

2011 AFL GRAND FINAL COLLINGWOOD V GEELONG



SATURDAY OCTOBER 1, 2011 FACT SHEET

THE FIRST ENCOUNTER

In Round 3, 1897, Collingwood and Geelong met for the first time in the newly established Victorian Football League. Played at Victoria Park on Saturday May 22, the game was part of a split round with matches on the Monday for the Queen's Birthday holiday. After a tight struggle, Collingwood 6.5 (41) defeated Geelong 5.7 (37). The Magpies were skippered by Bill Strickland and the Pivotonians by Jack Conway. The *Geelong Advertiser* included this colourful description: "Splendid give and take play occurred following the [half time] interval for refreshments, there being occasionally a disposition on the part of several of the Collingwood players to be rough, with the result that considerable feeling was exhibited."

BETWEEN THE TEAMS

Geelong and Collingwood have met in the VFL/AFL in 221 matches, the Magpies being victors 126 times and the Cats winners on 94 occasions. The teams played their one drawn game in Round 5, 1934, at Corio Oval. They have played 37 times at the MCG, the Magpies being successful on 16 occasions, and the Cats ahead at the final siren in 21 games. They have appeared in 22 finals (18 at the MCG) with both clubs winning 11 times. Geelong and Collingwood have already played twice at the MCG this season. Geelong 8.17 (65) defeated Collingwood 9.8 (62) before a crowd of 81,691 in Round 8, and in Round 24 the Cats 22.17 (149) drew away to beat the Magpies 8.5 (53) in their last home and away game. This clash attracted another healthy attendance, 85,705 fans witnessing the match.

HIGHLIGHTS BETWEEN THE CATS AND THE MAGPIES AT THE MCG

- Geelong 10.19 (79) defeated Collingwood 9. 15 (69) in the 1925 grand final on October 10. A crowd of 64,288 saw Geelong's first VFL premiership in 29 seasons of endeavour.
- The 1930 grand final victory was the Magpies' fourth premiership in a row (a league record). The crowd of 45,022 saw Collingwood 14.16 (100) defeat Geelong 9.16 (70), Magpie forward Gordon Coventry kicking seven goals.
- Geelong's third flag was achieved in 1937, the grand final being memorable because of the extremely high standard of play (see below). The final scores read Geelong 18.14 (122) to Collingwood 12.18 (90).
- In the 1938 preliminary final, Collingwood 21.9 (135) beat Geelong 14.14 (98), Magpie full forward Ron Todd kicking accurately to finish with 11.3.
- In the 1951 second semi final, Geelong 22.20 (152) defeated Collingwood 10.10 (70) in front of 74,085 spectators, Cats full forward George Goninon kicking 11 goals.
- The 1953 grand final was the only time that three brothers have played in the same premiership team (Collingwood's Bill, Mick and Pat Twomey). The Magpies 11.11 (77) defeated Geelong 8.17 (65) in front of a crowd of 89,060.
- In the 1967 first semi final, Geelong 16.12 (108) defeated Collingwood 11.12 (78) before 91,715 fans, Geelong's Doug Wade kicking 8.2.
- The final scores in the 1981 qualifying final read Geelong 16.16 (112) to Collingwood 13.20 (98). The crowd of 83,899 saw Cats forward John Mossop boot 7.3.
- In Round 7, 1994, Geelong 18.16 (124) defeated Collingwood 13.18 (96), debutant Magpie Damian Houlihan kicking three goals with his first three kicks. In the final quarter of that match, Geelong's Gary Ablett Snr took the mark of the year over Magpie Gary Pert.
- In the Monday night Round 9, 1996 match, Geelong 21.13 (139) defeated Collingwood 11.10 (76), Gary Ablett Snr kicking 9.1.
- The previous three preliminary finals between these clubs resulted in two wins for Geelong (2007 and 2009) and one for Collingwood (2010). The 2007 preliminary final drew the record attendance of 98,002 for a match between the teams.

