



# MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET MARCH 13, 2025

## AFL 2025 ROUND 1 RICHMOND V CARLTON

### 1921 – THE BLUES AND TIGERS DOMINATE

The 1921 season saw these two sides dominate the competition. Carlton finished on top of the ladder at the end of the home and away rounds with 13 wins, two draws and just one loss, to Fitzroy in Round 13. Richmond finished second with 12 wins and four losses. The closest after these two teams were Collingwood and Geelong with nine wins each. The competition had nine sides competing, so 18 rounds were played (16 matches and two byes), a total 76 games. There were a remarkable five draws during the season, which is still a record for a VFL/AFL season. Carlton had defeated Richmond twice, in Rounds 1 and 10. In Round 11 an extraordinary scoreline saw St Kilda 0.18 (18) defeated by Fitzroy 6.8 (44). The original finals system used in 1898 had been reintroduced which saw 1st play 3rd and 2nd play 4th and the two winners play off in the final. However, the winner of the final could be challenged by the leader at the end of the home and away season if the latter had not made it through to the final or had lost the final.

In the first semi-final Richmond defeated Geelong and in the second semi-final Carlton beat Collingwood. This saw the two winners play off in the final. The match was highlighted by a major hailstorm hitting the MCG at half time, which may go some way to explaining Carlton's bad kicking, with them scoring 7.17 (59) and going down to Richmond's 10.7 (67). Carlton, as minor premiers, challenged Richmond, and the two sides faced off again the following week on a cold and wet day, in front of 43,122 fans. Despite, for some reason, kicking against the wind in the first quarter, Carlton led by a goal at quarter time. The Blues had most of the play in the second quarter, but a resolute Richmond backline restricted their scoring, and Carlton went in at half time 13 points in front. The Tigers had only scored a solitary point for the quarter. Things changed dramatically in the second half with the Tigers scoring two goals one behind to the Blues' two behinds in the third quarter seeing Carlton just two points ahead at the final change. With eight minutes to play Richmond's Norm Turnbull kicked a goal to put his side in front. A fierce battle from then to the final siren saw the Tigers hold on to record an historic victory. **Richmond 5.6 (36) defeated Carlton 4.8 (32)** For the victors their star full forward George Bayliss kicked two goals and was the only multiple goalscorer on the day. He had also been one of the leading goalscorers in the final between the sides the previous week.

### GEORGE BAYLISS

Recognised as Richmond's first spearhead, George Bayliss played 89 games (217 goals) for the Tigers from 1914 to 1923, including in the above premiership victory and in their 1919 grand final loss to Collingwood. He was the Tigers' leading goalkicker in 1920 (63 goals), 1921 (53 goals) and 1922 (32 goals). He was the VFL's leading goalkicker in 1920. In 1924 he went off to then VFA side Footscray and was in the 1925 side when it played its first season in the VFL. He represented Victoria on two occasions.



**Right:** The ball spills off Richmond's Hughie James (number 4) in the 1921 "hailstone" final against Carlton. Number 32 is Frank "Checker" Hughes.  
*Melbourne Punch*, October 23, 1921, p.39.

### WHAT YEAR WAS THAT?

Can you name the year in which Bill Hutchison (Essendon) won the Brownlow Medal, Wodalla won the Melbourne Cup, Joseph Stalin died and Edmund Hillary and Norgay Tensing reached the summit of Mt. Everest?

## THIS ROUND IN HISTORY - ROUND 1 AT 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 RICHMOND V CARLTON

### Richmond v Carlton by Venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Carlton	Drawn
Docklands Stadium	1	2	0
MCG	49	37	1
Princes Park	23	54	1
Punt Road	21	30	0
Waverley Park	3	4	1
	97	127	3

### Highest Score

Richmond	25.24 (174)	Rd 1	1978	MCG
Carlton	28.16 (184)	Rd 15	2011	MCG

### Lowest Score

Richmond	2.9 (21)	Rd 10	1958	PP
Carlton	3.10 (28)	Rd 9	1924	PP

### Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	85 points	Rd 7	2005	MCG
Carlton	115 points	Rd 14	1984	PP

### Last Time They Met - Round 16, 2024, MCG

	Richmond	Carlton
Quarter time	2.1	2.4
Half time	6.2	7.8
Three-quarter time	7.6	14.9
Full time	10.10 (70)	20.11 (131)

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

10	Jim Baird	Carl	Rd 1	1943	PP
10	Sel Murray	Rich	Rd 7	1945	PP
10	Robert Walls	Carl	Rd 7	1976	PP

### What Year was That? Answer: 1953

## A CARLTON AND RICHMOND FOOTBALL FAMILY

A 1979 premiership player, **Peter Francis** came to Carlton in 1977 and commenced his senior career in Round 3 of the 1979 season. He played a total of 47 games (15 goals) for the Blues, including in the side's thrilling win against Collingwood in the 1979 grand final, before being traded to Fitzroy during the 1981 season. He played 40 games (19 goals) for the 'Roys before going off to Richmond in 1984 where he played 52 games (22 goals) before moving on yet again, this time to Essendon where he finished his League career, playing 19 games (2 goals) for the Dons. He went on to coach VFA side Box Hill for two seasons and was then appointed Reserves/Development Coach at St Kilda in 1991, a position he held until 1994.

A nephew of Peter Francis, **Andrew Collins**, came to Richmond from TAC Cup side the Bendigo Pioneers, making his debut against Melbourne in Round 4 of the 2009 season. He played 25 games (23 goals) for the Tigers but was traded to Carlton in 2010 in exchange for Shaun Grigg. He played 11 games (6 goals) for Carlton from 2011 until his delisting at the end of the 2013 season. He went on to coach Bridgewater in the Loddon Valley Football League, coaching the side to a premiership in his first year.

Andrew's father, **David Collins**, was a Carlton Reserves player between 1979 and 1981, playing 26 games (29 goals) before returning to Bendigo League side Sandhurst.

### 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, Ian Wilkinson, Gaye Fitzpatrick, and Edward Cohen, with MCC Deputy Librarian Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.