



## MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 AFL 2025 2<sup>ND</sup> PRELIMINARY FINAL GEELONG V HAWTHORN

### GEELONG

First Final: 1897 Round Robin Finals at Corio Oval – **Essendon 5.5 (35)** defeated **Geelong 3.11 (29)**.

Most Recent Finals Appearance before 2025: 2024 second preliminary final at the MCG – **Brisbane 14.11 (95)** defeated **Geelong 12.13 (85)**.

Premierships (10): 1925, 1931, 1937, 1951, 1952, 1963, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2022.

Norm Smith Medallists: Gary Ablett Snr (1989), Steve Johnson (2007), Paul Chapman (2009), Jimmy Bartel (2011), Isaac Smith (2022).

Most Finals Appearances: Joel Selwood (40) – an AFL record.

Most Goals in Finals: Gary Ablett Snr (64).

Brownlow Medallists: Edward “Carji” Greeves (1924), Bernie Smith (1951), Alistair Lord (1962), Paul Couch (1989), Jimmy Bartel (2007), Gary Ablett Jnr (2009), Patrick Dangerfield (2016).

### HAWTHORN

First Final: 1957 first semi-final at the MCG – **Hawthorn 10.11 (71)** defeated **Carlton 6.12 (48)**

Most Recent Finals Appearance before 2025: 2024 second semi-final at the Adelaide Oval – **Port Adelaide 11.9 (75)** defeated **Hawthorn 11.6 (72)**.

Premierships (13): 1961, 1971, 1976, 1978, 1983, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1991, 2008, 2013, 2014, 2015.

Norm Smith Medallists: Colin Robertson (1983), Gary Ayres (1986 & 1988), Paul Dear (1991), Luke Hodge (2008 & 2014), Brian Lake (2013), Cyril Rioli (2015).

Most Finals Appearances: Michael Tuck (39).

Most Goals in Finals: Jason Dunstall (78).

Brownlow Medallists: Col Austen (1949 tied), Robert DiPierdomenico (1986 tied), John Platten (1987 tied), Shane Crawford (1999), Sam Mitchell (2012 tied), Tom Mitchell (2018).

### GEELONG V HAWTHORN IN THE VFL/AFL (1925-2025)

Played 173; Geelong 96; Hawthorn 76; Drawn 1

Most Recent Meeting: R6, 2025 – Geel 12.14 (86) def Haw 11.13 (79) at MCG; Crowd 88,746

## GEELONG V HAWTHORN IN THE FINALS

1. QF2 2016 – Geel 12.13 (85) def. Haw 12.11 (83) at MCG; Crowd 87,533
2. QF2 2014 – Haw 15.14 (104) def Geel 10.8 (68) at MCG; Crowd 74,757
3. PF1 2013 – Haw 14.18 (102) def Geel 15.7 (97) at MCG; Crowd 85,569
4. QF2 2011 – Geel 14.14 (98) def Haw 9.13 (67) at MCG; Crowd 73,601
5. GF 2008 – Haw 18.7 (115) def. Geel 11.23 (89) at MCG; Crowd 100,012
6. EF1 2000 – Haw 14.8 (92) def. Geel 12.11 (83) at Docklands; Crowd 44,709
7. SF2 1991 – Haw 13.17 (95) def. Geel 13.15 (93) at Waverley Park; Crowd 63,733
8. GF 1989 – Haw 21.18 (144) def. Geel 21.12 (138) at MCG; Crowd 94,796
9. GF 1963 – Geel 15.19 (109) def. Haw 8.12 (60) at MCG; Crowd 101,209
10. SF2 1963 – Geel 14.17 (101) def. Haw 11.16 (82) at MCG; Crowd 91,471

## TWO GREAT GRAND FINALS

### 1963 GRAND FINAL – OCTOBER 5 AT THE MCG; CROWD 101,209

Captains: Fred Wooller (Geelong); Graham Arthur (Hawthorn)

Coaches: Bob Davis (Geelong); John Kennedy (Hawthorn)

<b>Geelong</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>7.10</b>	<b>9.13</b>	<b>15.19 (109)</b>
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.12 (60)</b>

**Best: Geelong** – Graham “Polly” Farmer, John Devine, Ian Scott, Bill Goggin, Peter Walker, Fred Wooller. **Hawthorn** – Graham Arthur, Ron Nalder, Kevin Coverdale, Ian Mort, Garry Young, Colin Youren.

**Goals: Geelong** – Fred Wooller (3), Gordon Hynes (3), John Yeates (2), Bill Goggin (2), Colin Rice (2), Alistair Lord (2), Doug Wade (1). **Hawthorn** – John Peck (3), Allan Woodley (1), Ian Law (1), Kevin Coverdale (1), Ian Mort (1), John Fisher (1).

After a very close season, Hawthorn finished on top of the ladder on percentage from Geelong. The Cats won the second semi final by 19 points but the Hawks qualified for a rematch in the grand final by defeating Melbourne by nine points in the preliminary final. In the grand final, Hawthorn had the best of the first quarter but, inspired by the ruck play of Polly Farmer, Geelong got on top in the second term and led by 16 points at half-time. Hawthorn fought back well in the third quarter to trail by just ten points at the final change. Early goals by the Cats in the final term sealed the game and they went on to win by 49 points.

### 1989 GRAND FINAL – SEPTEMBER 30 AT THE MCG; CROWD 94,796

Captains: Michael Tuck (Hawthorn); Damian Bourke (Geelong).

Coaches: Allan Jeans (Hawthorn); Malcolm Blight (Geelong).

