



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2023 ROUND 8 RICHMOND V WEST COAST

LIBRARY FACT SHEET MAY 6, 2023

THE WEST COAST EAGLES MAKE THEIR DEBUT

In 1987 the Victorian Football League (VFL) expanded for the first time since 1925 with the addition of two interstate clubs – the West Coast Eagles and the Brisbane Bears. In the first round of the 1987 season the Eagles played Richmond at Subiaco Oval, Perth, on March 29. A report of the Eagles' seminal game, written by Gary Stocks, may be found on the West Coast Eagles' website. Despite the official attendance being a "relatively modest 23,897", Subiaco Oval actually seemed to be at its 40,000 or so capacity. Stocks wrote: "The gates were thrown open because the turnstiles could not handle the last-minute crush." Former Richmond player John Annear played for the Eagles, while the parochial crowd gave four Tigers a special reception. Stocks wrote that: "There were a couple of former WAFL stars in that Tiger line-up as well – Maurice Rioli, the former South Fremantle champ, weaved his magic through the midfield while the explosive pace of Claremont's Michael Mitchell also exerted an influence on the match, Peter Wilson huffed and puffed through half-back and David Palm was as competitive as ever on a wing. Each time those former Sandgropers gained possession it was greeted disapprovingly by the local throng. And they had plenty of occasions in which to vent their emotions." For Stocks' full report see:

<https://www.westcoasteagles.com.au/news/252571/classic-clashes-round-1-1987-v-richmond>.

MAURICE RIOLI played 118 games for Richmond from 1982 to 1987, kicking 80 goals. Born on Melville Island off the coast of the Northern Territory, he played for St Mary's in the Darwin competition before moving to Western Australia. He signed with South Fremantle and played 121 games for them between 1975 and 1981. This included appearing in three consecutive WAFL grand finals (1979-81), being a member of a premiership team in 1980 and winning the Simpson Medal as best afield in the grand final in both 1980 and 1981. Recruited by Richmond in 1982 Rioli made an immediate impact in Victoria, playing many sensational games for the Tigers in the centre. Noted for his superb touch and skill, he won the Tigers' best and fairest award in 1982 and 1983, and was runner-up to Ross Glendinning in the 1983 Brownlow Medal. He was awarded the Norm Smith Medal as best afield in the 1982 grand final despite Richmond going down to Carlton. Rioli returned to Western Australia after the 1987 VFL season, where he re-joined South Fremantle and played a further 47 games from 1988 to 1990. In total he played 168 games for South Fremantle and kicked 133 goals. He captained both Western Australia and the Northern Territory in State of Origin games and was selected in the All Australian side three times. After retiring from football, Rioli was elected to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly. He then worked in community services on the Tiwi Islands. He died, aged 53, in 2010. He was inducted into the WA Football Hall of Fame in 2004 and posthumously inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame in 2016. He was selected in the centre in the Indigenous Team of the Century that was announced in 2005.

MICHAEL MITCHELL was originally from Carnarvon in Western Australia, beginning his senior football career with Claremont in the WAFL. He won the Sandover Medal in 1984, before achieving All Australian selection in both 1985 and 1986. Noted for his pace and high leap for his size, he played 81 games for the Tigers from 1987 to 1991, kicking 103 goals. He won both the Goal of the Year and Mark of the Year awards in the VFL in 1990, but his AFL career was cut short by a series of head injuries and concussions toward the end of his playing days. He returned to Western Australia after leaving Richmond.

PETER WILSON was born in Western Australia, representing East Fremantle in the WAFL before being recruited by Richmond. He played 54 games for the Tigers from 1987 to 1989 and then joined the West Coast Eagles, where he played 117 games from 1990 to 1995. He was a member of the Eagles' 1992 and 1994 AFL premiership teams.

DAVID PALM was raised in South Australia. He played for both Norwood in the SANFL from 1976 to 1979, and West Perth in the WAFL from 1980 to 1982, before joining Richmond in 1983. Although primarily a defender, he also played as a centreman and a ruck-rover, giving the Tigers good service in 104 games through to 1988. He then moved to Springvale in the VFA, where he was a playing assistant coach in 1989. He ended his career back at West Perth in 1990 and 1991.