A FAMOUS MATCH

One of the greatest of all grand finals was played in 1937. The critics raved about the game, which was seen by the largest crowd (88,540) to have watched a football match in Australia. To add to the drama, it was the 306th and last appearance for Collingwood great Gordon Coventry, whose three goals brought his career tally to 1299. The teams entered the premiership decider as equal favourites, Geelong's pace being matched against Collingwood's toughness and finals experience. In perfect conditions, the Magpies began brilliantly, kicking six of the first seven goals. Knowing that his side was in deep trouble, at quarter time the Cats' captain-coach Reg Hickey made four positional moves which turned the match his team's way. The most significant of these was the switching of high flying Les Hardiman from full forward to centre-half back, where he was able to limit the influence of the brilliant Ron Todd (see photograph). By half time Geelong had reduced the margin to just five points. The quality of play in the third quarter was breathtaking with both teams mounting attack after attack, and at the final break the scores were level. As the pace of the game had been frenetic, it was obvious that fitness would be the deciding factor. Geelong began the final quarter with two quick goals, and Collingwood was on the ropes. They would kick just one further goal for the match, the final scores being Geelong 18.14 (122) to Collingwood 12.18 (90).

Left: Geelong's Les Hardiman (No. 25), who was switched from full forward to centre-half back at quarter time in the 1937 grand final, about to punch the ball away from Collingwood champion Ron Todd (No. 27). Underneath them is the great full forward Gordon Coventry (No. 8), who was playing his 306th and last game for the Magpies. The recently completed Southern Stand is in the background.



THE MONSTER 2011 AFL GRAND FINAL "OVER TO YOU"

1. In which year did the record crowd of 121,696 attend the Carlton v Collingwood grand final?
2. All but nine grand finals have been played at the MCG. Name the five other grand final venues?
3. When was the first grand final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground?
4. Name the three clubs to lose three consecutive grand finals.
5. Name the Australian Test cricketers who played in a league premiership.
6. Who is the player with the fewest career matches including a premiership?
7. Which player has the most grand finals appearances and the most premierships?
8. Who is the youngest player to appear in a premiership side?
9. Who was the oldest player to appear in a premiership side?
10. Which three teams, in the history of the VFL/AFL, have not appeared in a grand final?
11. Who am I? I was a South Australian and Australian wicket-keeper. I played with Sturt in the SANFL. I represented Essendon in four games in 1943, including that year's losing grand final. I was the nineteenth man that day. In later life I was a prominent politician.
12. Which indigenous footballers have won the Norm Smith Medal as the best player in the grand final?
13. In which three seasons did Brisbane win consecutive premierships?
14. How many grand finals have taken place in October?
15. Who are the men to have won a premiership as a player and as non-playing coach?
16. Which Collingwood player was the last to make his VFL debut in the grand final?
17. Which player kicked the last goal of the 2009 grand final?
18. Who are the only two players to have kicked nine goals in a grand final?
19. How many grand finals have been decided by a single point?
20. Name the five Brownlow Medallists to have also won a Norm Smith Medal.
21. In which season was the grand final postponed because the MCG was water-logged?
22. The following players all missed a grand final through suspension: Fred Fitzgibbon (Carlton, 1945), Neville Crowe (Richmond, 1967), Phil Carman (Collingwood, 1977), Peter Schwab (Hawthorn, 1989), Anthony Rocca (Collingwood, 2003), Steven O'Dwyer (Melbourne, 1988), Jason Cloke (Collingwood, 2002) and Jason McCartney (North Melbourne, 1999). What were their guernsey numbers at the time?
23. At which venue was the first VFL grand final played in 1898?
24. What was the first year a WEG poster was produced for the grand final?
25. How many players were reported in the "Bloodbath" grand final in 1945?
26. Name the three men who have each captained four premiership sides.
27. In which seasons did Adelaide win back-to-back flags?
28. In 1958 guernsey numbers for both teams for the Magpies and Demons, were changed because of a morning newspaper illegally publishing the numbers. What player's number was not changed?
29. What was the winning margin in the 1966 grand final?
30. Which club scored 2.13 (25) to win a grand final during the 1920s?
31. Which club finished last in 1916 yet won the flag?
32. Which club has appeared in 42 grand finals?
33. Who has coached the most premierships?
34. Who was the South Melbourne coach in 1909 who guided his team to a premiership in his first season?
35. Name the Cats' coach whose only season as a coach resulted in a flag?
36. Which Tiger captain sat on the bench for the first three quarters of a grand final?
37. Who booted seven goals for the Bulldogs in their only premiership victory?
38. What has been the greatest winning margin in a grand final?
39. Which club won seven flags before 1923?
40. Who has umpired the most grand finals?
41. Which two players collided, on the wing, in the 1955 grand final?
42. Which year is this? Harry "Soapy" Vallenge played his only winning grand final. Footscray made the finals for the first time. South Melbourne won just two games for the year.
43. Name the three brothers who appeared in the Magpies winning grand final in 1953.
44. Who was the Stawell Gift winner and Victorian state cricketer who captained Essendon to the first VFL flag?
45. Name the Norm Smith Medallists who have played with the West Coast Eagles.
46. Two VFL/AFL seasons did not culminate with a grand final. Name these years.
47. Which clubs have won three or more premierships in a row?
48. Why did Collingwood coach Jock McHale not attend the 1930 grand final which was won by his team?
49. Why was a second field umpire required during the 1939 grand final?
50. Who was the last premiership captain/coach?
51. What is the highest scoring grand final?
52. Who was the first premiership coach?
53. What year was the "Bloodbath" grand final in which nine players were reported?
54. How many premierships did Robert Walls coach?
55. Who captained the 1995 premiership team?
56. Who is the only man to captain grand final teams for two clubs?
57. Name the club captain who missed the 1977 tied grand final and replay because of injury?
58. Name the player who captained nine grand final teams.
59. Which clubs played in the 1944 grand final?
60. Who captained Melbourne to three premierships from 1939 to 1941?

