going.</p>	
Second V	Iona 53 Marist 46	Joe Pegg
	<p>Our undefeated streak has sadly come to an end against Iona. We lacked discipline in defence and with lapses of concentration and patience in offence that ultimately cost us the game. Going point for point in the first half, the boys dealt with key injuries to Jack J and Tom R, which put some boys in unfamiliar positions. With boys down, others had to step up. We saw James W and Tom D bring some good energy and fight with his defence and some huge, tough buckets from Joe P. With strong shooting from Flynn C and Jacob K, it kept us neck and neck with Iona. Captain Jack Riley was once again steering the ship offensively, but down the stretch, when it mattered the most, lack of communication and frustration really hurt the team, some areas as a team we must improve before this weekend. Nevertheless, the boys should be hungry for more, the</p>	

	<p>effort was there against Iona but now we must put last week behind us as we rebuild to defeat St Peters.</p>	
Third V	<p>Iona 42 Marist 34</p>	<p>Ed Wild Pat Jewel</p>
	<p>A loss in very disappointing circumstances for these excellent young men today who fought against the odds for the entire 40 minutes.</p> <p>Whilst it would be easy to blame the lack of an MCA referee as the sole reason for our loss - and sadly, it definitely had a SIGNIFICANT impact - this doesn't tell the whole story. The fact is, the team got rattled. We forgot to focus on controlling the controllables, and ignoring everything else. A lesson learned the hard way today.</p> <p>MVP Ed Wild's excellent work under the basket was one positive taken from today's game. Fellow MVP Pat Jewel continues to be a powerhouse in defence making life very difficult for the opposition offensive players. George Bell again showed his consistency with his high work rate at both ends of the court. And Sam Wilcox was, as usual, unruffled by opposition tactics and outside forces, keeping his composure and causing issues for his opponents all over the court.</p> <p>I've been coaching this team for a long time now, and know they will bounce back from this loss like the true champions they are.</p> <p>Onward and upwards lads. You're a great group of young men and we still have four games left. Let's make sure we finish this season super strongly!</p>	
Fourth V	<p>Marist 32 Iona 16</p>	