

## Match Reports – Round 1

### 5A

After a strong start in the first quarter, the 5As were simply outclassed by a well-drilled SLC team. The boys passing and defence improved noticeably since their trial against the same opposition in week 1's trial. A special mention to Harry Cleary, Josh Connell and Toby Mylne who worked hard to stop the SLC fast break, leading all players in steals. This week's focus at training will be offensive aggression and rebounding to limit second chance points.

### 5B

Much improved effort from the boys against a strong Lauries team that was too good in the end. The full week of training paid off and the boys are starting to improve. I expect great things from this team. Defence in particular was outstanding."

### 5C

In their first AIC game for Marist, the 5C boys faced a determined St Lauries outfit who played well throughout the game, maintaining a lead for the first 3 and a half quarters. However, the boys rallied well late in the 4<sup>th</sup>, and in a great display of the Marist spirit managed to come back down double digits and draw the game in the last 30 seconds. Credit goes to boys on a great first game.

### 5 Gold

The first game of the season saw the Marist boys take on SLC for rematch after last week's trial. The game started with great pace with MCA taking an early 8-point lead with some great early ball movement and defensive pressure. Laurie's slowly rallied through the next 3 quarters to leave the game tied with 8 seconds left for the final play but the Marist boys trapped well on defensive to spoil any chances of their opposition scoring. An all-around great game!

### 6A

The 6As had an extremely tough game against a well-rounded Lauries side on Friday afternoon. First game of the season had the boys nervous and ready to compete to try and achieve the goal of an undefeated season. Our starting 5 gave us all hope early on with a couple of great baskets from Ethan Taylor and Ike Rowland. Offensively the boys looked great however defence let us down in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters enabling Lauries to take back our lead and pile on more points of their own. 4<sup>th</sup> quarter defence looked better after some tactics were addressed at quarter time. Some boys struggled to find rhythm while others were consistently scoring through the whole game trying to keep us within 2 to 4 points. The one constant was the incredible amounts of effort each boy displayed when it mattered most whether it was the first minute or the last final seconds. Quinn Lovering stepped up in the final 5 minutes making some tough layups trying to give us that last push for a win however it wasn't enough on the day.

### 6B

The 6Bs knew they were a big chance to start the season off with a win against an SLC team that only defeated us by 2 points the week before.

Unfortunately, this was not the case as SLC dominated the game from the outset in what was a comprehensive 27 - 8 victory. The effort and intensity were certainly there just some errors at key moments hurt us. I am sure they will bounce back against ATC on Friday.

#### 6C

A hard-fought loss to start the season for the 6C team. It was heartening to see the team show great fighting spirit to come back in the last quarter. MVP Alexander Homer showed great court vision to send some great passes to his teammates in the key. Harry Cootes was excellent in both offense and defence. And Callum Curtin was tough to pass when playing defence getting a lot of steals from the opposition players. Next week our goal is to work on securing the rebound on the first attempt and not giving the opposition too many shots on goal.

#### 6 Gold

Great start to the season with a good team win against a strong opposition.

Behind for most of the match it came down to the last quarter.

We scored the necessary points to even it up and then produce the winning shots in the last minutes.

Well done to all boys on their game and great teamwork by Kai Yip  
And Fraser Ullman.

#### 7A

The 7As had a tough first hit out against St Laurences. In the first half we traded baskets and shared the ball around. The boys played a good team defence forcing SLC to take tough shots outside the key way. The second half started and SLC ran a 2-2-1 press, some cheap turnovers and we found ourselves down 10 very quickly. Once we broke their press we settled well but were never able to bring back the deficit.

#### 7B

The 7Bs opened their season against SLC in a game that was tightly contested for most of the game. In a free-flowing affair, the 7Bs held a slim lead going into the 4th quarter but Lauries saved their best for last and were able to pull away in the last quarter to hand the Ashgrove boys a 35-25 loss. The boys defended well and were willing to get out and run, but Lauries were able to convert their chances in the 4th quarter with shot making ultimately proving the difference.

#### 7C

Coming into the match, we had a strong emphasis on layups, keeping our energy up throughout the game and rebounds as Lauries is generally a tough opponent. Whilst there were some things that we didn't do the best as a team overall, everyone played very well in their debuts. Pat, Matty and Frank get shoutouts for being some of the biggest impacts on the court and was a great game from the 7Cs

#### 7D

A fighting effort from the boys in the 7D's. The size advantage to SLC showed on with rebounding but the boys never gave up fighting for those rebounds. Special mention goes to Archie Powell for topping the score charts, Aodhan McGovern for helping space the floor and help find shots for his teammates and Luke Ferguson for his terrific defence.

8A

An encouraging performance for the first game of the season with plenty of positives but still lots of improvement to come. Some real good patches defensively with the effort extending for the full game which was pleasing. Turnovers is the area to work on and that will improve with more training and game time. Implementation of the offense will come along with playing with pace for the full game.

8B

The Year 8 Bs had a promising start to their first round game against SLC. Playing good team basketball in the first half and only narrowly behind SLC on the scoreboard. Unfortunately, we couldn't match SLC in the third quarter as they extended their lead. It was great to see the boys show resilience to fight back and win the last quarter, which should give the team a lot of confidence going into round 2.

8C

The 8C's had a tough first game against a well drilled Lauries side. After taking an early lead we had a tough 2nd & 3rd quarter as Lauries ran out comfortable winners. The boys effort levels never dropped and we are looking forward to round two!

8D

9A

The 9As went down in an extremely rough encounter with Lauries. The boys fought hard, but unfortunately, Lauries outside shooters blew the game out in the first half with some exceptional shooting leaving us way too much to do.

9B

It was a super close battle for game 1. Our captain Flynn opened with a sweet 3 pointer to get the boys fired up. The boys demonstrated great patience and executed our play book perfectly, especially when we were down. We had a plan to close out the game and the boys got the job done with ease. So proud of them all.

9C

The 9C's had a disappointing start to the season, losing to Lauries. We played with plenty of heart keeping the score close in the first half of play. However, our shots just weren't falling in the final half which the opposition capitalised on. Looking forward to the rest of the season with these boys.

9D

A great start to the AIC season for the young men of the 9D team. Leading from the first touch, they defeated St Laurence's 37-15. Jack Shay had a great game scoring a lot of points with his solid drives to the hoop. Clancy Dunn was a standout at both ends of the court, super strong defensively and consistently getting into a good position in offense to score. Pedro Hoffman played strong, tough basketball to steal a lot of ball and score some great baskets.

#### 10A

A very pleasing win against the ol arch enemy. This group continues to grow and develop their basketball IQ. Basketball is a game of runs at times, we led by up to 16 or more, then Lauries had a run and got back to as close as 2 points...the boys then dug deep and took the game away again...

#### 10B

It was just one of those days...the boys played with heart and passion but at the offensive end of the court the baskets just wouldn't drop. Defensively the team looked good and managed to halt many of the SLC attacking raids. Matt Sharland stepped up to bring the game withing reach in the third-quarter but SLC managed to take away the game in the end. Team work still alludes the boys and hopefully this is something that will come with more time and effort at training. Plenty of games to go and a lot of work to do. All the squad look forward to turning it around this weekend.

#### 10C

In Round 1 of the AIC Basketball Season, the Ashgrove 10C's fought hard against a quality Lauries opposition. Unfortunately, a few missed opportunities on the offensive end, paired with a smooth Lauries attack which found its way through our defence more often than not, resulted in the Ashgrove boys going down 32-23. A well fought game to begin the season with plenty to work on in the coming weeks.

#### 10D

The boys lost a very tight game by one point against a very good Lauries outfit. The boys should be very pleased with their effort, as they had to overcome a quick start from Lauries as well as a very slippery ball, due to the weather.

#### 11A

The 11As played a much better game and improved on their trials but unfortunately so did Lauries. We were 21 all at half time but they got away from us in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Offensively Paul Strachotta played really well and Dylan and Cooper assisted well. Defensively our match up still needs some help but Cooper did a great job on their big man. This is a new unit with Declan, Liam and Marcus coming into the squad but they are learning the offences and will only get stronger. Liam Thomas, Owen and Will Collins round us out. We shot our 40 points but need to defend the opposition under that number. Overall a worthy effort.

### 11B

The 11B squad started their season with a tough win over a solid Lauries side. The game was close from start to finish as the opposition led most of the way until about 5 minutes left in the game. We then went on a run that couldn't be stopped until the final buzzer sounded and we achieved a resilient win where we all played as a team and backed each other the whole way.

### 11C

A fantastic effort by these boys for their first up game. The boys found themselves without a coach due to him falling ill on Saturday morning, but the boys took it in their stride and quickly worked as a unit to make a plan to defeat their opposition. The boys looked comfortable at every change but didn't let up and made sure they worked hard until the end to get the result. Great work gents!

### 11D

A nail-biting thriller saw the 11Ds go down in the final seconds of double-overtime. However, the boys should be commended at their ability to be so competitive in a game in which they were clearly undersized. An awesome foundation to build on for the rest of the season.

### 4ths

Really good effort from the lads on Saturday, made me very proud. Everyone put in 100%, we shared around the minutes, and hustle was what gave us the win in the end. Cooper Mackie and Alex Marshall were standouts, with Cooper a beast in the paint and Alex picking pockets left right and centre for runaway buckets. Good win to start the season!

### 3rds

It was a close first half with both teams battling for control of the game. A strong performance from Nick Muir and confidence in attacking the basket allowed MCA to break away from SLC and gain a substantial lead which was held for the remainder of the match.

### 2nds

A much-improved 2nds team took on St Laurence's college for the second time in as many weeks. The boys played with a renewed energy and confidence having stuck to their offensive and defensive structure and finding success driving to the basket. The boys also took apart Laurie's full court press by reversing the ball and taking the time to make the right play. The boys did everything asked of them and lost only on blind luck with Lauries hitting a deep go-ahead 3 with 5.5 seconds to go. The boys have vowed to work hard and ensure luck is taken out of the equation in future games.

### 1sts

The First V knew they were in for a tough battle with a well drilled SLC team. We started the game off well controlling the tempo, moving the ball and making SLC take contested shots. As the game wore on cheap turnovers and uncontested threes for SLC pushed the lead out to double figures. In the second half we made a run and cut the lead back to 12 but two big 3s from their shooting guard pushed it out to 18 and that was the end of it. There were a lot of lessons taken from the game and the boys will be back in the lab putting in work ready to push SEC at their place.