Past Grand Finals at the MCG

With the exception of the 1899 Fitzroy v South Melbourne grand final which was played at the Junction Oval, all of the records below were set in grand finals played at the MCG. The highest score is 28.9 (177) by Carlton against Richmond 22.18 (150) in 1972. The highest score in a quarter is 11.8 (74) by Essendon in the third quarter against Melbourne in 1946. The greatest winning margin in a grand final is 119 points in 2007 when Geelong 24.19 (163) defeated Port Adelaide 6.8 (44).

Three grand finals have been drawn. They were in 1948, Essendon 7.27 (69) drew with Melbourne 10.9 (69) – Melbourne won the replay, 1977 Collingwood 10.16 (76) drew with North Melbourne 9.22 (76) – North Melbourne won the replay, and 2010 Collingwood 9.14 (68) drew with St Kilda 10.8 (68) – Collingwood won the replay. Four grand finals have been won by one point. They were in 1899 when Fitzroy 3.9 (27) defeated South Melbourne 3.8 (26), 1947 when Carlton 13.8 (86) defeated Essendon 11.19 (85), 1966 when St Kilda 10.14 (74) defeated Collingwood 10.13 (73) and 2006 when West Coast 12.13 (85) defeated Sydney 12.12 (84). The biggest bag of goals is nine kicked by two players: Gordon Coventry for Collingwood against Richmond in 1928 and Gary Ablett Snr for Geelong against Hawthorn in 1989.

The record grand final attendance occurred on Saturday September 26, 1970 when 121,696 saw Carlton defeat Collingwood by 10 points. From 1956 to 1986 only five grand final attendances failed to exceed 100,000 spectators. However, since then only two grand final attendances have reached six figures. In 2008, 100,012 saw Hawthorn defeat Geelong, while 100,016 saw the 2010 drawn grand final between Collingwood and St Kilda.

The Road to VFL/AFL Grand Finals – An Overview

Over the years since 1897, various finals systems have been in operation. This is a brief summary of the systems used.

1897 and 1924 The top four teams after the home and away series played each other in a round-robin series, the winner being declared premiers.

1898 to 1900 After 14 home and away rounds, the top team was declared to be “minor premiers”. Three rounds of “sectional matches” were then played, the winners of each section playing off in the final. If necessary the “minor premiers” could challenge the final winners.

1901 Although the three sectional rounds were still played they were included with the home and away games to determine the final four who played off, the winners of each semi final playing in the grand final. There was no right of challenge.

