

## **SEASON PREVIEW: MORIAH (SECTION 7)**

In 2017, Moriah, out of Section 7, won their only NYSPHSAA State Title, beating Newfield for the Class D Championship. Always a threat to win another, they lost in last season's Class C semi-final, ending legendary Coach Brian Cross' illustrious career. Don Tesar Jr. takes over the reins and the cupboard is far from bare.

Lost from last season's team are Logan Gilbo, Dieter Olcott, Evan Fleury but returning are Cooper Allen (G/F), 19.4 PPG, 6.8 RPG, 2.4 APG, and 1.9 SPG, Joe Pelkey (G) 9.2 PPG, 4.8 RPG, 4.0 APG, 1.7 SPG along with Chase McGinness (G/F), Wyatt Whitman (G), and Jake Mascarenas (G).

New players arriving on the scene are Isaac White, Kohin Sargent, Bo McGinness, Landen Brassard, Griffin Huchro, Lance Synder, and Jaden Bombard.

“This group of guys have come in and compete with our five returning players every day. They all bring great energy and a competitive spirit that we are going to need to have a successful basketball season. We have a great mix of leadership, young talent, and kids that get after it every day. I am looking forward to seeing what this group of young men are able to accomplish.”

Significant games on their schedule include Beekmantown, Plattsburgh, and Ballston Spa (Section 2).

Coach Tesar is excited for the season; “We have a good mix of veteran and young talent. They all push each other every day and bring a competitiveness that is needed for a very successful year. We are looking for everyone to buy into the defense end of the court and especially our rebounding to limit second chance points. The kids have been great and working hard to continue the tradition of basketball that has been built by Coach Cross here at Moriah over the last 10 to 15 years.”