This Round in History – Round 8 on the MCG

The highest score in Round 8 at the MCG is 25.17 (167) by Richmond against Footscray 17.15 (117) in 1981. The overall Round 8 record is 33.21 (219) by the Brisbane Bears in beating Sydney 8.9 (57) at the 'Gabba in 1993. The highest score in a quarter for Round 8 on the MCG is 10.5 (65) by Fitzroy against Richmond in the third quarter in 1992. The overall record is 12.5 (77) by North Melbourne in the third quarter against Footscray at Arden Street in 1983. The most goals by an individual in Round 8 at the MCG is 10. This feat is shared by Melbourne's Fred Fanning against St Kilda in 1947, Jeff Hogg for Richmond against Collingwood in 1991 and Matthew Richardson against the Bulldogs in 2004. The overall Round 8 record is 14 by Gary Ablett for Geelong against Sydney at the SCG in 1994. The highest Round 8 attendances have been at the MCG. Top was 85,659 in 1980 when Richmond defeated Carlton 19.24 (138) to 12.13 (85). In 1992, 83,262 fans saw Carlton 16.9 (105) defeat Collingwood 9.18 (72) and 81,550 saw Melbourne 11.16 (82) beat Geelong 4.11 (35) in 1963.

Statistics for Richmond v West Coast

Richmond v West Coast by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by West Coast	Drawn
Carrara	1	0	0
Docklands	3	1	0
Perth Stadium	1	2	0
MCG	10	8	0
Princes Park	1	1	0
Subiaco	4	14	0
Waverley	1	1	0
	21	27	0

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	109 points	Rd 7	2022	PS
West Coast	96 points	Rd 3	1994	MCG

Highest Score

Richmond	25.15 (165)	Rd 7	2022	PS
West Coast	26.17 (173)	Rd 22	2006	MCG

Lowest Score

Richmond	5.9 (39)	Rd 3	1994	MCG
West Coast	6.6 (42)	Rd 18	2014	Sub

Last Time They Met – Round 16, 2022, MCG

	Richmond	West Coast
Quarter time	4.2	2.4
Half time	11.4	5.6
Three-quarter time	15.5	11.11
Full time	20.8 (128)	13.15 (93)

DAVE CHESSELL AND THE JACK DYER STAND

The southern portion of the Jack Dyer Stand at Richmond's Punt Road Oval, its traditional home and current training base, was named the D.P. Chessell Wing. Trevor Ruddell's chapter "Tigerland: The Punt Road Oval Story" in the third edition of Rhett Bartlett's *Richmond F.C.* (2019) described the genesis of the iconic brick grandstand:

"... as early as 1910 football club secretary Andrew Manzie proposed the erection of a brick grandstand on the western side of the ground and the demolition of the present buildings. He also proposed a high brick wall along Punt Road to increase the size of the embankment and allow the enlargement of the playing field. In June 1913 the RCC received permission to increase the size of their ground to the north-west. Soon a grandstand, designed by Thomas Watts & Son would be erected there. It was paid for through the sale of indentures. Work on it began in early 1914 and the foundation stone was formally laid on May 2. The new 1,200 capacity grandstand was officially opened on Saturday 6 June by former Prime Minister and federal Labor Party leader Andrew Fisher. The grandstand was extended southward in 1927 with the addition of the D.P. Chessell Wing. In 1998 it was renamed the Jack Dyer Stand."

While Jack Dyer, the Richmond Football Club Hall of Fame's first Immortal in 2002, and an inaugural Australian Football Hall of Fame Legend in 1996, is well remembered and celebrated – who was this D.P. Chessell? Dave Chessell was the honorary secretary of the Richmond Cricket Club (RCC) from 1893/94 to 1898/99, 1903/04 to 1905/06, and from 1920/21 to 1931/32. He also served as a club patron from 1932/33 until his death in April 1944. It was during Chessell's third tenure as secretary that the grandstand was enlarged, with this wing named in his honour in 1927. A teacher by profession, Chessell retired after 40 years with the Education Department in January 1918. A life member of the RCC, he was remembered in the obituary portion of the cricket club's 1943/44 annual report as a secretary who "rendered the Club yeoman service".

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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

Fact sheets are prepared by MCC Library volunteers David Allen, Eric Panther, Quentin Miller, Dennis Carroll, Ian Wilkinson, and Gaye Fitzpatrick, with MCC deputy librarian Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL