

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALLER

Your weekly BIBLE of South Australian football

Thursday, October 15th, 2020 - VOL 14/6

EAGLES - SANFL PREMIERS

The Eagles won the SANFL premiership last Sunday at the Adelaide Oval in commanding style
They beat North Adelaide in the league grand final by 39-points



Photo courtesy of
On the Ball Media
Hannah Howard

**YOUR WEEKLY BIBLE OF
AFL AND SANFL FOOTBALL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

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AFL AT A GLANCE

AFL this week's games - Venues - Local Times

Date
Saturday 24 October
7,00pm Adelaide time

Competing teams
Richmond v Geelong

Venue
Gabba

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2020 AFL - Premiership Table

	Team	Pts	P	W	L	D	%
1	Power	56	17	14	3	0	136.36
2	Lions	56	17	14	3	0	124.89
3	Tigers	50	17	12	4	1	129.86
4	Cats	48	17	12	5	0	136.85
5	Eagles	48	17	12	5	0	116.99
6	Saints	40	17	10	7	0	116.25
7	Bulldogs	40	17	10	7	0	106.67
8	Magpies	38	17	9	7	1	109.53
9	Demons	36	17	9	8	0	107.81
10	Giants	32	17	8	9	0	95.63
11	Blues	28	17	7	10	0	94.34
12	Dockers	28	17	7	10	0	93.72
13	Bombers	26	17	6	10	1	79.16
14	Suns	22	17	5	11	1	90.63
15	Hawks	20	17	5	12	0	84.09
16	Swans	20	17	5	12	0	82.64
17	Kangaroos	12	17	3	14	0	71.20
18	Crows	12	17	3	14	0	64.38

2020 AFL - Leading Goalkickers - Top 15

Rank	Player	Team	Goals	Total
1	Tom Hawkins	Cats	2	48
2	Charlie Dixon	Power	1	34
2	Joshua Kennedy	Eagles	3	34
4	Jack Riewoldt	Tigers	1	31
4	Charlie Cameron	Lions	2	31
4	Tom Lynch	Tigers	1	31
4	Jack Gunston	Hawks	4	31
8	Jack Darling	Eagles	3	30
9	Daniel Butler	Saints	1	29
9	Matthew Taberner	Dockers	3	29
11	Liam Ryan	Eagles	1	26
11	Tom Papley	Swans	2	26
13	Brody Mihocek	Magpies	2	25
13	Mitchell Wallis	Bulldogs	1	25
13	Ben King	Suns	1	25

2020 AFL 'Most Disposals Per Game' Leaders Board

Rank	Player	Team	Games	Disposals for Last Game	Average
1	Lachie Neale	Lions	19	24 v Geelong, Preliminary Final	511
2	Jackson Macrae	Bulldogs	18	20 v St Kilda, Elimination Final	475
3	Jake Lloyd	Swans	17	27 v Geelong, Round 18	439
4	Andrew Gaff	Eagles	18	24 v Collingwood, Elimination Final	437
5	Travis Boak	Power	19	20 v Richmond, Preliminary Final	436
6	Cameron Guthrie	Cats	20	17 v Brisbane, Preliminary Final	434
7	Sam Menegola	Cats	20	19 v Brisbane, Preliminary Final	432
8	Taylor Adams	Magpies	19	17 v Geelong, Semi Final	430
9	Tom Mitchell	Hawks	17	34 v Gold Coast, Round 18	429
10	Clayton Oliver	Demons	17	20 v Essendon, Round 18	425



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Richmond v Geelong

AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)



The Cats will win the flag for the little master

After a season that started then stopped then started again, the AFL Grand Final is finally here. This has had its fair share of obstacles, with players and coaches having to go to extreme lengths to get the season underway.

Not only is it the first time the Grand Final will be played at the GABBA under lights, but it is also the first time, teams that finished third and fourth on the ladder are playing in the Grand Final. Richmond and Geelong compete in the Grand Final for the first time since 1967, where the Tigers won by nine points.

In 2010 when Richmond CEO Brendon Gale stated a 10-year plan was in place that included three premierships by 2020, everyone laughed. Well, who is laughing now? The Tigers have arguably been the best side in the last three years and could pick up their third premiership in just three seasons.

The Tigers have plotted along this season, even though finishing third, everyone has touted them as best in the league and Premiership favourites. The Tigers have had an even contribution from their players all season. Players such as Jayden Short, Shai Bolton and Noah Balta have all stepped up, especially when they were missing key players. Short is seventh in the league for marks and has averaged 18.8 disposals this year. It's hard to go past the dynamic duo of Jack Riewoldt and Tom Lynch up forward who have both scored 31 goals each this season.

The Tigers have had to do it the hard way through finals this year, losing the Qualifying Final to the Lions. They were too strong for the Saints in the Semi-Final, then most recently beat the minor premiers Port Adelaide in a nail biter in the Prelim. Friday night's game against the Power was an arm wrestle from the start, with only one goal separating both sides at the final siren. Dustin Martin continued his consistent final form, gathering 21 disposals and kicking two goals. Noah Balta also played an important part, keeping dangerous forward Charlie Dixon to one goal.

The Cats however, are coming off a 40-point win against the Lions at the GABBA on Saturday night. The Cats lead at every change and continued where they left off the week before, where they smashed the Pies by 68 points. Gary Rohan and Mitch Duncan were solid in the win with Rohan scoring three goals and Duncan picking up 22 disposals.

356 gamer and arguably the best player to play the game, Gary Ablett Jnr kicked two goals and his still working his magic. The Little Master will be playing his last game this weekend and will be looking to add another flag to his already unbelievable CV.

The Cats this year have had stars all over the ground with Tom Hawkins having a career best year scoring 48 goals and securing the Coleman medal. Hawkins has also had the most score involvements by any player this year with 144. Tom Stewart has also had a great year, second in the league for marks with 119 and averaging 19.1 disposals.