1902 to 1923 and 1925 to 1930 This system was known as the “Argus System”. Again, the team that finished on top after the home and away series was declared minor premiers (subject to certain restrictions). The four top teams played off, the winners of the semi finals playing off in the final. The minor premiers, if defeated in their semi final or final, could (subject to the rules) challenge the final winners for the premiership.

1931 to 1971 (The original Page-McIntyre system). The top four clubs after the home and away games played under the following system: first semi final – third v fourth - loser omitted; second semi final – first v second; preliminary final – loser of second semi final v winner of first semi final – loser omitted; grand final – winner of second semi final v winner of preliminary final.

1972 to 1990 The final five system was used. The top five clubs after the home and away games played under the following system: elimination final: fourth v fifth – loser omitted; qualifying final: second v third; first semi final: loser of qualifying final v winner of elimination final – loser omitted; second semi final: first v winner of qualifying final; preliminary final: loser of second semi final v winner of first semi final – loser omitted; grand final: winner of second semi final v winner of preliminary final.

1991 A final six system was introduced. The top six clubs after the home and away series played under the following system: first elimination final: fifth v sixth – loser omitted; second elimination final: third v fourth – loser omitted; qualifying final: first v second. The four remaining clubs, in order of qualifying final winner, second elimination final winner, qualifying final loser and first elimination final winner, then played out the finals as per the Page-McIntyre final four system, with the first and second semi finals in week two.

1992 to 1993 The final six system was revised and operated as follows: first elimination final: fourth v fifth – loser eliminated; second elimination final: third v sixth – loser eliminated; qualifying final: first v second. The winner of the qualifying final played the higher placed elimination final winner in the second semi final. The loser of the qualifying final played the lower placed elimination final winner as the finals system reverted to the Page-McIntyre final four system.

1994 to 1999 A final eight system was used. All eight teams played in the first round, first v eighth, second v seventh and so on. The two lowest-placed losers were eliminated; the two highest-placed winners proceeded to the preliminary finals, the remaining four clubs playing in semi finals. The semi final winners played in the preliminary finals with the winners of these two matches fighting out the grand final.

2000 to today A revision was made to the final eight system. It is a complicated but fair system. The qualifying and elimination finals (week 1), the semi finals (week 2) and the preliminary finals (week 3) have been explained in previous MCC Library Fact Sheets. Today’s grand final is played between the winner of the first preliminary final (Collingwood) and the winner of the second preliminary final (Geelong).

THE 2011 BROWNLOW MEDAL

Congratulations to Collingwood’s Dane Swan on winning this year’s Brownlow Medal. He polled 34 votes, four more than disqualified Hawk Sam Mitchell, while Nick Dal Santo (St Kilda) polled 28. Swan’s tally is the most under the current system where votes are determined jointly by the field umpires for each match. The only players to poll more votes than Swan in a season were Graham Moss (Essendon) with 48 in 1976, and Graham Teasdale (South Melbourne) with 59 in 1977, when votes were awarded by each field umpire, doubling the number of votes on offer for each game. Today Swan will become the seventh Magpie to play in the grand final of his Brownlow Medal winning season. Syd Coventry (1927), Albert Collier (1929) and Harry Collier (1930) won Brownlow-premiership doubles, while Marcus Whelan (1939), Peter Moore (1979) and Nathan Buckley (2003) played in the losing grand final side of their Brownlow year.

DID YOU KNOW?

Who was the last Collingwood player to play in a premiership side as a reigning Brownlow Medallist? Harry Collier was the last to claim a Brownlow-premiership double in 1930 but he was not recognised as a Brownlow Medallist until retrospective Brownlows were presented in 1989. He polled the same number of votes as two other players in 1930 but lost it under a count-back system used to break ties. Therefore, *technically* the last reigning Brownlow Medallist to play in a Collingwood premiership team was his brother Albert in 1929.

Fact sheet prepared by MCC Library volunteers Quentin Miller, David Allen, Eric Panther and Dennis Carroll, with the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL and Emmanuel Camilleri. The MCC Library thanks the above gentlemen, Ian Kerville, and MCC assistant librarian Trevor Ruddell, for their work on numerous MCC Library Facts Sheets throughout the 2011 AFL season.

Statistics for Collingwood v Geelong

Collingwood: A brief history in statistics

Joined VFL	1897
Premierships	15: 1902-03, 1910, 1917, 1919, 1927-30, 1935-36, 1953, 1958, 1990, 2010.
Runners up	25: 1901, 1905, 1911, 1915, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1925-26, 1937-39, 1952, 1955-56, 1960, 1964, 1966, 1970, 1977, 1979-81, 2002-03.
Brownlow	Syd Coventry (1927)
Medallists	Albert Collier (1929) Harry Collier (1930) Marcus Whelan (1939) Des Fothergill (1940) Len Thompson (1972) Peter Moore (1979) Nathan Buckley (2003) Dane Swan (2011)

Geelong: A brief history in statistics

Joined VFL	1897
Premierships	8: 1925, 1931, 1937, 1951-52, 1963, 2007, 2009.
Runners up	9: 1897, 1930, 1953, 1967, 1989, 1992, 1994-95, 2008.
Brownlow	Edward "Carji" Greeves (1924)
Medallists	Bernie Smith (1951) Alistair Lord (1962) Paul Couch (1989) Jimmy Bartel (2007) Gary Ablett Jnr (2009)

Collingwood v Geelong - Head to Head

	Played	Won by Coll'wood	Won by Geelong	Drawn
H & A	199	115	83	1
Finals	22	11	11	0
Total	221	126	94	1

Collingwood v Geelong by venue

	Won by Collingwood	Won by Geelong	Drawn
Corio Oval	22	21	1
Docklands	2	2	0
East Melb.	1	1	0
Kardinia Park	22	19	0
MCG	16	21	0
Victoria Park	57	25	0
Waverley Park	6	5	0
	126	94	1

Highest Score

Collingwood	28.16 (184)	Rd 9	1972	VP
Geelong	23.18 (156)	Rd 13	1940	Corio

Lowest Score

Collingwood	1.4 (10)	Rd 10	1897	Corio
Geelong	3.2 (20)	Rd 13	1902	VP

Greatest Winning Margin

Collingwood	102 points	Rd 8	2006	MCG
Geelong	96 points	Rd 24	2011	MCG

Most Goals in a Match - Collingwood v Geelong

12	P. McKenna	Coll	Rd 9	1972	VP
11	G. Goninon	Geel	SF 2	1951	MCG
11	R. Todd	Coll	PF	1938	MCG

Last Match - Round 24, 2011, MCG

	Collingwood	Geelong
Quarter time	4.0	2.5
Half time	5.0	12.8
Three-quarter time	7.2	16.15
Full time	8.5 (53)	22.17 (149)

OVER TO YOU – ANSWERS: Q1 1970. Q2 Junction Oval (1898-99, 1944), East Melbourne Cricket Ground (1900), Lake Oval (1901), Princes Park (1942-43, 1945), and Waverley Park (1991). Q3 1902, Collingwood 9.6 (60) defeated Essendon 3.9 (27). Q4 Richmond (1927-29), Collingwood (1937-39 and 1979-81) and South Melbourne (1934-36). Q5 Dave Smith (Essendon 1911), Ted McDonald (Fitzroy 1916), Laurie Nash (South Melbourne 1933). Q6 Bill James played only one game, Richmond's 1920 grand final victory against Collingwood. He scored a goal on debut. He returned to Kyabram where he severely injured a foot in a rabbit-shooting accident. Q7 Michael Tuck (Hawthorn) with 11 grand final appearances (1975-76, 1978, 1983-89, 1991) and seven Premierships (1976, 1978, 1983, 1986, 1988-89, 1991). Q8 Murray Weideman (Collingwood 1953) 17 years 222 days. Q9 Michael Tuck (Hawthorn 1991) 38 years 95 days. Q10 University, Fremantle and Gold Coast. Q11 Gil Langley. Q12 Maurice Rioli (Richmond 1982), Peter Matera (West Coast 1992), Michael Long (Essendon 1993), Andrew McLeod (Adelaide 1997 and 1998), and Byron Pickett (Port Adelaide 2004). Q13 2001-03. Q14 25 grand finals – 1909-10, 1919-23, 1925-27, 1930-32, 1934-36, 1946, 1948 (GF), 1948 (GF Replay), 1963, 1972, 1977 (GF Replay), 1990, 1994 and 2010 (GF Replay). Q15 "Jock" McHale, Vic Belcher, Frank "Checker" Hughes, Percy Bentley, Reg Hickey, Phonse Kyne, Norm Smith, Bob Davis, John Coleman, Ron Barassi, Robert Walls, Kevin Sheedy, David Parkin, Malcolm Blight, Tony Jewell, Leigh Matthews, Michael Malthouse, John Worsfold and Mark Thompson. Q16 Keith Batchelor (Collingwood, 1952). Q17 Max Rooke (Geelong). Q18 Gordon Coventry (Collingwood 1928) and Gary Ablett (Geelong 1989). Q19 Four (1899, 1947, 1966 and 2006). Q20 Greg Williams, James Hird, Simon Black, Nathan Buckley and Chris Judd. Q21 1923, the grand final took place on October 20 with Essendon 8.15 (63) defeating Fitzroy 6.10 (46). Q22 Fred Fitzgibbon (8), Neville Crowe (5), Phil Carman (9), Peter Schwab (30), Anthony Rocca (23), Steven O'Dwyer (1), Jason Cloke (34) and Jason McCartney (5). Q23 Junction Oval. Q24 1954, Footscray. Q25 nine. Q26 Syd Coventry (Collingwood 1927-30), Dick Reynolds (Essendon 1942, 1946, 1949-50), Michael Tuck (Hawthorn 1986, 1988-89, 1991). Q27 1997-98. Q28 Ray Gabelich's No. 13, because no other guernsey would fit the bulky "Gabbo". Q29 One point – St Kilda 10.14 (74) defeated Collingwood 10.13 (73). Q30 Collingwood 2.13 (25) defeated Richmond 1.7 (13). Q31 Fitzroy. With only four teams competing because of the First World War, Fitzroy finished fourth on the ladder but with improved finals form went on to win the flag. Q32 Collingwood – won 15, lost 25, drew 2. Q33 Jock McHale (Collingwood with eight flag wins). Q34 Charlie Ricketts. Q35 Charlie Clymo. Q36 Bruce Monteath – 1980. Q37 Jack Collins. Q38 119 points. Geelong 24.19 (163) defeated Port Adelaide 6.8 (44). Q39 Fitzroy – 1898-99, 1904-05, 1913, 1916, 1922. Q40 Jack Elder, 10 grand finals. Q41 Des Healey (Collingwood) and Frank "Bluey" Adams (Melbourne) collided with both players stretchered off the ground. Q42 1938. Q43 Bill, Mick and Pat Twomey. Q44 George Stuckey. Q45 Peter Matera (1992), Dean Kemp (1994), Chris Judd (2005) and Andrew Embley (2006). Q46 1897 and 1924. Q47 Carlton (1906-08), Collingwood (1927-30), Melbourne (1939-41 and 1955-57), and Brisbane (2001-03). Q48 Maggie coach Jock McHale was not at the match being confined to bed with the flu. Q49 Field umpire Alan Coward suffered a dislocated elbow in a pack of players. He was replaced by Bill Blackburn early in the second quarter. Q50 Alex "Jezza" Jesaulenko (Carlton 1979). Q51 1972 – Carlton 28.9 (177) defeated Richmond 22.18 (150). Q52 Jack Worrall in Carlton 1906. He also coached premiership teams with Carlton in 1907-08 and Essendon 1911-12. Q53 1945 – Carlton 15.13 (103) defeated South Melbourne 10.15 (75) at Princes Park. Q54 One (Carlton 1987). Q55 Stephen Kernahan (Carlton). Q56 Dan Minogue – Collingwood 1915 and Richmond 1920-21. Q57 Keith Greig (North Melbourne). Q58 Dick Reynolds captained Essendon's 1941-43, 1946-50 sides (including the tied 1948 grand final). Q59 Fitzroy 9.12 (66) defeated Richmond 7.9 (51) at the Junction Oval. Q60 Allan La Fontaine.

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE:

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<http://www.mcc.org.au/About%20the%20MCC/Heritage/MCC%20Library/Event%20Day%20Fact%20Sheets.aspx>