



# MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET MARCH 8, 2026

## AFL 2026 OPENING ROUND ST KILDA V COLLINGWOOD

### THE CLUBS' THREE GRAND FINALS

#### 1966 Grand Final – St Kilda 10.14 (74) defeated Collingwood 10.13 (73)

Coming off recent VFL grand final defeats: the Magpies in 1964 against Melbourne and the Saints in 1965 against the Bombers, and before a crowd of 102,055, the Saints pipped the Magpies by a solitary point to win their only premiership to date. The coaches of the clubs were Allan Jeans (St Kilda) and Bob Rose (Collingwood). The captains were Darrel Baldock (St Kilda) and Des Tuddenham (Collingwood). The game was umpired by Jeff Crouch. The leading goal-kickers for the Magpies were: Des Tuddenham (3), Ray Gabelich (2) and Wayne Richardson (2), while for the Saints Kevin “Cowboy” Neale (5) and Darrel Baldock (2). Prominent players on the day for Collingwood were Terry Waters, Wayne Richardson, Len Thompson, Peter Patterson, Max Pitt and Des Tuddenham, while for St Kilda Ian Cooper, Ian Stewart, Brian Sierakowski, Daryl Griffiths, Barry Breen, Alan Morrow and Kevin Neale were among their best.

#### 2010 Grand Final – St Kilda 10.8 (68) drew with Collingwood 9.14 (68)

Before a crowd of 100,016, on 25 September 2010, the match was umpired by Ray Chamberlain, Brett Rosebury and Shaun Ryan. This was to be the third drawn grand final in the history of the VFL/AFL, with the previous two occurring in 1948 and 1977. The Saints were coached by Ross Lyon and captained by Nick Riewoldt while the Collingwood team was captained by Nick Maxwell and coached by Mick Malthouse. At half-time Collingwood 7.8 (50) led St Kilda 4.2 (26), but in the third quarter Collingwood only progressed to 7.13 (55) while St Kilda moved to 7.5 (47). At the 19th minute mark of the final quarter, a desperate diving save by Collingwood’s skipper, Nick Maxwell, saved a certain goal and brought the scores level at 61 points apiece. Then in the 20th minute Goddard, after he took a spectacular mark, goaled to give the Saints their first lead in the game. With the Magpies in front by a point, at the 30th minute mark a disastrously awkward bounce for St Kilda saw the ball elude Stephen Milne only metres from the goal and go through for a behind. This tied the scores, 68 points apiece. The leading goal kicker for Collingwood was Travis Cloke with two while Nick Riewoldt, Stephen Milne and Brendon Goddard each kicked two for the Saints. The Norm Smith Medal was won by the Saints’ Lennie Hayes.

#### 2010 Grand Final Replay – Collingwood 16.12 (108) defeated St Kilda 7.10 (52)

The 2010 Grand Final replay was played on October 2 before a crowd of 93,853. Collingwood dominated the match from the start with St Kilda failing to score a goal until the 15th minute of the second quarter. At half-time Collingwood 6.5 (41) led St Kilda 1.8 (14). Collingwood continued to dominate, taking out the match by 56 points. Captains for the day were: Collingwood, Nick Maxwell and St Kilda, Nick Riewoldt. The coaches were: for Collingwood Mick Malthouse and for the Saints, Ross Lyon. The leading goal kickers were, for Collingwood: Chris Dawes, Alan Didak, Brent Macaffer, Steele Sidebottom and Sharrod Wellingham all kicking two goals while the Saints’ only multiple goal kicker was Stephen Milne with two. The best for the Magpies were Luke Ball, Nathan Brown, Darren Jolly, Scott Pendlebury, Heath Shaw, Dale Thomas, Sharrod Wellingham and Steele Sidebottom. St Kilda’s best were Zac Dawson, Sam Gilbert, Brendon Goddard, James Gwilt and Clinton Jones. The Norm Smith Medal was awarded to Collingwood’s Scott Pendlebury.

### PLAYED WITH BOTH CLUBS

**Luke Ball** was recruited to St Kilda with experience at Xavier College (APS) and Sandringham Dragons (TAC Cup). His father, Ray Ball, was a former Richmond and South Melbourne full-back. Luke was a mid-fielder at 183cms (6 ft) and weighed 83kgs (183lbs). He played with St Kilda from 2003 to 2009 in 142 games with 58 goals and Collingwood from 2010 to 2014 in 81 games with 33 goals. At St Kilda he tied with Steven Baker for the Best and Fairest award in 2005 and was the St Kilda captain in 2006 and 2007. At the Saints he played in pre-season premierships in 2004 and 2008. Moving to Collingwood in 2010 he played in a premiership in his first season with the Magpies. The “Collingwood Forever” website states: “He produced a strong year and capped it off with a premiership medallion, ironically against his old side.”

**Shane Wakelin** was recruited from Port Adelaide (SANFL) he was 191cms (6ft 3in) in height and weighed 92kgs (203lbs). Shane played 94 games and kicked 19 goals with St Kilda from 1994 to 2000. At the Saints he played in a pre-season premiership in 1996. He joined Collingwood from 2001 to 2008 where he played 158 games with one goal. He was a consistent defender with the Magpies. Interestingly, his identical twin brother, Darryl, was born just before midnight on August 11, 1974, while Shane was born just after midnight on August 12.

