

**AFL 2019 ROUND 1
MELBOURNE V
PORT ADELAIDE**



**SATURDAY
MARCH 23, 2019
FACT SHEET**

PLAYED WITH BOTH

Byron Pickett was born in Kellerberrin in country Western Australia. He grew up in Tammin and then Geraldton, W.A. before moving to Port Lincoln in South Australia. Pickett played his junior football with Mallee Park in the Port Lincoln Football League. Other league footballers to appear with Mallee Park were Peter and Shaun Burgoyne, Graham Johncock and Daniel Wells. Pickett moved to the Port Adelaide Under 19s, although Port Adelaide wanted him for the AFL he chose to go North Melbourne Football Club. With the Kangaroos from 1997 to 2002, he recorded 120 games and kicked 81 goals. He was the AFL Rising Star winner in 1998 - the Ron Evans Medallist, an All Australian in 1999 and a member of North Melbourne's 1999 premiership side. At 5'10" (178cm) and 194lb (88kg) he was a tough, hard at the ball player and could hand out hard bumps. He moved to his original club, Port Adelaide, from 2003 to 2005 and played 55 games and kicked 80 goals. At Port Adelaide he was a member of their inaugural premiership in 2004, winning the Norm Smith Medal as best on the ground. His final AFL club was Melbourne in 2006 and 2007, where he played 29 games and kicked 16 goals. It was appropriate at Melbourne that he wore guernsey number 33, previously worn by Jeff Farmer. At the conclusion of his AFL career he played two seasons in 2008 and 2009 with Port Adelaide in the SANFL. He has been involved in the club's football academy programme with a focus on mentoring young aboriginal players. One honour Byron Pickett achieved was selection in the AFL's Indigenous Team of the Century.

MELBOURNE AT THE MOTORDROME

VFL home and away premiership football took place at the Motordrome during the early part of 1932 because the Melbourne Cricket Ground was being resurfaced. The Motordrome was located in the area where Olympic Park was and where the Collingwood Football Club's training oval is today. Melbourne played the three games but were unsuccessful in each match. In Round 2, Melbourne 7.13 (55) were defeated by Richmond 15.26 (116) with Gordon Strang kicking seven goals and Jack Titus five. The crowd was estimated at 13,000. In Round 4, Geelong 20.13 (133) defeated Melbourne 14.11 (95) in front an attendance of 7,000 spectators. Melbourne full forward, George Margitich, kicked eight goals and Geelong's leading forward/ruckman, Bill Kuhlken kicked six goals and forward, George Moloney, kicked five goals. The final match at the Motordrome was in Round 6, when 12,500 fans attended. Carlton 12.15 (87) defeated Melbourne 9.9 (63). Mickey Crisp (Carlton) top scored for the game with four goals.

The Motordrome, which was opened in 1924 was also used for school and junior football, dirt track racing and motorcycle speedway test matches. Football matches also took place, including a 1935 pre-season match under electric floodlights between Richmond and South Melbourne. A large crowd of 25,000 spectators attended. Further exhibition matches were played between the 1935 VFA grand finalists, Yarraville and Camberwell and at the end of 1936 between combined teams representing the VFL and VFA.

Perhaps the most memorable non-event at the Motordrome occurred on the December 11, 1926. The venue hosted a shambolic ostrich racing event. A full program of races was scheduled but the event was cancelled after farcical attempts when startled ostriches went in the wrong direction, failed to break out of a walk when attached to sulkies or were ridden by inanimate jockeys.

OVER TO YOU

1. When did Port Power win its first premiership?
2. How many premierships has Melbourne won and what were the seasons?
3. Which Brownlow Medallist captained Port Adelaide in the AFL?
4. Who was the first AFL coach of Port Adelaide in 1997 and 1998?
5. Who is the current Port Adelaide player who, as the No1 Draft Pick played for Melbourne?
6. What are the first two lines of Melbourne's song?
7. Who has kicked the most AFL goals for Port Adelaide?
8. Who am I? I played cricket for Victoria, I was a back pocket player in the 1964 premiership. I won the flag when I followed my opponent into the forward line and kicked the winning goal.
9. What are the official colours of the Port Adelaide AFL football side?
10. Name the Melbourne nicknames.