The midfield matchup is going to be great to watch with Martin, Cotchin and Prestia going head to head with Dangerfield Selwood and Ablett. I think the cats will overcome their round 17 loss to Richmond and are going to be too strong. The Cats are coming off great momentum and will carry through to the last day of the season. It's going to be a nail-biter, but the Cats will do it for Gaz. **Geelong by 1-12 points**



by
Jayden Hill

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Richmond v Geelong



AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)

Tigers set to win an epic grand final after a marathon season

The marathon that has been the 2020 AFL season will finally draw to a close when Richmond and Geelong battle it out for the premiership. Both teams have faced similar challenges this year and spent over 100 days in their respective Queensland hubs.



by
Jack Kovacic

Richmond won its place by travelling to Adelaide and taking down minor premier Port Adelaide in an intense preliminary final that was decided by a goal. As is often the case, Dustin Martin was the difference, as he continued to prove his case as one of the best finals performers in the history of the game. The star midfielder had 21 disposals but was most damaging when going forward where he kicked two goals. Kane Lambert also booted a couple of goals for the Tigers, both coming in the final quarter when the game was on the line.

Geelong's path to the Grand Final was slightly cruiser, as it took down Brisbane at the Gabba, coming away with a 40-point win. It trailed by five points at half-time but put the foot down from there, holding the Lions to two second half goals while kicking seven themselves in that period. Tom Hawkins was again dangerous and kicked 2.3, while both Gary Rohan (three goals) and Ablett (two goals) caused plenty of problems for Brisbane's defence.

As it often does, Geelong dominated possession (+65 disposals, +26 uncontested marks and +18 inside 50's). The Cats were able to generate plenty of shots at goal, and probably should've won by more. It shapes up to be a cracking Grand Final with plenty of great storylines on either side. After having done pretty much everything else in his career, Patrick Dangerfield will finally play in his first Grand Final. Gary Ablett will be playing in his fourth, in what will be his 357th and final AFL game.

Richmond will be attempting to win its third premiership in four years and will go into Saturday night's decider as deserved favourites. The Tigers have dealt with numerous injury problems throughout the season and also missed star players Shane Edwards and Bachar Houli for long periods due to personal reasons. These teams last played on September 11th, when Richmond came away 26-point winners. Geelong had kicked just one goal to three quarter time, and Richmond's 22 scoring shots to the Cats' 11 probably paints a clearer picture of the game.

Jack Riewoldt had one of his best games for the season, kicking four goals while carrying the load up forward with Tom Lynch missing with a hamstring injury. Ivan Soldo (ACL injury) is the only player that's clearly in Richmond's best 22 that will be missing, with fringe players Sydney Stack (suspension) and Jack Higgins (calf) also unavailable.

Jack Steven (hamstring) is the only Cat to have played in 2020 currently on the injury list, but that being said, he had fallen out of favour late in the season and tweaked his hamstring playing in a scratch match.

As it has been proven consistently throughout the season, anything is possible, and nothing is off the table come Saturday night. After having won two of the past three flags, it's very hard to tip against Richmond but hopefully this is a cracking contest and the 2020 season finishes on a high note.

Richmond by 13-24 points

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Richmond v Geelong

AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)



After beating finals curse, Geelong poised to cause grand final upset



by
Thomas McLean

Despite going in as underdog, Geelong will be feeling confident they have what it takes to knock off Richmond to win the 2020 Premiership after dominant wins in their past two finals. It will be a strange Grand Final – the first to be played at night and the first away from the MCG since Angry Anderson sang 'Bound for Glory' alongside the bat mobile at Waverly Park in 1991.

Richmond were the first team to book their place in the big dance with a gutsy six point win over Port Adelaide in wet conditions at Adelaide Oval on Friday night. Dustin Martin (21 disposals, two goals) again showed he is a big game player and will be looking to add to his two Norm Smith Medals on Saturday. He kicked the opening goal with a clean take at speed and a right-foot snap and finished with 21 possessions and two majors. Noah Balta played the most important game of his short career, keeping Charlie Dixon to a single goal and not allowing him to provide the spark Port's forward line desperately needed. Balta will likely match up on Tom Hawkins at the Gabba and will hoping to keep the Coleman Medallist just as quiet.

Geelong were convincing winners over a disappointing Brisbane side to complete the Grand Final match up. Gary Rohan booted three goals and Tom Hawkins also kicked two in a strong forward performance, while the Cats' midfield unit of Mitch Duncan (22 disposals), Sam Menegola (19) and Dangerfield (17) provided the forwards with plenty of opportunity. Tom Stewart in defence was also among the Cats' best.

The two Grand Finalists last met in Round 17 at Metricon Stadium where Richmond were too good for an out-of-sorts Geelong to record a 26 point win. Jack Riewoldt was important for the Tigers, kicking four goals, but it was otherwise an even performance from the reigning premiers, with Dustin Martin (19 disposals), Shai Bolton (18) and Jayden Short (16) also busy in the tight affair. Tom Stewart was among Geelong's best but it was a lacklustre showing from the Cats key forwards and midfielders – something they will look to avenge at the Gabba this Saturday.

Staging the season decider at the Gabba will advantage Geelong, having won their five matches at the ground by an average margin of eight goals this season. Richmond will be less familiar with their surroundings, electing to play their semi final against St Kilda closer to 'home' at Metricon Stadium.

The best player for both teams come from a similar mould – tall, strong bodied midfielders who drift forward to kick goals at crucial times. The performances of Dustin Martin and Patrick Dangerfield will be instrumental in determining who wins the 2020 Premiership. Martin will play in his third Grand Final, while Dangerfield will finally get to play in his first. Dangerfield has looked hungry in recent weeks and a premiership medal is one of very few accomplishments he is yet to tick off.

The Grand Final will be a battle of two established groups – a Geelong team that has repeatedly put itself in contention but fallen short in preliminary finals and a ruthless Richmond hunting for its third flag in four seasons. Geelong have looked particularly impressive in the past fortnight, while Richmond had a scrappy win against Port and will need to lift to overcome Geelong.

Geelong by 13-24 points

Norm Smith Medal: Patrick Dangerfield



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Richmond v Geelong



AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)

Contributions across the board will ensure a Cats premiership



by
Dan Crouch

After enduring one of the wildest and the longest season in history from start to finish, and with almost the entirety of the season being hosted outside of Victoria, it is going to be a battle of Victorian powerhouses at the Gabba on Saturday night to see who hoists the premiership cup. Port Adelaide spent all season on top of the ladder but fell just short to the reigning premiers, who will head to their third grand final in four years. On Saturday night the young Lions were unable to overcome to veteran Cats, who have finally made a grand final after constantly falling agonisingly short since 2011. The stage is set, will it be Richmond going back to back, or can Geelong cause the upset to farewell Gary Ablett in style.

