



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

## AFL 2023 ROUND 2 CARLTON V GEELONG

## LIBRARY FACT SHEET MARCH 23, 2023

### BACK FROM THE BRINK

By 2007 Mark "Bomber" Thompson was in his eighth year as Geelong's coach, his team having finished outside the top eight four times and played six finals for just two wins. In 2006, following a 10th place finish, a very public review was undertaken. To the surprise of many of the club's supporters, Thompson survived, but obviously he was on thin ice. After beginning the 2007 season with two wins and two losses, in Round 5 at Kardinia Park the Cats lost to 14th placed North Melbourne by 16 points. The writing appeared to be on the wall. Then, seemingly out of the blue, in Round 6 at Docklands Geelong kicked 35.12 (222) to annihilate the hapless Tigers by 157 points, this win ushering in the most successful period in the club's history. The Cats went on to win 15 of their remaining 16 matches to finish three games clear at the top of the ladder with a percentage of 152.8. They then beat North Melbourne and Collingwood to qualify for the grand final in which they kicked 24.19 (163) to Port Adelaide's 6.8 (44). Nine Geelong players were selected in the All Australian team, with Thompson named as coach, and Jimmy Bartel won the Brownlow Medal.

The Cats won a further flag in 2009 under Thompson's coaching, but he decided to leave the club after the team missed the 2010 grand final and new coach Chris Scott led the group to the 2011 premiership. In the 11 seasons since then, the Cats have missed playing finals only once and added a further premiership.

### CARLTON'S MOST SUCCESSFUL COACHES

Carlton has had 35 coaches, five of whom have taken the club to multiple premierships. Jack Worrall and David Parkin coached three premiership teams, while Norman Clark, Percy Bentley and Ron Barassi coached two.

**Jack Worrall** coached the club in 144 games between 1902 and 1909, with a winning percentage of 69.79. A former Fitzroy captain, Worrall was also a fine cricketer who played 11 Test matches for Australia. Appointed as Carlton's secretary/manager in 1902, he also became the club's first coach. The Blues had finished second last in the first five seasons of the VFL, but under Worrall they were no worse than third between 1903 and 1909, and won flags in 1906/7/8. A controversial and demanding character, Worrall was not without enemies at Carlton, but his record was outstanding.

Carlton's other triple premiership coach, **David Parkin**, was in charge in 355 matches between 1981 and 1985 and 1991 and 2000, with a winning percentage of 61.97. A premiership captain at Hawthorn in 1971, Parkin took over the reins from John Kennedy and coached the Hawks to a premiership in 1978. Hawthorn surprisingly missed the finals in the following two seasons, and as Parkin had become aware that his continuation was in doubt, he took the initiative and resigned. Fortunately for the Blues they wasted no time in appointing him as their coach for the 1981 season, the team finishing on top of the ladder and then beating Geelong and Collingwood to take the flag. The following year Carlton went back-back by beating Richmond by 18 points in the grand final. After a stint at Fitzroy, Parkin coached the Blues to another flag in 1995. He was named as coach of Carlton's Team of the Century in 1996.

### OVER TO YOU

1. In what year did Polly Farmer play his first game for the Cats?
2. In what year did Alex Jesaulenko play his first game for the Blues?
3. Who am I? I joined the Cats in 1974 and went on to play 245 games wearing the number 9 guernsey. My father and I were named on the wings in Geelong's Team of the Century.
4. Who am I? I joined Carlton from Essendon in 1995 and went on to play 157 games for the club wearing guernsey number 22. After I retired I became a member of Australia's four man bobsleigh team.
5. Who was Geelong's best and fairest in 1986, 1989 and 1995?
6. Who was Carlton's best and fairest in 1986, 1988 and 1993?

## This Round in History – Round 2 on the MCG

The highest Round 2 score on the MCG was in 1990 when North Melbourne thrashed Richmond 32.17 (209) to 9.14 (68). North's John Longmire kicked 12 goals that night, still the most kicked by an individual in Round 2 at the MCG. The Roos kicked 13.3 (81) in the first quarter, which is the highest Round 2 quarter score. The highest ever Round 2 score was at Princes Park in 1969 by Carlton who defeated Hawthorn 30.30 (210) to 12.10 (82). Richmond's Doug Strang has the best Round 2 individual goalkicking performance with 14 goals at the Punt Road Oval against North in 1931. The biggest crowd at the MCG for Round 2 is 85,063 who saw Collingwood 14.16 (100) defeat Carlton 9.12 (66) in 1994. It is common for games to feature multiple goalkickers. However, in Round 2 at the MCG in 1934 only five players kicked goals when Melbourne 20.13 (133) defeated Hawthorn 6.8 (44). Melbourne's goalkickers were Allan La Fontaine (nine goals), Jack Mueller (seven) and Percy Beames (four). Jack Green (four) and Ted Poole (two) kicked Hawthorn's goals.

## Statistics for Carlton v Geelong

### Carlton v Geelong by venue

	Won by Carlton	Won by Geelong	Drawn
Corio Oval	20	20	1
Docklands	1	15	0
Kardinia Park	24	21	0
MCG	8	10	1
Princes Park	61	33	0
SCG	0	1	0
Waverley Park	4	3	0
	118	103	2

### Highest Score

Carlton	23.28 (166)	Rd 17	1944	PP
Geelong	24.18 (162)	Rd 2	2007	Dock

### Lowest Score

Carlton	1. 5 (11)	Rd 2	1899	PP
Geelong	3. 4 (22)	Rd 4	1919	PP

### Greatest Winning Margin

Carlton	106 points	Rd 17	1944	PP
Geelong	78 points	Rd 2	2007	Dock

### Last Time They Met – Rd 18, 2022, MCG

	Carlton	Geelong
Quarter time	4.1	3.4
Half time	5.1	7.6
Three-quarter time	6.3	10.8
Full time	8.7(55)	12.13 (85)

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

11	L. Hagger	Geel	Rd 4	1927	Corio
10	L. White	Geel	Rd 19	1947	KP

## OVER TO YOU ANSWERS:

Q1 1962. Q2 1967. Q3 Michael Turner. Q4 Glenn Manton. Q5 Paul Couch. Q6 Craig Bradley.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- These clubs have played each other 223 times, Carlton winning 118 of those games, Geelong 103 and two matches were drawn. They have met in 12 finals, Carlton winning six, Geelong five and one was drawn. Carlton won their only grand final against the Cats in 1995. Carlton has averaged 81 points per game and Geelong 77.
- Carlton and Geelong were founding members of both the VFA (1877) and VFL (1897).
- Carlton has produced six Brownlow Medallists: Bert Deacon (1947), John James (1961), Gordon Collis (1964), Greg Williams (1994), Chris Judd (2010) and Patrick Cripps (2022).
- Geelong has produced seven Brownlow Medallists: Edward "Carji" Greeves (1924), Bernie Smith (1951), Alistair Lord (1962), Paul Couch (1989), Jimmy Bartel (2007), Gary Ablett Jnr (2009) and Patrick Dangerfield (2016).
- John Nicholls leads Carlton's list of best and fairest winners, taking out the award five times. Geelong's Dick Grigg and Garry Hocking have both won four best and fairest awards.
- Geelong's Gary Ablett Snr kicked 10 goals or more in a match 12 times. Carlton's Harry "Soapy" Vallenge performed the feat four times.
- Four Geelong players have kicked 100 goals or more in a season: George Moloney (1932), Doug Wade (1969), Larry Donohue (1976) and Gary Ablett Snr (1993 and 1995). Alex Jesaulenko is the only Carlton player to have kicked 100 goals in a season (1970).

## 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>

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