



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

## AFL 2022 ROUND 21 MELBOURNE V COLLINGWOOD

## LIBRARY FACT SHEET AUGUST 5, 2022

### THEIR FIRST FINAL

The Victorian Football League's inaugural year, 1897, saw a round robin finals system under which each of the first four teams on the ladder at the end of the home and away rounds played each other once, with the side with the best record in these three games winning the premiership. The first day of finals was August 21, with Essendon playing Geelong and Collingwood playing Melbourne. The latter game was played at the MCG before a crowd estimated at 7,000. The *Age* of August 23 reported:

"No finer game could be wished for by the most exacting football critic than that played on the Melbourne ground on Saturday afternoon...From start to finish the game was fast, open and clever, the always high standard of play being studded thickly with brilliant dashes, long runs and exciting incidents. Collingwood, who showed great brilliancy from the outset, had Melbourne under the whip all the first half, and it came in the nature of a surprise to the majority of the spectators to see the complete fashion in which the fuchsias turned the table on the 'Woods in the second half of the game. As the time approached for the cessation of play excitement ran high, and as Melbourne continued to overhaul the formidable lead of their doughty opponents until only three points separated the totals, which at one time stood at Collingwood 42, Melbourne 14... A rally by Collingwood, however, which produced a minor point, checked the conquering career of Melbourne, and the bell rang on a well merited victory for Collingwood by 4 points, the totals being Collingwood 7.9 (51); Melbourne 7.5 (47)"



For Melbourne Jack Leith (pictured) kicked four of the team's seven goals. Lack of numbers may have helped Collingwood to kick four goals to Melbourne's one in the second quarter, with the *Argus* reporting, "two of the goals, it is fair to note, being got after Fry had, through the recurrence of his old injury, been obliged to leave the ground, and while Wardill was also absent in search of a new uniform, his jacket having been torn to shreds." It also stated that "McCoy is again to be congratulated on the nice judgement and accuracy with which he umpired the game." Essendon beat Geelong the same day at the Geelong Cricket Ground. The next week Essendon beat Collingwood at the MCG and Geelong beat Melbourne at the Brunswick Street Oval. The last round of finals saw Essendon beat Melbourne at the South Melbourne Cricket Ground and Geelong beat Collingwood at the East Melbourne Cricket Ground. With Essendon winning all three of their games, they were declared premiers.

### PLAYED FOR BOTH

**Wayne Gordon**, a midfielder, went to Collingwood from Preston in the VFA in 1974, being a regular in the side in his first season, and playing in the club's unsuccessful grand final side. After playing 67 games (23 goals) for the Magpies, he went off to the Demons at the end of the 1978 season. Injuries saw him manage 34 games (5 goals) in his three seasons with Melbourne. Sadly he developed cancer during the 1981 season and died of Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1983 at the age of 29.

**Henry Coles**, another midfielder, was recruited to the Magpies from Kingsbury and made his debut in 1971. He played a total of 44 games (48 goals) for the club in his five seasons there before transferring to the Demons in the middle of the 1975 season. He played a total of 77 games (106 goals) for Melbourne until his retirement in 1981 after having not been selected for a senior game that season. Coles topped the club's goalkicking in 1978 with 33 goals. A fiery individual, Coles was reported and suspended twice in 1977 for striking. In 1978 he was again suspended, this time for abusing umpire Bill Deller. He was again suspended in 1980, this time by the club, after getting into a locker room fight with his captain/coach Carl Ditterich.

### OVER TO YOU

1. Can you name the first Melbourne player to be selected for 250 league matches?
2. Which side scored only two goals in the 1960 grand final?
3. Can you name the 1940 and 1970 Brownlow Medallists both of whom represented Victoria in cricket?

## This Round in History – Round 21 on the MCG

The highest Round 21 score at the MCG is 28.19 (187) by Richmond against Fitzroy 5.6 (36) in 1996. The overall Round 21 highest score is 35.15 (225) by Hawthorn against Geelong 13.12 (90) at Princes Park in 1986. The most goals by an individual at the MCG for this round is 11 by Bernie Quinlan (right) for Fitzroy against North Melbourne in 1984. Fitzroy kicked 26.9 (165) and won by 54 points. The overall Round 21 goalkicking record is 13 by Tony Lockett for St Kilda against Carlton at Waverley Park in 1991. St Kilda kicked 23.17 (155) to win by 54 points. The highest score in a quarter is 11.7 (73) by Richmond in the last quarter against Fitzroy in 1996. The overall Round 21 record is 13.4 (82) by Hawthorn against Geelong in the last quarter at Princes Park in 1986. The highest Round 21 attendance at the MCG was recorded on Saturday August 21, 1993 when 85,054 saw Carlton defeat Collingwood by 54 points.

## Statistics for Melbourne v Collingwood

### Melbourne v Collingwood by venue

	Won by Melbourne	Won by Collingwood	Drawn
Albert Park	0	2	0
Gabba	1	0	0
MCG	58	84	3
Punt Road	2	3	0
SCG	0	1	0
Victoria Park	19	56	2
Waverley	4	6	0
	84	152	5

### Highest Score

Melbourne	25.18 (168)	Rd 20	1982	VP
Collingwood	27.11 (173)	Rd 2	1996	MCG

### Lowest Score

Melbourne	1.5 (11)	Rd 10	1898	VP
Collingwood	2.2 (14)	GF	1960	MCG

### Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	94 points	Rd 10	1939	MCG
Collingwood	109 points	Rd 15	1919	MCG

### Last Time They Met – Round 13, 2022, MCG

	Collingwood	Melbourne
Quarter time	0.5	3.1
Half time	3.8	5.4
Three-quarter time	6.10	7.6
Full time	12.10 (82)	8.8 (56)

### Most Goals in a Match

10	G. Coventry	Coll	Rd 18	1933	VP
10	G. Margitich	Melb	Rd 18	1933	VP
10	P. McKenna	Coll	Rd 6	1971	MCG
10	S. Rocca	Coll	Rd 2	1997	MCG

### DID HE REALLY SAY THAT?

Former Hawthorn player and Carlton coach David Parkin revealed his former coach John Kennedy's game plan: "It was all about kicking it long, starting a brawl, kicking it long and starting another brawl."

Parkin again, after retiring from the Carlton coaching job: "Sometimes I think the only thing I miss in coaching is looking at twenty-two grown men in a room and abusing the hell out of them for an hour."

Chris Connolly, former Fremantle coach, on the team's guernseys: "Our colours don't clash with any other team, they clash with each other!"

### GOOD ADVICE? OR WHAT'S A BLOKE TO DO?

The *Football Record* of July 9, 1921, told us of a team captain's advice pre-game:

"Now don't, when going up for a mark, let any bloke climb up another bloke's back. What's the use of a bloke doing that? If he does he will find the other bloke getting all the free kicks, and a bloke who gives the other bloke free kicks by climbing on the other bloke's back is a bloke who in undoing the good work of the other blokes on his side."

**OVER TO YOU ANSWERS:** Q1 Brian Dixon. Q2 Collingwood scored 2.2 (14) to Melbourne's 8.14 (62) in heavy conditions. Q3 Des Fothergill, Collingwood 1940 and Peter Bedford, South Melbourne 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>

Fact sheets are prepared by MCC Library volunteers David Allen, Eric Panther, Quentin Miller, Dennis Carroll, Ian Wilkinson, and Gaye Fitzpatrick with MCC deputy librarian – research Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.