<b>Hawthorn</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>18.13</b>	<b>21.18 (144)</b>
<b>Geelong</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>21.12 (138)</b>

**Best: Hawthorn** – Darrin Pritchard, Dean Anderson, Robert DiPierdomenico, Gary Buckenara, Jason Dunstall, Peter Curran. **Geelong** – Gary Ablett Snr, Bruce Lindner, Darren Flanigan, Shane Hamilton, Andrew Bews, Paul Couch.

**Goals: Hawthorn** – Jason Dunstall (4), Dean Anderson (4), Gary Buckenara (4), Dermott Brereton (3), Peter Curran (3), Robert DiPierdomenico (1), Chris Wittman (1), James Morrissey (1). **Geelong** – Gary Ablett Snr (9), Bill Brownless (2), Barry Stoneham (2), Shane Hamilton (2), David Cameron (2), Andrew Bews (1), Mark Bairstow (1), Neville Bruns (1), Paul Couch (1)..

Hawthorn finished on top of the ladder, with Geelong third. The Cats lost the qualifying final to second-placed Essendon but then found form defeating Melbourne and Essendon to claim a place in the grand final. In what many believed was the best grand final for years, the Hawks established a commanding lead despite a brutal opening which featured Dermott Brereton being “crunched” by Mark Yeates. In a thrilling final term, Hawthorn held off the fast-finishing Cats to win by a goal. Gary Ablett was awarded the Norm Smith Medal for his nine-goal performance.

## OVER TO YOU

*Which TV personality ran onto the ground with the Geelong team before the 1963 grand final?*

### Geelong Great - Bob Davis (1928 – 2011)

Bob Davis arrived at Geelong in 1948 and went on to play 189 games for the club. The Cats finished ninth (of 12) in his first year but, not coincidentally, went on to top the ladder between 1951 and 1954, winning flags in 1951 and 1952. When Davis became coach in 1960, Geelong had been in the doldrums for several seasons. He took the team to sixth place in 1961, a preliminary final in 1962 and a premiership in 1963. An astute judge of talent and a very persuasive recruiter, he coached Geelong in 116 games, finishing with the outstanding winning ratio of 62 per cent. Highlights of his playing career included captaining the club (1955-58), winning the best and fairest award (1957) and being selected as captain of the All-Australian team (1958). He was also named in Geelong's Team of the Century. Perhaps only Reg Hickey could be placed above him in a list of the club's most influential figures.

## PLAYED FOR BOTH

**Jonathon Ceglar** was acquired by Collingwood in 2010 but never played a game for them. He was a major contributor to Victoria Country's win in the AFL Under 18 Championships and was eventually picked up by Hawthorn in the 2012 Rookie Draft. A ruckman/forward, he was elevated to their senior list after the 2013 AFL Draft and made his AFL debut in the Hawk's Round 14 game against Brisbane in Launceston in 2013. He went on to play 101 games (43 goals) for Hawthorn through to the end of the 2021 season. He was then traded to Geelong, where he played nine games for the Cats in 2022 and 2023.

**Isaac Smith** was born in NSW, where he began playing Australian Rules football. He moved to Ballarat in Victoria for tertiary studies and rose through the ranks at local club Redan before joining North Ballarat's VFL side. Smith was Hawthorn's first pick in the 2010 AFL Draft (pick 19) and made his AFL debut in Round 7, 2011, against Port Adelaide at Football Park. He went on to play 210 games (165 goals) for the Hawks from 2011 to 2020. He was a member of their premiership teams in 2013, 2014 and 2015, and Hawthorn vice-captain from 2017 to 2019. At the conclusion of the 2020 season, Smith exercised his rights as a free agent and moved to Geelong. In 2022 he was a member of the Cats' premiership team and became the oldest player to win the Norm Smith Medal. Smith retired at the end of the 2023 season after 70 games (40 goals) for Geelong.

## GEELONG AT CORIO OVAL

Geelong originally played their matches at what was known as Argyle Paddock, which extended from the Argyle Hotel to Pakington Street. This proved to be an unsatisfactory ground for various reasons, however, so in 1879 the club moved to Corio Oval in Eastern Park, which was also the home of the Corio Cricket Club. By this time the VFA had been formed and home games at the new venue drew crowds of three to six thousand. The VFA years proved to be hugely successful for Geelong, their open style of play being both attractive and effective. Premierships were won in 1878/79/80/82/83/84/86, while the club was runner-up in 1881/87/88/95.

One of the eight founding members of the breakaway VFL in 1897, Geelong finished second behind Essendon after a round robin format had been used to decide the initial premiership. But the club's supporters would have to wait until 1925 for a premiership, Geelong kicking 10.19 (79) to Collingwood's 9.15 (69) in that year's grand final. The 1930s proved to be a successful period, the club making the finals six times and winning flags in 1931 and 1937. Then in 1940 the Corio Oval was taken over by the military, so Geelong moved to Kardinia Park which had very basic facilities. The move was supposed to be a temporary one, but in fact the Corio Oval era was at an end.

## HAWTHORN'S FORMATION

At a meeting at the Hawthorn Town Hall on April 9, 1902, a number of small clubs in the area combined to form the Hawthorn Football Club. Between 1902 and 1913 Hawthorn played in the Metropolitan Junior Football Association (MJFA) and Metropolitan Amateur Football Association (MAFA), precursors of the current Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). After leaving the MAFA Hawthorn joined the VFA in 1914 before being admitted to the VFL in 1925.

## OVER TO YOU ANSWER

*Happy Hammond.*

### FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at <http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

**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.**  
*The MCC Library thanks the above people and many others for their work on numerous MCC Library Fact Sheets during the 2025 AFL season.*