

AFL 2011 ROUND 16 ESSENDON V RICHMOND



SATURDAY JULY 9, 2011
FACT SHEET

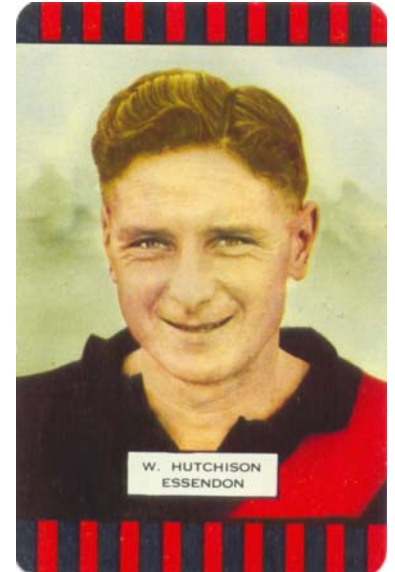
THE 1924 PREMIERSHIP

For reasons best known to themselves, in 1924 the VFL decided to revert to a round robin finals series, a system which had been used just once before, in the competition's inaugural 1897 season. At the end of the regular season Essendon, South Melbourne, Richmond and Fitzroy played off for the flag. After the first two weeks, Essendon was undefeated, while Richmond had lost to Fitzroy. Despite the fact that Richmond then beat Essendon by 20 points, the latter was awarded the premiership on percentage. Given this ridiculous outcome, it is hardly surprising that the round robin finals system disappeared without trace.



MULTIPLE BROWNLOWS

Essendon players have won eight Brownlow Medals, five of which went to champion rovers Dick Reynolds and Bill Hutchison. Reynolds played 320 games between 1933 and 1951, winning seven club best and fairest awards. In 1934 he polled 19 Brownlow votes to beat Fitzroy's Haydn Bunton by one vote. In 1937 his 27 votes beat South Melbourne's Herbie Matthews by four, while in 1938 he polled 18 votes to beat Hawthorn's Stan Spinks by one. Hutchison played 290 games between 1942 and 1957 and won six club best and fairest awards. He and Richmond's Roy Wright tied for the 1952 Brownlow with 21 votes each, at the time Wright being awarded the medal on countback. In 1953 Hutchison polled 26 votes to beat Collingwood's Bob Rose by four.



THE 1942 AND 1943 PREMIERSHIPS

Both Essendon and Richmond were successful clubs during the 1940s, Essendon playing finals in each year of that decade except 1945, winning flags in 1942, 1946 and 1949 and losing grand finals in 1943 and 1947. Richmond made the finals six times during the same period, winning the premiership in 1943 and finishing second in 1940, 1942 and 1944. In 1942 Richmond easily accounted for Essendon in the second semi final before Essendon beat South Melbourne to qualify for the grand final. Despite inaccuracy in front of goal, Essendon dramatically turned the tables on the hot favourites to win the flag by 53 points. Dick Reynolds was best on ground and Gordon "Woppa" Lane kicked six goals. In the following year Essendon beat Richmond in the second semi final, then Richmond beat Fitzroy in the preliminary final. The grand final was tight, Richmond prevailing by just five points. Prolific Tiger rover Dick Harris kicked seven goals to be the match winner.



A DURABLE FULL FORWARD

The career of Richmond's Jack "Skinny" Titus spanned 18 seasons. Recruited from Burnley, he debuted in 1926 and retired in 1943. Lightly built at just 65kg (10 stone) and 175cm (5ft 9in), he was initially played in defence where he struggled to hold his place. Then in 1928, following a knee injury, he was switched into attack and was almost immediately successful, settling in to become a champion full forward. Writing in the *Sporting Globe* some years later, Jack Dyer observed: "Titus relies on his judgment in beating opponents. His timing is perfect and his anticipation of the flight of the ball uncanny. He is as cunning as a fox and as fast as any man in the game over the first 10 yards." Titus built a formidable record with the Tigers, playing 294 games (202 of those in succession) and kicking 970 goals, the sixth highest career total in league history. He played in two premiership teams, won two club best and fairest awards, headed Richmond's goalkicking 11 times and was the first player from the club to kick 100 goals in a season. His total of 74 goals in finals has been bettered by only Gordon Coventry and Jason Dunstall. Jack Titus was selected at full forward in Richmond's team of the century.

