



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET

MARCH 15, 2024

AFL 2024 ROUND 1

COLLINGWOOD V SYDNEY

FINALS BETWEEN COLLINGWOOD AND THE SYDNEY SWANS

Since South Melbourne became Sydney in 1982 these two sides have met in three finals, the second elimination final in 2007 and preliminary finals in 2012 and 2022.

- On September 8, 2007, at the MCG, they lined up in front of a crowd of 64,645 fans. The Magpies got off to a flying start, kicking six goals to the Swans' one. A fightback by Sydney in the second quarter, with Nick Davis scoring two goals, saw them down by just ten points at the main break. A five goal to two third quarter, with Michael O'Loughlin scoring Sydney's only two majors, saw the Magpies up by 28 points at the final change. An even last quarter, with O'Loughlin scoring another two goals, saw Collingwood run out victors by 38 points. **Collingwood 18.17 (125) def. Sydney 13.9 (87)** The Magpies went on to beat West Coast in the second semi final but lost to Geelong by just five points in the first preliminary final.
- In September 2012 the two sides met in the second preliminary final at Stadium Australia before 57,156 fans. This time it was the Swans who were quicker out of the blocks, scoring five goals to the Magpies' two, and leading by 20 points at quarter time. They maintained their lead throughout and with eight individual goalkickers, including Lewis Jetta with three, went on to win by 26 points. Travis Cloke was Collingwood's only multiple goalkicker with three. **Sydney 13.18 (96) def. Collingwood 10.10 (70)**
- The last time these two met in a final was the first preliminary final in 2022. They met at the SCG in front of 45,608 fans, who were treated to a thriller. Again Sydney started well and held a handy lead of 21 points at quarter time. Even second and third quarters saw the Swans still hold a lead of 23 points at the last change. However, the Magpies threw everything at them in the last quarter, scoring four goals to Tom Papley's solitary major. Collingwood scored an unanswered three goals two behinds in the last ten minutes of play, but fell short by just one point at the final siren. Papley was Sydney's leading goalkicker with three. Will Hoskin-Elliott, Jamie Elliott and Beau McCreery were Collingwood's with two each. **Sydney 14.11 (95) def. Collingwood 14.10 (94)**

PLAYED FOR BOTH

Scott Russell

A ruck-rover/centreman, Scott Russell came to the Magpies from SANFL side Sturt. He played 182 games (107 goals) for the club from 1990 to 1998, playing every game in his debut season including in the Grand Final win over Essendon, where he starred with 27 possessions, having more kicks than any other teammate. He also played eight State of Origin matches for South Australia during this time. He moved on to the Sydney Swans in 1999 where his only season with the club saw him play 16 games (8 goals). Russell is described in *The Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers* as "A dependable kick around the field and a hard worker in packs...his consistency was a pillar of strength at Collingwood".

Jesse White

A forward who could be moved into the ruck, Jesse White was drafted to the Sydney Swans in the 2006 AFL Draft. Inconsistent form saw him play just 71 games (73 goals) for the club from 2007 to 2013. Improved performances later at Sydney saw the club attempt to retain him, however he moved on to Collingwood in 2014 where he played 56 games (75 goals) before retiring at the end of the 2017 season. He trained with the Melbourne United basketball club in 2018 before signing with SANFL side Glenelg and playing in their 2019 premiership side. He was a Rising Star nominee in 2009.

THE FIRST TIME THEY MET

On May 29, 1897 these two sides met for the first time in Round 4 of the first Victorian Football League season. Played at South Melbourne's Lake Oval, the match was a low scoring affair with each side managing just one goal in the first quarter. South Melbourne's wayward kicking saw them kick two goals four behinds to Collingwood's two goals straight in the second quarter, giving the Swans a six point lead at half time. Outscoring the Magpies by ten points in the third quarter, they led by 16 points at the last change. Not to be outdone, the Collingwood side scored one goal two behinds in the last quarter and held South Melbourne scoreless, but went down by eight points. Michael O'Gorman was South's only multiple goalkicker with two, and Lardie Tulloch, also with two, led Collingwood's goalkicking.