## THIS ROUND IN HISTORY – “OPENING ROUND” AT THE MCG

Tonight, the first “Opening Round” match on the MCG is played. The creation of a truncated round of matches to precede Round 1, and branded “Opening Round”, was first played over the weekend of March 7 to March 9, 2024. Before this official designation of an “Opening Round” round, the phrase opening round was a popular colloquial term for Round 1, traditionally the first games of the premiership season. An “Opening Round” was conceived to promote the start of the season in New South Wales and Queensland, with all four AFL teams from the two eastern seaboard states – Brisbane Lions, Gold Coast, Greater Western Sydney and Sydney Swans – hosting matches. The following year the two “Opening Round” matches in Brisbane and the Gold Coast were rescheduled until later in the year due to Cyclone Arthur. Therefore, Brisbane’s match against Geelong at the Gabba was played when both teams had a bye on March 29 (the weekend other clubs met for Round 3), while, somewhat ironically, Gold Coast’s “Opening Round” match against Essendon was chronologically the last regular season game of 2025. It was played on August 27 – the weekend before the finals commenced. This year, as well as the four matches played north of the Murray River, a fifth “Opening Round” match is scheduled for the MCG.

The highest score in the “Opening Round” was by Gold Coast which kicked 23.15 (153) against Essendon at Carrara on August 27, 2025. Essendon’s score 8.10 (58) in the same match is the lowest “Opening Round” score. The 95-point margin is also an “Opening Round” record. The seven goals booted by the Gold Coast’s Ben King during the same game is the most kicked by an individual in the “Opening Round”. The largest “Opening Round” attendance is 40,310 for Sydney’s match against Hawthorn on Friday March 7, 2025, at the SCG.

### STATISTICS FOR ST KILDA V COLLINGWOOD

#### St Kilda v Collingwood by Venue

	Won by St Kilda	Won by Collingwood	Drawn
Adelaide Oval	0	1	0
Docklands	6	9	0
Junction Oval	21	37	0
MCG	12	18	1
Moorabbin	6	12	1
Toorak Park	1	0	0
Victoria Park	7	77	0
Waverley Park	8	9	0
	61	163	2

#### Highest Score

St Kilda	22.16 (148)	Rd 21	1982	Wav
Collingwood	32.19 (211)	Rd 17	1980	Wav

#### Lowest Score

St Kilda	1.0 (6)	Rd 13	1898	VP
Collingwood	3.8 (26)	Rd 15	1907	JO

#### Greatest Winning Margin

St Kilda	88 points	Rd 7	2009	Dock
Collingwood	178 points	Rd 4	1979	VP

#### Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

11	G. Coventry	Coll	Rd 7	1927	VP
11	Bill Mohr	St K	Rd 17	1931	JO
11	G. Coventry	Coll	Rd 17	1931	JO
11	Ron Todd	Coll	PF	1939	MCG
11	Phil Carman	Coll	Rd 20	1975	Moor
10	Bill Mohr	St K	Rd 8	1930	VP
10	Allan Davis	St K	Rd 8	1971	Moor

#### Last Time They Met – Round 15, 2025, Docklands

	Collingwood	St Kilda
Quarter time	5.1	3.1
Half time	8.5	6.5
Three-quarter time	12.9	9.6
Full time	16.12 (108)	11.8 (74)

### COLLINGWOOD V ST KILDA – BEST INDIVIDUAL GOAL-KICKING

- In Round 8, 1930, at Victoria Park, Bill Mohr (St Kilda) kicked 10 goals 2 behinds. St Kilda lost the match. Collingwood 22.11 (143) defeated St Kilda 14.8 (92).
- In Round 17, 1931, at the Junction Oval, Bill Mohr (St Kilda) kicked 11 goals 4 behinds. St Kilda 21.16 (142) defeated Collingwood 20.8 (128).
- In Round 8, 1971, at Moorabbin, Allan Davis (St Kilda) kicked 10 goals 4 behinds. St Kilda 20.15 (135) defeated Collingwood 13.10 (88).
- In Round 7, 1927, at Victoria Park, Gordon Coventry (Collingwood) kicked 11 goals. Collingwood 25.19 (169) defeated St Kilda 7.15 (57).
- In Round 17, 1931, at the Junction Oval, Gordon Coventry (Collingwood) kicked 11 goals 1 behind. St Kilda won the match. St Kilda 21.16 (142) defeated Collingwood 20.8 (128).
- In the 1939 Preliminary Final at the MCG, Ron Todd (Collingwood) kicked 11 goals 4 behinds. Collingwood 20.14 (134) defeated St Kilda 15.15 (105).
- In Round 20, 1975, at Moorabbin, Phil Carman (Collingwood) kicked 11 goals 4 behinds. Collingwood 24.12 (156) defeated St Kilda 20.17 (137).

Fact sheets are prepared by MCC Library Volunteers David Allen, Eric Panther, Quentin Miller, Dennis Carroll, Ian Wilkinson, Gerry Verstoep, Gaye Fitzpatrick, and Edward Cohen, with MCC Deputy Librarian Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL