



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

## 2022 AFL GRAND FINAL GEELONG V SYDNEY

## LIBRARY FACT SHEET SUPPLEMENT SEPTEMBER 24, 2022



Scenes from the 1922 VFL grand final.  
Australasian, October 21, 1922. [MCC Library collection]

### 100 YEARS AGO: THE 1922 GRAND FINAL – FITZROY v COLLINGWOOD

In contrast to earlier finals games in 1922, the grand final was played in fine and warm conditions. Collingwood got off to a good start with their first goal coming from legendary full forward, Dick Lee, and their second from his eventual successor, Gordon Coventry. Fitzroy then answered with two goals from Percy Parratt. Parratt had played 175 games for Fitzroy from 1909 to 1921 (he missed the 1918 and 1919 seasons due to being overseas serving in the army) and been a member of their 1913 and 1916 premierships teams. He had decided to retire at the end of the 1921 season but was persuaded to return late in the 1922 season when the Maroons were struggling with injuries to forwards and playing sluggishly after an extended mid-season trip to Perth.

Parratt scored his first goal from a free kick and his second came when he raced through a pack of players, scooped up the ball and steered it through the goalposts. In general, the first quarter was dominated by the strong defences of both sides, Fitzroy holding a two-point lead at the first break.

Collingwood scored the first goal of the second quarter after rover Ted Baker sharked a Fitzroy hit-out. Fitzroy then seemed to be getting on top when full forward Jim Freake received a pass from Len Gale and booted their third goal. The ball spent a good deal of time in the Maroons' forward line during the second term but they wasted their chances and a "towering punt" from Gordon Coventry after he had taken a good mark produced a Magpie goal and gave them a five-point half time lead.

Fitzroy came out strongly after the break and were able to kick three goals in just six minutes. Freake booted the first two of these and a third came from rover Clive Fergie after he received a hit out from ruckman Gordon McCracken. Parratt then added the Maroons' seventh goal to give them a very handy lead. Collingwood fought back when Syd Coventry found his brother. Gordon registered the Magpies' first major of the quarter, but further goals to Freake and McCracken had Fitzroy in front by more than four goals. Collingwood responded with two late goals, but Fitzroy had kicked 6.4 to 3.2 during the quarter to hold a 15-point lead at the final change.

The early part of the final quarter was mainly a battle of the defences. Fitzroy tried to keep the ball on the flanks in an effort to ensure that Collingwood couldn't get back into the game. Fitzroy wingman Fred Williams eventually registered the first goal of the quarter but the Magpies answered soon after with a goal from their captain, Tom Drummond, which reduced the Maroons' lead to 11 points. A goal to Len Wignaft after a series of passes finally sealed the game for Fitzroy and in a fitting end to a magnificent career, Dick Lee kicked the final goal of the game – his 707th goal in 230 games for the Magpies. At the final siren Fitzroy emerged victorious by 11 points and secured their seventh VFL premiership.

#### Grand Final October 14, 1922 (MCG)

	Fitzroy	Collingwood
Quarter time	2.5	2.3
Half time	3.6	4.5
Three-quarter time	9.10	7.7
Full time	11.13 (79)	9.14 (68)

#### Fitzroy

Best: B. Taylor, C. Fergie, J. Atkinson, S. Molan, H. Jenkin, L. Wignaft, G. McCracken, P. Parratt, J. Freake.  
Goals: J. Freake (4), P. Parratt (3), C. Fergie, G. McCracken, L. Wignaft, F. Williams.

#### Collingwood

Best: T. Drummond, L. Wescott, E. Baker, C. Tyson, G. Coventry, S. Coventry, C. Brown.  
Goals: G. Coventry (3), S. Coventry (2), Lee (2), E. Baker, T. Drummond.

Umpire: Jack Elder

MCG attendance: 50,064