Richmond have defeated the Cats in four of their past five meetings over the last three years, including a 26-point win in round 17 this year. Prior to that meeting, their previous meeting was last year's preliminary final when Geelong surrendered a 21-point halftime lead to lose by 19. They also played in a qualifying final in 2017, which Richmond won in comfortable fashion on their way to their first premiership in this dynasty.

History doesn't favour the Cats, but this Cats team is far superior than the ones which fell short in years past. Last week against Brisbane they played disciplined – as they have all year – and wore down the Lions defence until they found a hole to attack. Defensively, they were dominant as usual with Mark Blicavs and Tom Stewart anchoring the back line. The Cats in the past have had enough talent, but this is the first year their game plan looks strong enough, and versatile enough, to steal victory.

Grand Finals are defined by big game players, and there are plenty of them on display this weekend. For Richmond, Dustin Martin and Bachar Houli are almost certainties to be among the best players, while the same can be said for Geelong's Gary Ablett and Joel Selwood. We're yet to see Patrick Dangerfield on the big stage, but I have a feeling he will go okay.

Another big name is Jack Riewoldt, but Richmond need him to be in better form. The star forward has totalled 16 disposals, 4 marks and 3 goals throughout The Tigers' three finals so far, which just isn't enough from one of your certified star players. Will we see Riewoldt play further up the ground to open up space for Tom Lynch and the brigade of small crumbing forwards?

Geelong have fared so well this year by getting contributions from all 22 players, they have had no passengers. Can the likes of Sam Menegola, Cam Guthrie and Mitch Duncan keep producing at an elite level? Can Rhys Stanley hold his own in the ruck and hit scoreboard when he rests forward? And the big one, can Gary Rohan provide an x-factor? After missing the Swans' flag in 2012 Rohan was a non-factor in Sydney's 2014 and 2016 Grand Final losses. This may be Rohan's last chance, can he capitalise on his opportunities this time around? He is in career best form and has found his niche as a mid-sized speedy forward playing alongside Hawkins.

This is set to be an all-timer between two of Victoria's biggest clubs. A night grand final at the Gabba on a 30+ degree day is certainly different, but it won't make the game any less exciting. Both teams play a tough defensive brand, and scoring will be hard to come by, so it may come down to whichever team ceases its opportunities best.

Geelong by 1-12 points



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Richmond v Geelong



AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)

The Tigers to form their modern day dynasty

In what has most definitely been the most unorthodox season of AFL football us spectators have viewed, and players/coaches have endured, it is finally concluding. It will be a whooping and mind-boggling conclusion to say the least as the 2020 AFL Grand Final will be played outside of Melbourne and under lights in the history of our great game. The reigning premiers, Richmond will be locking horns with Geelong at the GABBA on Saturday night. A Grand Final that will make history will be a grand spectacle on the field against two clubs who have played tremendously through this COVID-struck season. The Tigers are my personal favourites to win their third flag in four seasons.



by
William Clemente

Richmond had a slow start to the season; however, they showed their supreme quality through the second half of the season being very dominant, claiming important victories and finishing in the top four. After finishing the home and away season in third place on the ladder, the Tigers battled against 'then' favourites Brisbane at the GABBA. In what was a great contest the Lions proved the better side and brilliantly utilised their home ground advantage, defeating the Tigers by 15 points. The Tigers bounced back strongly in the semi-final defeating a St Kilda side with wind in their sails by a comfortable margin of 31 points. The biggest test of the season for the reigning premiers came last week in the Preliminary final. They faced off against Port Adelaide at the Adelaide Oval and it was fair to say that the Tigers were the underdogs for once as the Power have been the best side all season. However, Richmond demonstrated their quality and finals experience, breaking the hearts of the Port Adelaide faithful, defeating the Power by the goal. In a low scoring game, Dustin Martin proved his worth with a couple of goals and Toby Nankervis was very dominant in the ruck and midfield for the Tigers. This fine display of football by the Tigers showed why they have been the team to beat since 2017 and why they are favourites leading into the Grand Final.

Geelong have been consistent through the season finishing in fourth place, led by veterans Patrick Dangerfield, Tom Hawkins and Joel Selwood. Likewise, with Richmond, the Cats suffered a defeat in the qualifying final to the hands of the Power at the Adelaide Oval. Port Adelaide defeated them by a comfortable three goals as the Cats were not clinical enough, especially for a finals contest. They played Collingwood in the semi-final at the GABBA and Geelong broke their finals hoodoo as they whipped the floor with Collingwood in a 68-point defeat. This incredible victory, embarrassing one of the AFL's elite injected them with confidence leading into their preliminary final clash against the Lions at the GABBA. Geelong as the underdogs walloped the premiership favourites by forty points, securing their first Grand Final since 2011 and once again silencing the critics about their poor finals record. Gary Rohan was dazzling in the forward line kicking three goals, and Tom Hawkins and Gary Ablett slotted a couple of goals each. Mitch Duncan was the primary ball winner for the Cats notching 22 disposals.

Both outfits in Richmond and Geelong deserve to be facing off in the first Grand Final outside of Melbourne and for the first time ever, the Victorian clubs will not have a home ground advantage. The Tigers and the Cats are heavily peppered with quality and experience and on their best days, they have the ability to defeat any outfit on the park. Richmond are my favourites, as they match the Cats in list quality, but they are much more consistent and experienced in Grand Final matches. Let us hope that both sides bring their best footy to the GABBA on Saturday night. The Tigers to claim their third premiership in four seasons, forming a modern-day football dynasty.

Richmond by 13-24 points

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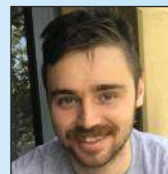


Richmond v Geelong



AFL GRAND FINAL @ THE GABBA - 7.00pm (Adelaide time)

Richmond are out to prove the prophecy that 3 flags in the decade was well within their grasp as they win the 2020 premiership cup



by
Nick Blewett

What a season it has been. Let us get down to the business of winning a grand final. I think Richmond will win again, and thus rubber-stamp a comprehensive Tigers modern era.

