

1st XV

Our last trial fixture before a big round one saw the boys bus down to the hostile Tingalpa where we faced an unexpected and unknown Villanova side. Despite our optimism, it was certainly not the start that we were hoping for! Poor discipline and a Yellow card led to the boys defending with only 14 players for many phases before this eventually resulted in a try to Villanova. But with a bit of **Tobias Graham** magic, 7 phases after the Villanova try, we crossed the line proving how dominant our attack was. More ruck infringements and discipline issues saw another Yellow card but we marked up in defence with some gutsy efforts from **Aidan O'Connell**, **Jack Billing** and others holding out a Villa surge. Once again when we did have the football, we dominated attack with young **Tom Howard** scoring on the wing to finish the first half at 14-7. But again, poor discipline saw us receive a third Yellow card meaning that we played this game with 14 men for 30 minutes which is a big work on for us leading into SLC next weekend. The second half tries were from **Reggie McMillan** barging over to score near the uprights and a special combo with a minute to go from **Connor Lyons** to **Tom Howard** for Tom to score his second try and secure the win 28-26. Special mentions go to **Aidan O'Connell** for his critical defence leading the forwards very well and **Pat Tierney**, **Connor Lyons** and **Tom Howard** for their big performances in the backline.

2nd XV

Score – 50-0

We threw a lot of high tech ideas at the boys in a very short period of time and they responded. They willingly did an extra training on Friday and came committed to play. After a scratchy start the rucks started to take shape and when we learnt that their was space out wide we started to dominate. Scrumming was the highlight for an old second rower like me with 3 tight heads against the feed and 3 scrum penalties gained. I asked the boys to make sure the wing got the ball and Angus and Orlando did not disappoint. Jude was strong at the back and showed good skills in his try. Angus did a good job up front and Isaac dominated lineouts. Josh came on and made an impact immediately. It will be hard to lock in breakaways as they all played so well. Our fly halves James and Tom combined well and steered the ship. The reserves who benched up were great – Jack Andrews, Will Collins, Pat Ryan and Riley Canavan never looked out of place. Ethen captained a good platform for us. Still have some basic shape to fix and some specials to learn but we are on the bus.

4th XV

Score: 82 – 0

11 tries, 9 successful conversions from 11 attempts. (Multiple kickers)

Try Scorers: Rory Baker (c) x2, Josh King x2, Fred Hassan, Jackson Tallis, Fletcher Beasley, Charlie Weaver, Sova Hughes, Ethan Schnaubelt, Cooper Price

A good confident start in preparation for next week's opener. The lads held possession for 50 of 60 minutes. Strong, dominant forwards and clever hands and running from the backs. Lots of high standard individual performances. An expensive game for MCA with Cooper Hafiz (vc) stretchered off with ankle damage and Charlie Weaver needing stiches after a head clash. A strong bench and good interchanges made for continuity with boys stepping into leadership roles on the field. Ashgrove were never tested defensively so we have plenty to work on this week at training for Laurie's next week. A very pleasing performance all around.

10 B

Coaches- Mel Orcher and Dean Collins

Saturday morning in some confusing weather conditions saw our Bs come together for the first time in a game setting. The boys showed great initiative in facilitating the warm up themselves and getting together and as a tight unit before we had even kicked off. Our forward pack consisting of Pedro, Jake, Reuben, Connor and Isaiah from the get go took their roles personally and showed great strength and control carrying us forward. Pat, Hayden, James, Bailey and Christian on the edges also took some really strong carries and defended with great attitude.

Our little general Nate directed our big boys like a fine art getting through high phase numbers to start off what can only be described as a scoring frenzy for the day.

Off the back of the enormous work from the middle boys our slick back line waiting patiently to run onto some early ball allowing our speedy finishers clear passage to the try line. Matt, Jacob, Lachy Trenton, Dan and Xavier showed great vision and skill to score some cracking tries for the day. It was impressive to see the boys understanding the coaching directive of "just play footy"

Play of the day goes to Connor (maybe I'm a winger) Gains when he hit a gap and went through untouched for 70m only to be denied of inches to what will I'm sure be known as the greatest prop try ever.

As coaches we were super impressed with the boys attitude for the day, competing in all aspects of the game. They maintained strong game management against a much weaker opponent but didn't fall into the trap of matching energy. The boys didn't leak a single point and that's to be congratulated as well. Looking forward to a home game this week v Lauries.

8 A

The 8A's kicked off their campaign with a tough match against Villa. We were down by 2 tries in the first half, however, the boys defended with their hearts on their sleeves and kept turning up for each other. Jonah Wilde and Will Bagnall displayed great defensive efforts for the team and were instrumental in defending the line. Unfortunately, the game was called off at half time due to an injury from a Villa player. Wishing him a speedy recovery. The boys will be keen to rip in against Laurie's next weekend at home. Well done boys!

5 B

The 5B rugby team had a great start to the season and ticked their first win off with a 36-5 victory. All boys played well especially considering they had never played as a team before. We started the game with one goal in mind, to keep our shape and use the width of the field. Although we can still improve on this throughout next week, we were able to take advantage of the space out wide and score some impressive run away tries. Well done boys. Some honourable mentions must go to our captain Charlie Barnett who took charge on field and organised our backs. Also, Jimmy Corbett who made many barnstorming breaks and plenty of metres. His efforts were epitomised by his try saving tackle after a big chase down the sideline! Great effort!