

AFL 2019 ROUND 3 MELBOURNE V ESSENDON



FRIDAY
APRIL 5, 2019
FACT SHEET

VALE Ian Thorogood

The football fraternity was saddened to learn of the death of former Melbourne player and committeeman Ian Thorogood on Tuesday March 19, at the age of 82. A three time premierships player Ian started with the Demons' Third XVIII in 1953 but did not make his senior debut until Round 3 in 1957, playing 17 senior games in his first season. Whilst just six feet tall, he was a deceptively strong half back and was selected on the bench in Melbourne's premierships side in 1957. Becoming a regular selection, he played alongside such players as John Beckwith, Trevor Johnson and John Lord in the Demons' strong defence. He went on to play in Melbourne's 1958 losing grand final side and their further premierships sides of 1959 and 1960. At the age of 27 he left the club to coach VFA club Waverley where he captained and coached the side to a premierships in 1965. After a stint as an assistant to Norm Smith at South Melbourne, in 1976 he took over the coaching position at Carlton, remaining there until the end of 1977 when he returned to Melbourne as an assistant coach to Dennis Jones, before taking over the coaching of their Under 19 side in 1979 and 1980. Thorogood is described in *The Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers* as "A tough and dependable half-back in a team of stars". He played 93 games for the Demons and kicked just one goal (against North Melbourne in Round 10, 1957 at Arden Street). He was made a Life Member of the Melbourne Football Club in 1983.



1948 GRAND FINAL AND REPLAY

Essendon finished the 1948 home-and-away season three and a half games clear on top of the ladder, followed by Melbourne, Collingwood and Footscray. The Bombers won 16 of their 19 home-and-away games, lost two and drew one. During the season Essendon defeated Melbourne by 19 points in Round 1 at the MCG, and by 26 points in Round 12 at Windy Hill. In the third encounter between the teams for the season, the Bombers qualified for the grand final by beating the Demons by 36 points in the second semi-final. After winning the first semi-final decisively over Footscray, Collingwood led the preliminary final at quarter time but Melbourne then took over, kicking 21 goals to the Magpies' nine to win by 65 points.

The following Saturday Melbourne and Essendon met in a grand final for only the third time, Melbourne having won in 1941 and Essendon in 1946. Despite having dominated the Demons, and most other teams, throughout the 1948 season, the grand final turned out to be a nightmare for Essendon, the team not scoring a goal until almost half way through the second quarter. The score at half time was Melbourne 4.5 (29) to Essendon 2.15 (27). The Bombers showed some improvement in form, and kicked a little more accurately, in the third term to establish a 13-point lead at the last change – Essendon 6.21 (57) to Melbourne 6.8 (44). In the final quarter, however, Essendon only added 1.6 (and four out of bounds) to finish with the extraordinary tally of 7.27 (69), while Melbourne added 4.1 to bring their total to 10.9 (69). In what was the first-ever drawn grand final, one Essendon player kicked four behinds and five others kicked three each. The replay turned out to be a decisive win for the Demons. They dominated the early stages of play, kicking 6.2 to Essendon's 0.3 in the opening quarter. After making some impression on Melbourne's big lead in the second term to trail by 22 points at half-time, the Bombers kicked two goals to Melbourne's four in the second half to finish the game 39 points in arrears. The final scores were Melbourne 13.11 (89) to Essendon 7.8 (50).

OVER TO YOU

1. Name the centre line in Melbourne's Team of the Century.
2. Name the centre half-forward in Essendon's Team of the Century.
3. Which VFL/AFL sides did Phil Carman play with apart from Melbourne and Essendon?
4. Name the years in which Essendon and Melbourne won their first VFL premierships.
5. At which ground did the first VFL match between Essendon and Melbourne in 1897 take place?
6. In which year did Essendon begin playing home games at Windy Hill?
7. At which ground did Melbourne play home games while the MCG was used as a camp to accommodate troops during World War II?
8. In which year was the most recent finals clash between Essendon and Melbourne?

This Round in History – Round 3 on the MCG

The biggest Round 3 winner on the MCG is North Melbourne by 127 points in 1994 when the Kangaroos 25.23 (173) defeated Hawthorn 6.10 (46). The highest score in all Round 3 matches on the MCG was registered by Richmond 31.25 (211) in 1985 against St Kilda. The best score in a quarter was also recorded in this game when Richmond kicked 9.7 (61) during the third quarter. In Round 3 there have been seven drawn games, two of which have been at the MCG. The last draw at the MCG in Round 3 was in 1980 when Richmond 18.20 (128) drew with St Kilda 19.14 (128). The most goals kicked by an individual in Round 3 on the MCG is 13 by Essendon's Matthew Lloyd in 1999 against Sydney. The top attendance for a Round 3 game is 90,564 for a Richmond-Essendon game at the MCG in 1982.

Statistics for Melbourne v Essendon

Melbourne v Essendon by venue

	Won by Melbourne	Won by Essendon	Drawn
Albert Park	1	1	0
Docklands	3	3	0
East Melbourne	3	19	1
MCG	45	66	1
Princes Park	0	1	0
Punt Road	2	1	0
SCG	1	0	0
Waverley Park	2	6	0
Windy Hill	26	32	0
	83	129	2

Most Goals in a Match

12	Ted Freyer	Ess	Rd 1	1935	MCG
11	George Margitich	Melb	Rd 9	1930	MCG

Highest Score

Melbourne	25.20 (170)	Rd 2	1937	WH
Essendon	28.16 (184)	Rd 2	2013	MCG

Lowest Score

Melbourne	0.8 (8)	Final	1897	AP
Essendon	1.8 (14)	Final	1897	AP

Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	90 points	Rd 15	1927	MCG
Essendon	148 points	Rd 2	2013	MCG

Last Time They Met – Round 6, 2018, Docklands

	Melbourne	Essendon
Quarter time	1.3	2.3
Half time	4.7	5.7
Three-quarter time	11.10	6.9
Full time	16.12 (108)	10.12 (72)

PLAYED WITH BOTH CLUBS

Gary Moorcroft first came to the attention of AFL scouts when he won the Morrish Medal in 1994 playing for the Northern Knights. Nuggety and tough, he was an excellent mark for someone his size. Nevertheless, at only 173cm, he had to battle against the perception that he was too small to make the grade in the AFL. He was drafted by Essendon in 1994 and played one senior game in 1995. He started on the rookie list in 1997 but was elevated to the senior list when another player retired. He seized his chance in the latter part of the season and played 11 games from Round 8. A regular member of the Essendon senior team in the following seasons, he played in the Bombers' 2000 premiership side but was eventually delisted at the end of the 2002 season after 95 games (102 goals). He was picked up by Melbourne for the 2003 season but only managed three games (2 goals) for the Demons. Moorcroft is probably best known for winning the 2001 Mark of the Year for his spectacular high-flying leap over Brad Johnson in Essendon's Round 14 game against the Western Bulldogs. After retiring from the AFL Moorcroft has continued to play senior football in various leagues in Victoria. He joined Bundoora in the Northern Football League in 2011 and kicked the winning goal in their 2017 grand final victory over Macleod.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 2000 grand final was played on the Saturday September 2 because the AFL season, and fixtures in other sporting competitions, were brought forward so that they would not clash with the Olympic Games in Sydney that opened on September 15. The first match of the 2000 AFL season was held on Wednesday March 8.

OVER TO YOU ANSWERS: **Q1** Brian Dixon, Allan La Fontaine, Robert Flower. **Q2** Ken Fraser. **Q3** Collingwood and North Melbourne. **Q4** Essendon (1897) and Melbourne (1900). **Q5** East Melbourne Cricket Ground. **Q6** 1922. **Q7** Punt Road Oval. **Q8** 2004 (elimination final).

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 and Ian Wilkinson, with MCC deputy librarian – research Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.