I only think this because I was foolish enough to think that the Adelaide Crows would win in 2017. Then last year I was again convinced that Greater Western Sydney could make their mark. The resulting one-sided affair certainly made for a dull viewing party, and only confirmed one thing: The Tigers are not to be trifled with. Of course, there will not be any parties per se in these teams' home state, with Victoria having done all they can to contain a pandemic, a sweet Victorian AFL victory will devout followers rest easy, irrespective of allegiance. Geelong have the fairytale debut for Dangerfield and the finish for Gary Ablett Junior. However, I just see Richmond finding a way to get it done, time and time again, especially amidst a potential thunderstorm at the Gabba.

It is Richmond's home final, having finished higher on the ladder. A stunning 14 players will become triple premiers should Richmond win. Should Geelong win, Joel Selwood gets four. It has been a long time between drinks for Geelong, a team that qualified relentlessly in the last decade, routinely in the top four, only to fall at the preliminary hurdle four times.

Last week's final against Brisbane was one you wished you were up by more in, at the half. But if Queensland does not observe daylight savings time, then Gary Ablett disrespects time entirely, turning the clock all the way back to his first stint with Geelong, slotting two classy goals when the going was tough. The going gets tougher against the Tigers though, who had an incredible litmus test last week against Port Adelaide. Adelaide oval has not often been happy hunting ground for Richmond, yet it was their team who surged past the ladder leaders against the odds.

Both teams had a chink in their armor to resolve when they lost their qualifying finals. It appears Geelong have responded more emphatically; they only needed the Coleman winner to kick true and these teams would have faced off last week instead. Geelong showed the full value of their double chance against Collingwood, and their star-studded midfield could go stronger for longer against Brisbane. Richmond have had a month of arm wrestles by contrast. What better preparation for a big dance, and one they have rehearsed twice over, by steadily haranguing and out hustling their opponents. It is hustle versus muscle this game, and I am leaning towards Richmond. Chris Scott has done it before; he could well do it again. Geelong's dismantling of their opponents has been daunting this past fortnight. How do they manage to stop Richmond?

Dustin Martin is clearly the focus. But the Tigers may as well be the Tiger snakes – if you cut one off, another will rise. Marlion Pickett proved that, and he is back for a second bite in 20 games. Toby Nankervis just hit full fitness, full form, and a contract extension as Richmond's big man. All are led clinically by stalwart captain Trent Cotchin.

Altruistic defender Bachar Houli won this year's Jim Stynes award for his community outreach, both rural and religious, and Brendon Gale spoke highly of Houli on AFL's night of nights. Brendon Gale's proud prediction that the Tigers would bring home three flags this decade, was a ten-year-old statement that has resurfaced like the club itself: with nary a prompt. That feat is now one win away.

Richmond by 1-12 points



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Amato's 5th Quarter

Grand Final preview

Finally, we are here. Six months ago, the football world had strong doubts this day (or night) would even arrive at all. When the AFL was shut down after the opening round on 22 March, CEO Gillian McLachlan described it as 'the biggest financial crises in our history'. All eighteen clubs had their training suspended, the AFLW season was cancelled with no premiership awarded and there was no confirmed resumption date. We fast forward to mid-October, and the league has survived its most difficult year, getting through a shorter season filled with football frenzies, weekday matches, hub-based campuses and limited crowds. With one of the most exciting finals series in recent times, we now have one final game. The 2020 AFL Grand Final between Richmond and Geelong is different in every sense, it's at the Gabba which makes it the first Grand Final away from the famous MCG since 1991, and first out of Victoria ever. It is also, the first all-Victorian Grand Final since 2011, and to add an extra dynamic... it will be played at night for the first time.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Richmond and Geelong have been two of the most consistent clubs in the AFL for the past half decade, with Richmond finishing in the top four the last four seasons, Geelong every season since 2016 bar one. It was only ever going to be a matter of time before these two met for the big dance. So who stacks up better?

The Tigers now have an opportunity to create their dynasty, going for flag number three in four years. Realistically, they should be contesting for a four-peat, having fallen short in the 2018 Preliminary Final despite being almost unbackable favourites. For many years their only Achilles-heel was playing away from home, having won just nine matches out of Victoria in the past three seasons. They have been forced to buck that trend this season, being locked out of Victoria since early July. With this stigma out of the equation, the Tiger's strength is now in their ability to make use of their limited possessions. While they rank 12th for disposals this season, that is an average of 240 less than their opposition. They are however, first for inside 50s, averaging 46 per game. This allows the twin-towers in Jack Reiwoldt and Tom Lynch to score frequently, both have kicked 30 goals each this year. Another stat that favours Richmond is they are sixth for goal kicking accuracy. They do however, have an issue with their direct control of play, they are ranked 10th for average marks which means they are more often than not, having to run out the game from the outset rather than stopping and propping.

On the other end, Geelong cannot get enough of the ball. They are ranked second for disposals, averaging over 300 per game. This is in tandem with ball magnets in Patrick Dangerfield, Joel Selwood and Luke Dalhaus who more often than not, win the clearances in the middle. They are also, the highest scoring team in the competition, averaging ten goals per game. Typically



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Amato's 5th Quarter

Grand Final preview

speaking, this is quite low, but in conjunction with this COVID-impacted season, this figure is quite high. They have however, struggled for accuracy over the past few weeks. 5.12 ruined their Qualifying Final against Port Adelaide, and despite the win against the Lions, it could have been a bigger margin as they only managed to convert 11.16.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

It will simply be a battle of the midfield. Cotchin, Martin and Prestia face off against Dangerfield, Dalhaus and Selwood. Whoever gains the ascendancy out of the middle and directs the ball to give their forwards the best possible advantage will go a long way to deciding the result. There is a lot on the line for both clubs, more than just a cup and some medals.

If Richmond win, this is counted as a dynasty. Three out of four is a result anyone would take, Dustin Martin could become the first man in the game's history to win three Norm Smith Medals. This would certainly put him in the category of the game's greatest finals player. For Geelong, they have many players who could be facing their final opportunity to win a premiership, with Harry Taylor and Gary Ablett Jnr. In particular, almost certain to retire. They can also finally shake off the stigma of being finals chokers.

