

Marist Basketball – Round 3 vs. Iona College Match Reports from the Courts

2nd V

Marist 38 – Iona 55

MVP: Sean Russell-Ahern

Turns-overs from bad passes contributed to 3/4 of the opposition's score. We need to always remember what we CAN CONTROL like turning up with the mindset to play basketball, boxing out and talking in defence. No one can take them away from a player so we will need to make sure we use them next game.

On a positive note, we finished the last quarter playing with more urgency and better game awareness.

3rd V

Marist 45 – Iona 48

MVP: Austin Keates

Struggling with the basics of good passing and boxing out in defence gave Iona an early lead. Confidence and self-belief grew as the game went on and the Marist boys started to dominate at both ends of the court.

An opportunity to tie the game went begging in the dying moments, a game that should have, could have, but wasn't all down to a disappointing start.

4th V

Marist 14 – Iona 39

MVP: Angus Bosse

Somewhere between the leafy avenues of Ashgrove and the mangroves of Moreton Bay the boys of the Marist Fourth V forgot how to play basketball.

Passing to teammates was difficult, communication was non-existent, and the keyway was Iona's to dominate at both ends.

Shooting will be the focus at training this week, as will be executing a tight defence.

11A

Marist 33 – Iona 55

MVP: Joe Pegg

A very frustrating loss to the black and white this week...and however cliché it is, we definitely learnt more from this game than if we won, as players and as a coach. The ultimate frustration comes from the fact that our 11A players are pound-for-pound better individual players than the Iona boys (not biased at all btw).

The penny-drop moment for me was understanding that as we psychologically dropped our heads, our basketball IQ went out the door! I feel like it was a watershed moment for this group in understanding what was happening out on the court was not in any way a reflection of our players' talent or athleticism, but rather an insight into the psychology of the sporting mind and what happens when we doubt ourselves...I think I'm coining the phrase as, "the glassy-eyed effect"...The medicine, more practice, confidence-building exercises (mental and physical) and a healthy team culture. The good news is this group has already started making inroads on this journey, and the trajectory is heading upward as seen by a dominant performance in our win against Padua last week. It was also pleasing to see Joe Pegg take the game into his own hands in the final quarter against Iona as we managed to get within 10 points after being down by more than 20 at one stage.

11B

Marist 40 – Iona 25

MVP: Ethan Torrens

Round 3 saw another strong performance from Marist 11B's against a well-put-together Iona outfit. There was a consistent back and forth for most of the first half, before a step up in the Marist defence dried up Iona's scoring options, allowing MCA to pull away in the second half courtesy of some quality ball movement and shooting. Congrats on the 40-28 win lads, on to next week.

11C

Marist 33 – Iona 19

MVP: Mitch Trotter & Ed Wild

With lower numbers due to other sporting commitments and illness, the 11C lads worked super hard on the court for their win today. This team trains and plays under the adage that "defence wins games" and they proved this again today as they shut down the opposition offense causing turnovers in our halftime and again. Down 9-6 after the first quarter, the team kept their composure to take the lead in the second and then continued to build on that lead in each subsequent quarter. MVP Mitch Trotter was super strong at both ends of the court today, being formidable in defence and shooting the sweetest of 3s on the final buzzer. Fellow MVP Ed Wild was a demon under both baskets taking rebound after rebound. And Pat Jewel and Clancy Dunn were the annoying pests to the opposing players in defence that we needed them to be stealing ball after ball from the opposition attack. Let's keep working hard lads. There's still lots of basketball left to play.

11D

Marist 29 – Iona 34
MVP: Nathan Lam

10A

Marist 37 – Iona 50
MVP: Will Lathwell

We travelled to Iona looking to rebound from a poor performance against Padua. We were focused from the start and earned a double-digit lead in the last couple of minutes of the first half. Our defence was a highlight which led to transition baskets. A couple of poor possessions at the end of the half kept Iona in it. Our first possession after halftime was a turnover which led to a number of other turnovers and all of a sudden we were down double digits. The fourth quarter enabled us to get back in the contest when it could easily have blown out. Whilst it was a loss, this game and our game against Villa, showed what the group is capable of. A win is just around the corner.”

10B

Marist 31 – Iona 29
MVP: Noah Harding

After an extremely solid defensive half, the only thing left to do was pile on some points. Some extremely mediocre free throw shooting from our boys kept them in the game a bit longer than we would've liked. After two missed shots for the win we managed to scrape a win after two games lost by less than 3 points both weeks before. As hard as the boys tried to lose this game the Iona rims in the final 10 seconds simply wanted us to win.

10C

Marist 37 – Iona 45
MVP: Hugh Howell

The boys started to show some cohesion on defence leading to easy transition baskets and giving us the lead for most of the game. Unfortunately, we couldn't close out the game and really let the Iona boys run away with it late.

10D

Marist 6 – Iona 69
MVP: Elias Madden

A great effort from the boys of 10D against Iona, losing 69-6. Although it was a difficult game, the team never gave up and persisted till the final siren.

9A

Marist 55 – Iona 23

MVP: Aidan Lau

The boys shell-shocked Iona in the first quarter with the score line sitting at 18-2. The energy and effort of the team were at enormous heights. The key highlights were the ball movement, running the floor and supporting each other (maybe even the big man hitting a bank 3...). The As did what they did best, controlled the game from the start and finished strong to win the game 55-23. They played with true Marist passion. 5 more to go. Our motto of the season I believe was created after the Villa game and that's "sticking together". Stay tuned.

9B

Marist 34 – Iona 32

MVP: James Gissing

Started the game almost untouchable scoring the ball and not letting Iona anywhere near the basket. As time went on the energy we created started dropping as Iona clawed their way back into the game. Going into halftime tied at 19 apiece the boys were issued a challenge to go and get 3 stops in a row and without a doubt, they played the best basketball so far in those 3 possessions getting the stops with ease. Momentum was well in our hands however Iona never backed down and the boys found themselves down 1 point with 3 minutes left. For the second week in a row, the boys find themselves in a tied game, ball in hand with seven seconds left off the back of a big game James Gissing sinks the jump shot putting the boys up 2. With 2 seconds to defend the basket, the boys force a long three which falls short and pull off another thrilling ending.

9C

Marist 38 – Iona 48

MVP: George Haling

First-half boys held a tight game, going point for point. Jack Purcell and George Haling kept the points coming through, being big and strong in the paint. After some small lapses of concentration, the boys had some work to do, that was unfortunately too big to bring back. An unfortunate loss but the boys are practicing and training hard and it is showing with big improvements.

9D

Marist 20 – Iona 21

MVP: James Milasas

Down numbers, the boys had a slow start struggling to find rhythm and momentum. With the game staying tight the whole way the 9D's showed determination but were unable to close the gap in the final minutes.

8A

Marist 31 – Iona 39

MVP: Charlie Cook

A great effort from the 8A's this weekend. We were able to start excelling at our offence and finally stuck to boxing out for a whole game. Ultimately, we only lost to one of the top teams by 6 points.

Charlie Cook was the tour de force on offence, getting some great post possessions, and helping considerably on defence. His best work was in his boxing out and rebounding.

8B

Marist 41 – Iona 32

MVP: Harry Vickery

This week was another game where the boys dominated right from the start. The press is getting better each game and the boys are starting to share around the ball a lot more. Major shoutout to Harry Vickery who dominated again this week with a monster 20-point game and some great steals to go with it. Iona came back with a press of their own in the last quarter which brought the score closer but the boys should once again be very proud of their efforts. Another win next week against St Peters puts us in a great position to contend for a premiership.

8C

Marist 37 – Iona 35

MVP: Caleb van Coeverden

After two strong wins the 8C's looked to add to their winning record against a strong Iona school. However, we started on the back foot after Iona's pressure forced us into challenging situations and we fell into a very stagnant offence. However, the boys worked hard and got it within two points in the fourth quarter but failed to capitalise on our momentum and lost by a narrow margin of two.

8D

Marist 25 – Iona 43

MVP: Matt Travers

The 8D's fought hard against a tall and strong Iona team. Despite a few good runs of scoring, it wasn't enough in the end and the boys were dealt their first loss of the season. The team has plenty to learn from this game and will look to bounce back next week.

7A

Marist 22 – Iona 62

MVP: Aidan Marshall

We were outclassed by a team who were much better at a full-court press and decision-making. We continue to make bad decisions by dribbling through two players in the backcourt which leads to easy opposition baskets.

7As did a better job in the second half in terms of press break decisions and shot making with Harry Cleary giving us some spark and IQ. Aiden played his hard all came, and Eoin Doyle was much improved in rebounding the ball.

7B

Marist 6 – Iona 54

MVP: Liam Fitzpatrick

7Bs were on the ropes early with silly passes in the backcourt and not being switched on to start with. We played a much better second half even when going down to 6 players due to an injury. Liam played great all game while Archie had his best game by far and continues to improve.

7C

Marist 21 – Iona 35

MVP: Jasper Belyea

In a fast-paced game, the boys were simply outplayed. Poor passing and shot options meant Iona took an early lead which we were never able to bring back. Outmatched in height the boys used their fitness to stay in the game continuing to push hard throughout the game. The bounce of the ball simply did not go our way with numerous shots bouncing in and out. The final quarter was ours with superb defence and outscoring the opposition. Jasper Belyea was the player of the game with great outlet play and setting screens for his teammates for them to drive to the rim.

7D

Marist 24 – Iona 40

MVP: Sam Blinkhoff

In an electrifying and hard-fought basketball battle, our resilient 7D's basketball squad went head-to-head against the formidable Iona, culminating in a 24-40 loss. Despite the final score, the game truly showcased the determination and teamwork displayed by our boys.

Laurie Russ, the towering presence in the paint, dominated with excellent positioning under the rim. His prowess led to numerous scoring opportunities, capitalising on offensive rebounds and quick putbacks, contributing vital points for 7D's.

Archie Breitzkreuz and Will Quinn dazzled the crowd with their exceptional ball-handling skills. Skilfully navigating through tight defences, they left opponents in awe and orchestrated precise passes to their teammates, elevating our offensive flow and keeping Iona's defence on edge.

Although the victory eluded us this time, our team's spirit never wavered. The boys supported and encouraged one another, demonstrating admirable camaraderie and unwavering determination until the final buzzer. We'll take this experience as an opportunity to grow stronger together and face future challenges with even more resolve. Great effort, 7Ds! Let's continue to strive for success on and off the court!