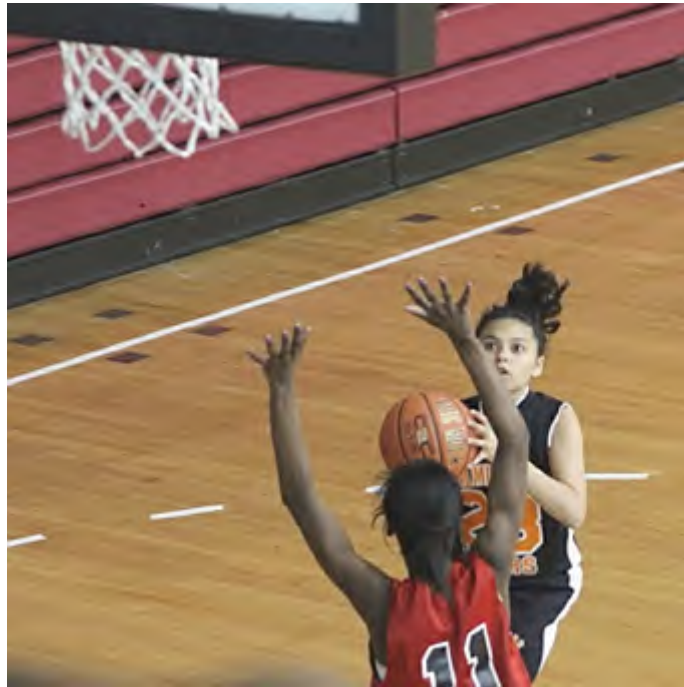


# Wilmington Tigers 11U Invade Fordham University going 4-0 in the Process



The Wilmington Tigers 11U team was back in action this past weekend. Last weekend the team finished 2-2 at The Lower Bucks Lightening Spring Fling. While the team played well over all, mental mistakes cost us two close games. A one-point loss against JK MBA Jaguars due to poor shot selection at the end of the game, followed by a 3-point loss to the Jersey Shoreshots on a 3 pointer in the closing seconds of the game. This was a disappointing finish after beginning the weekend with a 20-plus and a 50-point win.

This weekend (April 24/25), the 11U Tigers travelled to The Bronx, NY, for “The Coaches Choice USA Tournament.” The team improved as the weekend progressed. Saturday morning began against the NYC Heat. The team started slow and seemed to be a step behind defensively the entire game but still managed a 30-25 victory.



**Sharp Shooting Alyssa Irons sets to launch.**

After a one game break, the Tigers faced another NY team – the Triple Threat. The Tigers again came out early and easily won 36-19. The team received scoring in each of these games from 7 of 10 players.



**Maggie, Gabby, and Alena take a break.**



**Julia battling for the offensive board.**

Sunday would find us playing 2 very tough teams back to back with no rest. First up were the Minutemen of Long Island. The teams battled the entire game. In the end, the Tigers defense, which was lacking on Saturday, made the difference in the 35-28 victory. Scoring was again spread out with 8 players scoring.



**Alyssa and Kiera trapping perfectly.**

In our final game on Sunday, the Tigers faced a 3-0 NYC Lady Bulldogs. The Bulldogs had been winning games by huge margins most of the weekend with a couple of pure scorers. The Tigers came out on fire offensively and defensively and found themselves up 10-2 early. While the Bulldogs battled the entire game the Tigers never gave up the lead and won 33-23.



**Gabby hitting 2 or 3 of her game high 10.**



**Alena and Alyssa effectively trapping a much taller Bulldog.**

While defense was again key, a balanced scoring outside and inside the paint by 9 different players made it very difficult for the Bulldogs to stop the Tigers.



**Nina soars in transition.**

This weekend's success was based on solid team defense as well as an unselfish, balanced offensive attack. Defensively, Kris Vlard seemed to be all over the place trapping, rounding up loose balls, and pulling a ton of boards, despite being on the perimeter most of the time. Kiera again ruled the paint with solid defense and rebounding while only picking up 5 fouls the entire weekend. Leading the way from the perimeter was Gabby (36 for the weekend). Inside the Tigers were led by Taylor's 29. Emilie continues to show more confidence offensively finishing with 17.

This weekend the team competes in Lizzy Haddon Invitational, preparing for the Mid-Atlantic District Regional Championship the following weekend.



**Maggie and Gabby cut off the angles on their opponent.**



**Kris bringing the ball through traffic.**



**Alyssa lets it fly.**



**Kiera, Alyssa, Emilie, Nina, Gabby, Julia, Kris, and Taylor enjoy some time off together.**

*Submitted by Jeff Skowronski*

*All photos courtesy Wilmington Tigers 11U team.*