It is set to be the most interesting Grand Final in recent time, as well as the most unique.

Dangerfield and Cotchin will play huge roles for their sides in the 2020 grand final



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A week in football with Madi

Yellow and Black: Back to Back

The 2020 grand finalists have been decided and it's none other than Richmond and Geelong. All season Richmond and Geelong have been the premiership favourites but going into their respective preliminary finals they were the underdogs. Making the grand final is a real credit to the hard work and determination of both of these Victorian teams who have had an immensely difficult season. Both teams have been

in a Queensland hub since July, playing away from Victoria, living away from friends and family and the comforts that come with it. Nonetheless, they have persevered and pushed themselves to earn a spot on the big stage. With one hand each comfortably on the premiership cup, it's not going to be an easy win for either side. The reigning premiers will be looking to reclaim their title, while the Cats will want to dethrone the Tigers and claim their first flag in nine years.

In what will be a highly anticipated match up, there is very little separating Richmond and Geelong. The Tigers and Cats both have an elite squad, possess powerful key forward targets, have significant midfield depth, many star players with match-winning qualities and plenty of finals experience in their list. But Richmond and Geelong have contrastingly different styles of ball movement, so the question is: who has the winning formula? Their run to the grand final has been quite similar, a loss in their qualifying final, then a very convincing win in their semi-final. However, their preliminaries were vastly different. Richmond had a much more difficult win in their preliminary final, compared to the Cats. The Tigers beat Port Adelaide by only six points in what was a tightly contested match until the final siren, while the Cats beat Brisbane by a flattering 40 points after absolutely dominating in the second half. The Tigers, however, were forced to play their preliminary final at the Adelaide Oval and then fly back to Queensland, while the Cats did not have to travel and played at the Gabba. This might be the only disadvantage the Tigers have, after all they do get an extra day's rest before the grand final, having played on Friday night.

Richmond

Richmond's composure in big moments is pivotal and their ability to switch gears and showcase versatility depending on their opponents is what makes them such a quality side. Richmond play a fast brand of footy and rely on winning stoppages to move the ball quickly into the forward line. Their ball winners like Trent Cotchin and Dustin Martin (who will be looking to claim his third Norm Smith Medal in as many years) will be important for the Tigers. It takes a special type of team to win two premierships in a row and three in four years, but Richmond have what it takes. The Tigers will need to replicate their most recent encounter with the Cats and create chaos by applying pressure to Geelong's precise and composed ball movement, if they can do that and perform well it will inevitably lead to a win. The likes of Shai Bolton and Daniel Rioli were



by
Madison Mifsud-Ure



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instrumental in their win over the Power. Their speed and run through the middle of the ground allowed the Tigers to move the ball and score with speed. If these players are on, then so are the Tigers.



by
Madison Mifsud-Ure

Geelong

Geelong's defensive structure is hard to beat and one of the best if not the best in the league. Their game style relies on maintaining possession of the ball in order to drive the ball forward, however, at times in their losses, this caution is what has led to their demise. Geelong applied so much pressure to the Lions in its victory on Saturday night, and stopped repeated entries from the Lions into the Cats' defence. This immense and continual pressure will also be crucial if they want to beat Richmond. Geelong have a very tall line-up and will use this to their advantage to try and stop Richmond's big men in Toby Nankervis, Tom Lynch and Jack Riewoldt from having an impact on the game. But for Geelong to win they will need to rely on winning clearances and stopping Richmond's run and carry. Geelong have not made a grand final since 2011, where they beat Collingwood. However, they have six experienced players in Tom Hawkins, Joel Selwood, Gary Ablett, Harry Taylor, Mitch Duncan and Luke Dahlhaus who have all played in at least one winning grand final. While this will be advantageous, as has been the topic of discussion in recent years, Geelong struggle to win finals, so will the grand final put an end to the conversation of the Cats' finals woes and buck the trend? I would like to say yes, but I think Richmond just might have more courage and tenacity to outplay the Cats.

The last time these two sides met Richmond ran away with the win, beating Geelong by 26 points at Metricon Stadium in round 17. While their grand final will also be in Queensland but at the Gabba, it's hard to go past Richmond for the flag. Richmond's only loss this year at the Gabba was against the Lions in the qualifying final, while Geelong are unbeaten at the Gabba this year. Richmond should win their third flag in four years.

Richmond by a margin of 18 points



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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

The season that was...

It's 11pm on a Friday night after Port Adelaide lost to Richmond and I feel shattered. Although everyone sees the reactions of players and coaches, the people standing behind them feel just as much. Being the child, wife, brother, sister to a player or coach in the AFL is a rollercoaster of emotions. While football fans love the game with a fierce passion, for us it is more than a game. It's our life. Our weekends are determined by the team's result. You ride the ups and downs side by side. When the cameras are off and everyone goes home, we feel the fallout of the downs and celebrate the highs in private.

Being family means making sacrifices for those you love, and it was especially relevant for this year's tumultuous season. We all heard the stories of clubs either taking the quarantine hubs in stride or their struggles, but what about the families? The ones who uprooted their lives from Victoria to live in a hub? Or even one's like me who could not go out to pubs with friends in SA like everyone else? We were allowed to work, study and do anything of essential importance: grocery shopping, dentist, doctor etc. We had more freedom than people like my dad – we could go to a café and sit down, but only for limited time. The COVID AFL rules were a constant consideration throughout this season.

However, we came to appreciate the rules, because the longer we had to consider them, the closer Port Adelaide came to the 2020 AFL Grand Final. Truth is, I would have been more than happy spending one more week within those rules if it meant Port made the Premiership decider. Yet, it wasn't meant to be, and on Friday night Port players, coaches and families experienced one of the lows of football.



by
Kayla Voss



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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

The season that was...