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>

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 which 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 one has taken place on the MCG, when Melbourne drew with Sydney 11.18 (84) apiece on March 27, 2011. 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 87,119 for the Carlton-Collingwood game in 1995.

Statistics for Melbourne v Port Adelaide

Melbourne v Port Adelaide by venue

	Won by Melbourne	Won by Port Adel.	Drawn
Football Park	2	11	0
MCG	8	2	0
Marrara	2	1	0
Traeger Park	0	3	0
Adelaide Oval	1	3	0
	13	20	0

Last Time They Met – Round 14, 2018, Adel. Oval

	Port Adelaide	Melbourne
Quarter time	1.3	3.5
Half time	4.6	4.8
Three-quarter time	8.7	9.9
Full time	11.9 (75)	9.11 (65)

Highest Score

Melbourne	18.16 (124)	Rd 4	2004	MCG
Port Adel.	25.13 (163)	Rd 17	2007	FP

Lowest Score

Melbourne	3.9 (27)	Rd 9	1997	FP
Port Adel.	6.17 (53)	Rd 5	1998	MCG

Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	53 points	Rd 4	2004	MCG
Port Adel.	89 points	Rd 17	2007	FP

Most Goals in a Match

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

100 GAMER – MAX GAWN.

Max Gawn has reached the hundred game milestone after playing for Melbourne from 2011. Originally recruited from Ormond and the Sandringham Dragons, he debuted in Round 11, 2011 against Essendon at the MCG. Gawn is of New Zealand descent, his parents migrated to Australia and Max was born here. He attended school at McKinnon Secondary College and was also interested in rugby union and basketball. He is a formidable ruckman at 208cm (6'10") and weighs 109kg (240lb). At Melbourne he was awarded the Keith "Bluey" Truscott Trophy as Melbourne's Best and Fairest player in 2018. He also gained All Australian selection in 2016 and 2018. Away from the game Max Gawn is an enterprising businessman and launched a food truck dubbed: "The Bearded Jaffle". His truck visits markets and festivals around Melbourne with fillings such as: ham cheese and tomato, baked beans and spaghetti bolognese and a sweet option: Nutella and banana. The footballer has another food project in the works – a Camberwell wine bar, set to open in early 2019.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Norm Smith Medal is awarded to the best player in the grand final. The award is judged by an independent panel of former players, journalists and media personalities. Norm Smith was an icon of the game as a player and as a coach. He played 210 games and kicked 546 goals for Melbourne (1935-1948) and 17 games for Fitzroy (1949-50). He was a member of the Demons' 1939, 1940, 1941 and 1948 premiership teams. He coached Melbourne from 1952 to 1964 to eight grand finals for six premierships. Smith also captained/coached Fitzroy in (1949-50), coached Fitzroy in 1951 and was South Melbourne coach from 1969 to 1972. The Norm Smith Medal was first awarded in 1979 when Wayne Harmes (Carlton) received the award from Mrs Marj Smith (Norm Smith's widow). Harmes was Norm's great nephew (the grandson of Norm brother Len). To date no Melbourne player has won the award but Byron Pickett, who played for the Demons in 2006 and 2007, won the Norm Smith Medal as a Port Adelaide player in the 2004 grand final.

OVER TO YOU ANSWERS: Q1 In 2004, Port Adelaide 17.11 (113) defeated Brisbane Lions 10.13 (73). **Q2** 1900, 1926, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1948, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1960 and 1964. **Q3** Gavin Wanganeen won the Medal whilst playing for Essendon in 1993. **Q4** John Cahill. **Q5** Jack Watts. (Melbourne 2009-17 153 games, 143 goals). **Q6** "It's a grand old flag, it's a high flying flag / It's the emblem for me and for you". **Q7** Warren Tredrea (1997-2010, 549 goals). **Q8** Neil Crompton (recruited from Ormond). **Q9** Black body with white and teal V on the front, black with white number panel and black number on back, with 1870 above number. **Q10** Invincible Whites, Fuchsias, Redlegs, and Demons.

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