

## BASKETBALL REPORT

The firsts and seconds squads both went to Wahroonga with nothing to lose and the aim of knocking off the best teams in the CAS, record-wise, Knox. The seconds were looking to continue their excellent start to the second half of the season, whereas, the firsts were looking to bounce back from an overtime defeat at the hands of Barker the week earlier. Unfortunately, both sides were defeated, which would later confirm that Knox would win the CAS firsts Premiership outright with three games remaining. The firsts lost 93-41 and the seconds lost 47-25.

The losses to Knox served to motivate both teams heading into the following week's matchups against St Aloysius. Big performances from Keilan Grace and Ben Walton helped get the seconds to a victory after trailing by six in the opening stages of the game. The end result was a convincing 43-29 points victory for the seconds. Unfortunately, for the firsts, though one of their best efforts all season on the offensive end, it was once again a lack in defensive intensity, which would ultimately let them down and see them suffer a third straight defeat 88-76. Both teams are anxiously waiting to get back on the court this week as they prepare for an explosive Friday night encounter with local rivals Cranbrook, which is shaping up to be a game in which everyone wants to be a part of for both spectators and players alike.

Angelo Di Bartolo & Dion Hatziandreou  
(Co-Captains of Basketball)

### Convenor's Report

The annual Basketball Presentation Night on is Saturday 16th of March from 6pm-9:30pm. Tickets can be purchased on Trybooking at [www.trybooking.com/477977](http://www.trybooking.com/477977).

Waverley Basketball uses Team App to publish information such as scores, news, fixtures, team lists and announcements. Download the app and search for 'Waverley College Basketball' to receive notifications and updates.

Despite missing key players for the second week in a row, the seconds came out strong against a well-drilled Knox side and were able to grab an early lead on the back of some strong shooting from Darcy Mullins and Tom McMahon. While Knox fought back, Waverley did well to trade baskets for much of the first half. However, a sloppy final two minutes of the half allowed Knox to grab a 10-point lead at the break. Unfortunately, Waverley came out flat in the second half and struggled to keep up with the hosts. Waverley's lack of depth, due to injury, showed as Knox were able to take firm control of the game and to their credit, were able to slow Waverley down each time they began to make a run. The seconds eventually went down to Knox 47-25.

The firsts were hoping to repeat their thrilling Round one performance against Knox when they went down by twelve points. However, it was not to be, as Knox dominated all facets of the game for every period, totally outplaying Waverley to win by 93-41.

Against St Aloysius, the seconds were able to avenge a close loss back in Round three with a convincing 43-29 victory. Waverley received an added boost ahead of the game with Ben Walton returning from a back injury that had kept him sidelined for the past two rounds. Despite being down 6-0 in the opening minutes, Waverley was able to come up with several consecutive stops and turned them into easy baskets at the other end, using a 13-0 run to take control of the game. In what was easily their best defensive team effort of the season, Waverley's pressure continued to cause trouble

for St Aloysius throughout the first half while excellent offensive performances from Joshua Gleeson, Ben Walton and Keilan Grace saw Waverley run out comfortable winners.

After a poor outing the previous week, the firsts were looking to redeem themselves against St Aloysius. And while their performance was a marked improvement on the game against Knox, Waverley was unable to get the better of St Aloysius in several critical areas including Field Goal Percentage, Rebounds, Assists and Points in the Paint eventually going down 88-76 in what was a winnable game.

In other games, it was a lean round for Waverley against Knox with the following teams posting victories: 8C (28-17), 7A (40-31), 7B (42-27), 7C (25-23) and 7E (34-20). Against St Aloysius, Waverley fared better, gaining wins in the following teams: 10B (33-29), 10D (47-25), 10E (47-19), 10F (69-11), 9B (55-22), 9C (29-21), 9E (34-19), 9F (37-14), 8E (33-28), 8F (46-5), 7C (29-14), 7D (34-19) with the 10G's (41-38), 8G's (31-24) and 8H's (24-18) defeating Newington and the 9G's (24-17) defeating Shore.

Mr A Gibbs  
Convenor of Basketball