We were all sitting in the Media Room – wives, children, girlfriends, mothers, fathers, sisters or brothers of players and coaches. On Friday night we all met down in the carpark and were escorted up via a service elevator into the Media Room by an AFL Official. Because any family members who lived with players or coaches could not have any contact with the public at the game. Players who did not make it into the selected 22 were also sitting in the room with us. The air was tense and nervous at the start, there was plenty of shouting at umpiring decisions, and the celebrations after a Port Adelaide goal was incredible. Everyone in that room had someone out there on the field or in the coaches box, and we were all there backing them in until the end. In the final few minutes of that last quarter there were several people pacing the room, some couldn't watch, and others watched on while praying for a miracle. When that final siren went, it was an emotional moment. The room was dead silent and no one wanted to believe that it was well and truly over.

We all have something we are extremely passionate about, and we have family members that have their own passions. It just so happens that my Dad's passion is football, and while it is just a game for most people, for us it is much more. The COVID rules we followed were annoying, sure, but we would do it all over again if he needed us to.



by
Kayla Voss



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The Clemente Code

Tex's Struggles since 2012

He was the next big thing leading into the 2013 AFL Season. Taylor Walker had just kicked a huge 63 goals, finished 2nd in the Coleman medal count behind spearhead Lance Franklin, nominated in the All-Australian squad of 40 but was seen by many as stiff to miss out being selected in the final 22 of 2012 All-Australian team. His solid contested marking, powerful, accurate and overall effortless goalkicking and his general football nous had many comparing him to the great Wayne Carey from days gone by as that general in centre half-forward, being a significant intimidating presence and bringing his teammates into the game as a result.



by
William Clemente

However, in the round 5 game against Carlton of the 2013 season, Taylor "Tex" Walker suffered an ACL injury which ruled him out for the remainder of the season, requiring a full reconstruction and not returning to the side again until round 9 the following season. His injury greatly affected his and his team's development for the ensuing 2 years as the Adelaide Crows endured highly inconsistent 2013/2014 seasons and failed to gain and develop a temporary key forward in the absence of Walker. There was much hype leading into that 2013 season for Walker with many expecting him to become the next power key forward but once he returned in round 9 of the 2014 season it took Walker some time to get his confidence back, not only in his kicking but his overall football skills, often appearing nervous when leaping for the ball with speculation that he feared re-doing his ACL.

Entering the 2015 season, Walker was appointed the new captain of the Adelaide Football Club, replacing Nathan Van Berlo. Despite getting off to a solid start, Walker again struggled with his contested marking often relying on perfect delivery from the midfield in order for him to present well and hit the scoreboard, he still kicked 59 goals for the year and finished fourth in the Coleman Medal count. The jury was still out on the newly appointed Adelaide skipper as many still felt he had further steps to take in order to become the true champion he was originally seen to be. An example of this was his failure to stand up in big games when his side was heavily challenged. Questions and queries would follow Walker in every ensuing season despite leading his side up the ladder in 2016 and then finishing on top and further inspiring a Grand Final berth in 2017.

He was also awarded the AFL's best captain in 2016/2017 however, Walker's Crows lost the Grand Final to Richmond by 48 points despite going into the contest as heavy favourites. He was strongly criticised for his performance and even for the brevity of his post-match speech. He came under further scrutiny for his lambasting of teammate Jake Lever's post-season departure to Melbourne, claiming the defender chose money over success.

Overall, the man they call "Tex" has had a fascinating career. Highlighted by flashes of freakish brilliance then strongly countered by periods of frustrating inconsistency. He has however become the Adelaide Crows all-time leading goalkicker surpassing the great Tony Modra's 440 goals in round 18 against Richmond this season.

This all begs the question? How will Taylor Walker go down in Adelaide Crows history and more broadly football history? He has after all been the subject of much critical analysis since his breakout 2012 season. He's been lauded in some circles and heavily scrutinised in others but in the end, what makes Taylor Walker a unique icon is his unbridled resilience.



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JAYDEN'S FOOTY JOURNAL

A different type of Grand Final, so will it be embraced differently?

In a normal AFL season, the AFL Grand Final would have already been completed, with all 18 clubs already celebrated Mad Monday. But in a year that has been far from normal, the AFL Grand final will get a taste of warm weather when the last game will be played on the 24th of October.



by
Jayden Hill

The Friday Grand Final Parade through the Melbourne CBD and the Saturday afternoon barbecue's counting down to first bounce, are traditions that footy fans look forward to every year. However, these traditions that we know, and love will be played out differently this year. With the match being played at a night time slot, the traditional afternoon barbeque will be turned into pizza or yiros night. There will not be the 100,000 screaming fans at the traditional Melbourne Cricket ground, instead, there will be 30,000 eager supporters at the 'G' of a different kind, the Gabba.

So, with the differences and forced changes to arguably Australia's biggest annual sporting event, will the Grand Final be embraced and celebrated the same as previous years?

Obviously, it won't have the same atmosphere and feeling that the day grand final endures at the MCG. However, that does not mean this game won't mean anything. This game will have and contain a different vibe and atmosphere that will be unique to fans which will be something to savour for years to come.

Even though its two Victorian teams in the Grand Final, this match will still have the atmosphere to remember. Both Geelong and Richmond have amazing records at the Gabba, and both play exciting brands of footy. With two of the most exciting players in Patrick Dangerfield and Dustin Martin going head to head on Saturday night, this adds more excitement to the contest. The match will have everything with forwards such as Hawkins and Lynch kicking goals at both ends of the ground and small forwards like Rowan and Rioli making defences nervous. What also adds a romantic flavour to Saturday's game is the Garry Ablett playing his last game. Arguably the best player to play the game, the stage is set for a fairy-tale farewell.

Even though the year has been different, there will still be the same household traditions we all take part in on Grand final day. There will still be the First goal and margin competitions in households around the country and gameday banter between fans hoping their team can claim the big prize. After the year that has transpired, this year is just as important than any other to celebrate the great game of AFL. This season could have been easily cancelled, but the persistence of the AFL and the players made sure that the fans and the AFL community have a day to celebrate.

The Gabba will be buzzing, and intensity will be high, which will combine to be a spectacular spectacle under lights. Fans will finally discover what a night Grand Final actually looks like and if it is something that could be an option for future Grand Finals.

