



AIC Rugby League – Round 3 Match Reports

Year 5

The Year 5 Rugby League team knew they were in for a hard game after playing Villanova only the week before in a bey round game.

The year 5 boys did us proud, they played tough, structured footy which saw them come away with a draw against a team which defeated them only the week before.

The team did exactly that, played as a team and are developing every training session and game.

There is still much work to do on many aspects of their game but we the coaches are very proud of the boys effort and attitude this week, and we're sure their progress will be on show for all to see versus Padua on the 20th.

Year 6

This weekend's match against Villanova was always going to be a tough assignment, with recent injuries causing some positional changes and a number of boys battling illness throughout the week. Fortunately, the boys dug deep and put in a huge effort to come away with a comprehensive 28-12 victory.

The instructions before the match were about setting the tone early with quick line speed and hard-hitting defence. Josh, Ned, Tom, Connor and Eddie lifted the team with their strong defence early in the match, which enabled our boys to play some entertaining footy off the back of this. Nick was outstanding and carried the team with him as he made some tough carries through the middle, which allowed Tex, Matt, Archie, Charlie Champion, Zaiden and Finlay to use their speed and footwork and cause havoc for the Villanova defenders.

Coming off at halftime with the score 20-0, the boys were always in a strong position to win the match. However, to Villanova's credit, they continued to play until the final siren scoring three late tries against some fatiguing Ashgrove defence. All in all, this was a pleasing display by Ashgrove and the boys are continuing to build in confidence ahead of some big games over the next few weeks. The man of the match this week is awarded to Nick Osborn.



Year 7

Our year 7 league squad have come together well with our recent training efforts. With another close win, 10 points to 4, the boys are learning how to defend their line well and work hard together. The boys are beginning to understand what it takes to win games of footy and how it doesn't come easy. They are still finding ways to keep the opposition in the game with silly passes in our own half and at times a lack of respect for ball possession, leading to unnecessary change overs in our own half. However, the boys are beginning to understand their roles within the side and we as coaches expect further development in future weeks.

Year 8

We started the game by kicking off to the opposition first. This appeared to work in our favour as our defensive line speed and marker defence put the opposition under enormous pressure immediately.

After a couple of sets of defence and attack by both teams the opposition made a mistake close to their own try line. The mistake provided us with the perfect opportunity to score, which we did shortly after under the posts.

It was now time for us to attack when coming out of our end of the field. The opposition tried gallantly to put our team under pressure without any success. After some strong individual runs and a variety of structured plays under the direction of the halves it didn't take long for us to score another two tries before the half time siren.

Although the opposition was able to score one against us out wide in the first half, it wasn't enough to stop the enthusiastic defence and energy in attack from our team.

The return to the second half seen the opposition attempting some low percentage plays to get back into the game, but like all low percentage plays things didn't work out as they would have liked.

In the end our strong defence and overall teamwork was the key against the opposition's plan of attack, which meant we never looked like giving up the lead as we scored again out wide to seal the win.

What a great team effort.

Final Score: Marist College Ashgrove 24 - Villanova College 14



Year 9

Another good win by the Year 9 boys, 24 – 8. It was great to see our newly introduced attacking shape being used and this helped the lads take control of the game in the first half. Jamie Moyes and Theo Knight led the way up the middle and we earned the right to shift wide where we exposed our opposition on a number of occasions. Liam Rice and Ollie Millard organised the team really well and created many opportunities with their vision and skill. We let in a couple of late tries which was disappointing and learnt that we need to work harder to slow down the opponent's play the ball. This is a team of real promise and we will continue to work hard in preparation for the tough games which are coming up. Well done boys!

Year 10

W: 40-6

Marist ventured to Iona college to take on a physical Villanova side, we were poor in our opening 10 minutes and were once again challenged physically by Villanova. After some poor errors and repeated defensive efforts on our try line, Villa eventually scored off the back of a kick.

Marist responded well and after taking control and earning the right to shift the ball wide, points began opening up. Special shout out to Jacob Harper who had his best game so far this season, he controlled the middle and posed a significant threat with his legs and passing.

Luke Xuereb was pivotal once again, he laid the benchmark to play front foot footy and amassed really important yards. Our forwards were strong defensively and as the game progressed our fitness and desire outmatched the tiring Villanova side.

Our forwards were strong and once again put up a really strong showing that allowed for our backs to attack.

A lot of important takeaways and learnings once again for the Year 10 MCA side. Onwards and upwards.