THIS ROUND IN HISTORY – ROUND 1 ON THE MCG

The MCG has witnessed some big wins in Round 1. The biggest was Geelong's 127-point victory over Melbourne in 1996. This bettered Melbourne's 105-point win over South Melbourne in 1971. The Cats' score of 27.21 (183) in 1996 is also the best Round 1 score on the MCG. The best score in one quarter was by Essendon who kicked 11.3 (69) during the second quarter against Melbourne in 1935. Drawn games have figured prominently in Round 1 over the years. However, only two have taken place on the MCG, when Melbourne drew with Sydney 11.18 (84) apiece on March 27, 2011, and Carlton drew with Richmond 8.10 (58) apiece on March 16, 2023. The highest tally of goals kicked in Round 1 on the MCG was 12 by Essendon's Ted Freyer against Melbourne in 1935. The top attendance for a Round 1 game at the MCG is 90,151 for the Carlton-Richmond game in 2018.

STATISTICS FOR COLLINGWOOD V SOUTH MELBOURNE/SYDNEY

Collingwood v South Melbourne/Sydney by venue

	Won By Collingwood	Won By SM/Sydney	Drawn
Docklands	3	2	0
Gabba	1	0	0
Junction Oval	0	2	0
Lake Oval	42	25	1
MCG	11	8	0
Princes Park	0	3	0
SCG	8	17	0
Stad. Australia	9	3	0
Victoria Park	68	25	0
Waverley Park	2	2	0
	144	87	1

Last Time They Met – Round 8, 2023, MCG

	Collingwood	Sydney
Quarter time	3.5	1.2
Half time	4.6	5.8
Three-quarter time	6.9	5.10
Full time	11.11 (77)	6.12 (48)

Highest Score

Collingwood	29.11 (185)	R 16	1985	SCG
Sydney	25.15 (165)	R 1	1987	VP

Lowest Score

Collingwood	0.8 (8)	Rd 11	1897	VP
South Melb.	1.7 (13)	Rd 11	1898	VP

Greatest Winning Margin

Collingwood	99 points	Rd 14	1991	VP
Sydney	91 points	Rd 1	1987	VP

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

16	P. McKenna	Coll	R19	1969	VP
12	Bob Pratt	S. Melb	R12	1935	LO
12	B. Taylor	Coll	R16	1985	SCG
11	G. Coventry	Coll	R 3	1929	VP
11	P. McKenna	Coll	R20	1968	VP
10	Ron Todd	Coll	R 2	1939	LO
10	T. Lockett	Sydney	R7	1998	MCG

THREE TEAMS ON THE GROUND

On the evening of October 5, 2013, at the Dock Lake Reserve in Horsham, Victoria, a novel game was played before about 200 spectators. The conceptual artist Gabrielle de Vietri had organised a footy match between three teams. It was funded by grants from the Australia Council and Arts Victoria, and footage of the match and its preparation was shortlisted for the Basil Sellers Art Prize in 2014.

Played over three 20-minute thirds, the teams were restricted to eight-a-side on the ground, with each having another five on the interchange bench. Goal and behind posts were positioned at three equidistant points of a circular rather than an oval field, and instead of a centre square there was a centre triangle. The MCG had some role in the match's inspiration. In October 2013 de Vietri told Jill Stark of the Age, "I saw my first game at the MCG in 2011 and it got me thinking, why are team sports always between two teams? And why is sport either an individual struggle or a binary phenomenon? It's a tradition that's so ingrained and I thought it would be interesting to see what would happen if you disrupted that gently."

On August 20, 2014, Robert Nelson, an art critic with Fairfax (now Nine Entertainment) newspapers wrote, "as conceptual art, the genius of the piece doesn't lie in its execution so much as its invention of a scenario..." That the viewer was invited, "to study the behaviour of the players, which is more thoughtful and less automatic than you'd see in AFL. Sometimes, the guys hold back awkwardly rather than rushing into the fray: why would you waste energy tackling team A if team B is doing a good job? The optimum intervention for team C will come when the other two negate one another... Technically, it's doubtful if triangulating power relations removes the bluntness of competition; it just makes participants form alliances which they're destined to betray... a dog-eat-dog competition but no sides."

At full time the scores read Taylors Lake 10.5 (65), Horsham RSL Diggers 7.8 (50), and Noradjuha-Quantong 10.5 (65). To determine a winner extra time was arranged with all three teams participating – so even the trailing Diggers still had an opportunity to win. They added a goal to their score, however, it was Taylors Lake who claimed the honours that evening with the deciding goal of the match. The final scores read: Taylors Lake 11.5 (71), to Noradjuha-Quantong 10.5 (65), to Horsham RSL Diggers 8.8 (56).

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

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