So, as a fan, yes it will not be the same, and it will be different to the Grand final we are all used to. However, it will be a great spectacle of Australian Rules Football and will continue put the game on the world stage. This day may be embraced differently due to the logistics and changes I mentioned; however, this gives more reason to celebrate our great game.

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The Mantis file

Animal Kingdom

It's not a match up we have seen often in the Grand Final, and it seems tailored to be one of the best premierships in the history of the AFL. Geelong will see themselves up against the reigning premiers Richmond whose record in their last two Grand Finals have turned into thumpings against their opponents. Ever since 2011, Geelong have shown glimpses of their greatness but have never fully been able to showcase that same fire power from their last premiership. Now, in 2020, they have proven themselves worthy of being Grand Finalists and face the biggest obstacle possible for another premiership.



by
Foti Mantis

After a back and forward game against the Power, Richmond showed poise, composure and experience in their 6 point win against Port Adelaide in the Preliminary Final. Players like Toby Nankervis, Dustin Martin and Kane Lambert had game altering performances that helped their team fight against the highly talented Connor Rozee, Travis Boak and Ollie Wines who led the front for the Power for the majority of the game. In the end, it was clear that Port had more to fight for and, as a consequence, looked more desperate and at times rushy than their counterparts. Whereas the Tigers stayed calm and loyal to their game plan and refused to fall prey to the pace and momentum of finals footy.

Geelong, on the other hand, had the upper foot against Brisbane for the entirety of the game. The Cats slowly strangled the Lions and finished them off in the fourth quarter, winning in the end by 40 points. Again, it may have been experience that distinguished Geelong as the better team, but young players like Brandan Parfitt and Sam Simpson stood up to the finals stage and provided the Cats with pressure and balance. However, the Veterans in Tom Hawkins, Mitch Duncan, Gary Ablett and Joel Selwood lead their team to victory with an almost flawless performance that outplayed the young Brisbane Lions team. Lachie Neale, who just won the Brownlow Medal Sunday night, was the shining jewel in the Lions team and seemed to be the only threat against Geelong.

As for this week's Grand Final on Saturday, not much can be said to split the two teams. Both are prepared for the big stage and will try to make their mark in the history books. Geelong have yearned to once again win the Premiership for many years, and arguably have more pressure to come out victorious. Richmond, however, have the chance to be named as one of the greatest teams to ever play if they can win their third Grand Final.

Lachie Neale
Brownlow
Medal winner



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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

The Greatest Victory of All?

It's the premierships season no one could predict. 2020 is the year of hardships, challenges, the unexpected and disappointments for all of us. It's the year everything was put on hold, including the 2020 AFL premierships season. However, in the face of hardships one must persevere; AFL staff and players understand that more than anyone.



by
Kayla Voss

For the first time in AFL history, no fans graced their beloved teams with their booming presence, round six became a historic round as every AFL team played away from their home ground, and Victoria – the home of AFL – is officially a no play zone. 2020 is the premierships season that cannot be replicated.

It truly is one of a kind. It only makes sense that the winners will finish in a league of their very own.

Some believe the season should have been forfeited or that the winner will be the least deserving in history. There are some points I suppose: less games to play and more time to prepare in the off-season. The argument, however, is weak. The premierships team of 2020 will be the team who persevered despite hit after hit.

The team who took the AFL hubs in stride, rather than announcing them as inconvenient and unfair. The team who embraced the rule changes and adapted their preparation and training accordingly. Most of all, it will be the team who ignited a positive and uplifting environment for players and coaching staff.

Of course these points are relevant in any season, but the nature of the home and away season this year calls for extra appreciation of teamwork and bonding. In any other season, coaches and players use the time with their families or friends to unwind and escape the pressure of 'clubland'.

However, as teams are put into AFL hubs, players are forced to create different approaches to take their mind off the game. While some of these points may seem small and unimportant, I can guarantee you it is exactly the small things that make all the difference.

At the moment, the ladder is an accurate reflection of the teams who have taken these changes in stride. Well, at least from an outside's perspective. I certainly understand the frustration with false assumptions from the public, but results and team performance do reveal plenty. We still have not reached the halfway point of the 2020 season, so there is time for teams to adapt and improve.

But, adapt they must. Every team this year will hit a point, or a few, where they struggle to keep up with the rules, the positive energy and the unknown of each round. Simply, the 2020 premierships team will be the one who faces these challenges and overcomes them together, as a team, rather than individuals.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM WITH KAYLA

Putting the 'national' in Australian Rules Football

If there is one thing this AFL season has taught us, it is that the AFL can survive without Victoria. In fact, the AFL has proved its adaptability in the strangest of circumstances by taking the game out of its usual 'hub'. Naturally, the VFL is the reason football is predominately played in Victoria during normal AFL seasons. However, COVID has created recurring conversations of Victoria's main role, ultimately debating how the AFL should operate in future.



by
Kayla Voss

The AFL is the Australian Football League. In other words, no longer does the game fall under the Victorian Football League (VFL), but rather is a national competition. Obviously, there are reasons for why Victoria is the main stage for the game; out of eighteen teams, ten are Victorian based teams. Over the years, more interstate teams have joined the league, with GWS being the most recent in 2012. The number of teams located in Victoria is a strong argument for why the home and away rounds can have up to five games in Victoria per round. However, the argument is not to move or relocate these teams, but rather to recognise other states for big AFL nights like the Brownlow, the NAB draft and, of course, the Grand Final.

Daniel Andrews, the premier of Victoria, only emphasised the unchanging nature of the game and the outdated view of Victoria as AFL's central hub. Last Friday, Mr Andrews told press that he is looking for compensation from the AFL in the future due to the expectation that the Grand Final will be hosted interstate this year. This statement is ridiculous for a number of reasons. In terms of COVID, he should be more focused on taking care of Victorians and eradicating the virus. In terms of the AFL, the idea that the AFL owes Victoria, even though the Grand Final is already contracted to be held at the MCG until 2057, is preposterous.

Understandably, Victoria will lose a lot of economic compensation because of the AFL Grand Final's revenue. Yet, considering Victoria hosts the event every year, he is hardly in a position to argue this year's loss. Unfortunately, the loss of money and jobs is a part of 2020, and we have all been affected by the virus one way or another.