This Round in History – Round 16 on the MCG

The highest score in Round 16 on the MCG is 27.18 (180) by Hawthorn against Richmond 17.11 (113) in 1985. The overall Round 16 record is 34.18 (222) by Richmond against St Kilda 11.4 (70) at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1980.

The most goals by an individual is 11 by Dermott Brereton for Hawthorn against Richmond in 1990. Hawthorn kicked 25.9 (159) to win by 91 points. The overall Round 16 goalkicking record is 13 by Tony Modra for Adelaide against Richmond at Football Park (Adelaide) in 1993. Adelaide kicked 26.15 (171) to win by 139 points.

The highest score in a quarter is 12.1 (73) in the first quarter by the Kangaroos against Essendon in 2001. Despite trailing by 58 points at the first change, Essendon went on to win by 12 points: 27.9 (171) to 25.9 (159). The overall Round 16 record for the highest score in a quarter is 13.3 (81) by Hawthorn against North Melbourne in the first quarter at Princes Park in 1982. Hawthorn went on to kick 32.14 (206) to win by 96 points.

The highest Round 16 attendance at the MCG is 83,773 on Sunday July 19, 1998 when Essendon defeated Richmond by 19 points.

Statistics for Essendon v Richmond

Richmond v Essendon by venue

	Won by Essendon	Won by Richmond	Drawn
MCG	28	26	1
Albert Park	0	1	0
East Melbourne	4	8	0
Junction Oval	0	1	0
Punt Road	26	22	1
Princes Park	4	2	0
Windy Hill	35	20	1
Waverley	3	4	1
	100	84	4

Highest Score

Essendon	25.20 (170)	Rd 2	1960	PR
Richmond	25.22 (172)	Rd 3	1982	MCG

Lowest Score

Essendon	3.4 (22)	Rd 8	1918	EM
Richmond	3.11 (29)	Rd 2	1911	PR

Greatest Winning Margin

Essendon	125 points	Rd 2	1960	PR
Richmond	74 points	Rd 21	1970	MCG
Richmond	74 points	Rd 18	1983	WH

Most Goals in a Match (10 or more)

11	Paul Salmon	Essendon	Rd 19	1986	Wav
10	Dick Harris	Richmond	Rd 3	1944	WH
10	John Coleman	Essendon	Rd 18	1953	PR

Last Match – Round 9, 2011, MCG

	Richmond	Essendon
Quarter time	2.3	2.2
Half time	6.5	6.6
Three-quarter time	13.8	9.10
Full time	16.9 (105)	13.11 (89)

RECENT MEETINGS

The clubs have met eight times since 2007, Richmond winning five of those encounters. Jack Riewoldt made his debut with the Tigers in Round 9, 2007 in a match which Richmond looked like winning until James Hird turned the game around. The Tigers had one last chance to snatch victory when Richardson took a mark, then played on and goaled. But the umpire had the final say, penalising Richardson for hands in the back, then adding a 50-metre penalty for his shot on goal. In Round 21, the last match in Melbourne for James Hird and Kevin Sheedy, Richmond kicked seven goals to four in the final quarter to win by 27 points.

Richmond won both the 2008 encounters, Essendon scoring just two goals to the Tigers' 10 in the first half of the Round 9 match. Although the Bombers fought back in the third quarter, Richmond kicked away again to take the match by 38 points. The Round 16 encounter was much more competitive, Essendon fighting back to overcome a four-goal half time deficit to take the lead at the final break. With less than a minute remaining in the match, Richmond led by four points. Then Joel Bowden, instead of kicking in from full back, twice walked the ball backwards for behinds, thus running down the clock.

In the Round 9 match of 2009, Richmond controlled the first half to lead by 16 points. But the Bombers then took over, kicking 12 goals to three in the second half to win the game by 40 points. The return match in Round 17, with Essendon eighth and Richmond fourteenth, saw Richmond again in front at half time, but this time they held on to win by five points, Jack Riewoldt being the match winner with six goals.

Only one game was played between the sides in 2010, Essendon kicking the first seven goals to effectively kill the Round 9 contest. The final margin was 35 points, with 14 Essendon players scoring at least one major. Riewoldt again stood out for the Tigers with six goals. In the Round 9 game played earlier this year, Richmond 16.9 (105) defeated Essendon 13.11 (89).

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE:

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at: <http://www.tinyurl.com/mccfactsheets>

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