This year's Grand Final will be hosted in any state other than Victoria, which should be viewed as an opportunity rather than a loss. Not only should it be considered an opportunity for another state, but also an opportunity for the future of the game. It is not a new argument: whether or not the AFL Grand Final should be on a rotational interstate basis. However, this year has certainly emphasised why it would be brilliant for the evolution of the game.

Without a reason, other states will not invest in an event as big as the AFL Grand Final. This is the issue. Ultimately, the argument always comes back to how many people will be there to witness one of the events of the year. The MCG houses 100,000 people. An exceptional stage for any event. Of course the biggest event in the AFL calendar should be played in front of as many people as possible. However, the only reason the MCG is the ultimate stage is because every other state has never had reason to invest in a stadium of the same stature. If the AFL presented a contract for the Grand Final to be hosted around Australia, it would certainly provide state governments a solid reason to invest in the event.

It is the event that brings people from around the country together. It is the roar of the crowd and the excitement of the day. Every state should have the opportunity to experience this. Australian Rules Football is a national sport, loved by so many around the country. It seems only fitting for fans from all states to enjoy the big day.

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The Mantis file

The Silent Achiever

The hardest thing a man can do is beat himself. Throughout our lives, as both fans and witnesses, we have seen dozens of inspiring comeback stories from the world's greatest athletes. Whether it be physically, mentally or socially, the 'greatest' always overcome that steep downfall and cement their names in history.



by
Foti Mantis

Awards and trophies are only given to winners; and the highest honour an individual can receive in the AFL is the Brownlow Medal. The Brownlow is not necessarily given to the best player on the best team in that year, but rather awarded to the athlete who showcased the highest and most influential performances over the course of the entire season. However, a question arises with the term 'performance.' That is, does every athlete 'control' the level of their performance? The answer is partly no.

There is a silent achiever inside every athlete which controls and influences muscle mass, energy, and behaviour. It is a hormone found in both men and women which can seriously alter, or determine, the success of an individual in their field of sport. It is called testosterone.

In males, testosterone levels peak at early adolescence around the age of 17-19 which sees a boost in impulsivity, competitiveness and risk-taking. Growth spurts are also a common consequence of this peak of testosterone, which, tragically, serve as either a gift or curse to upcoming young players. In fact, testosterone levels at this stage in an adolescence's life could explain why many promising young players, who showcase superior athletic ability (and, of course, talent) draw the attention of top-tier scouts in professional clubs.

However, when we look at the current best players in the AFL, most are in their mid-to-late twenties and should have already passed their 'peak' levels of testosterone. So, then, how is it that these older players can keep up with these energetic younglings? Well, the 'peak' associated with early adolescence is a 'natural' phenomenon which is not influenced by social factors such as winning. For example, young teams, such as the Gold Coast Suns, Carlton and Fremantle, are bursting with talent and potential, and, on average, should have higher levels of testosterone per player than older teams like Richmond, Geelong and Port Adelaide. Therefore, the younger teams should be more energetic, aggressive and competitive than their counterparts. But this is not the case.

Winning games increases players' testosterone levels and accumulates over time if their team wins on a consistent basis. That, at least, is a biological answer to 'form.' Additionally, older teams generally have more experience and better technical ability. However, when young teams suddenly latch onto that late form in the season, it can certainly result in additional aggression, energy and competitiveness.

As of now, Geelong, Port Adelaide and Brisbane have the most players aged between 18-21. Couple that with the experienced club veterans of Joel Selwood, Justin Westhoff and Dayne Zorko, and you have the three best teams in the league.

Reference: Sapolsky, Robert M.. Behave: The Biology of Humans At Our Best and Worst. Penguin Press, 2017

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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

Social Media: How has it changed the game?

It's a different game than it was even ten years ago. Sure, the style of the game is different, but I mean the effect of social media. Naturally, social media has both positive and negative effects for everyone, and it is no different for football.



by
Kayla Voss

Social media platforms have minimised the divide between AFL players and their fans – the public voice. Fans are passionate about the sport they love, but especially about the team they support. The expectation and pressure AFL footballers and coaches experience is at its peak. The fans' ability to reach the players, and some coaches, through social media can create a toxic environment. Comments which call players names, comments which aim to hurt players and coaches out of frustration, and comments which call for the sacking of coaches are all toxic and discouraging. Seeing those comments and reading about yourself in such a negative way is damaging.

Mental health and wellbeing is being normalised in the AFL and there is a good reason for it. There's only so many comments you can ignore and let slide before they start to get to you. Can you imagine people, who you have never met, assuming things about your life and job? Can you imagine random people calling for you to get fired? To be unemployed because, according to them, you are not enough? It's brutal. Unfortunately, it is something that cannot be taken out of our game. People will always have an opinion about things in the public eye. However, this brings us to the positive aspects of social media in our game.

The negative practices of social media are helping normalise mental health issues. Players especially have resources available to them, and an understanding from the public that their mental health is a priority. Social media gives fans the opportunity to see them as people; people with families and friends – things greater than the game.

Social media will always encourage both love and hate. However, as footy fans we need to remember our relationships with players and coaches is much more involved than it was only ten years ago. Luckily, the game is evolving with us. Although our modern world will.



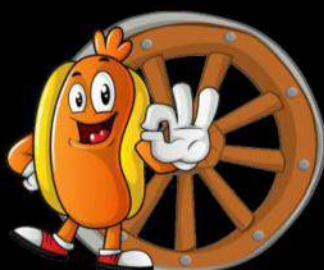
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Amato's 5th Quarter

Five premiership-less AFL players who deserve a medal

A premiership, the pinnacle of an AFL players' career... well, for some.

Michael Tuck is the most successful player in Australian Football, claiming the league's biggest prize on seven occasions. Port Adelaide and Hawthorn legend Shaun Buroyne is hunting medal number five before he hangs up the boots, Dan Butler could join a rare group in achieving the ultimate success at two different clubs this season.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Some are simply surrounded by success wherever they go.

However, in sport, not everyone always gets to achieve the holy grail. It is the harsh reality of the competition. Some of the best players we've seen play the game may achieve all the personal accolades in the world, but are not rewarded with the true success.

Here are five AFL players who have all been around the league for some time, all bringing something special to the competition for different reasons. Some have achieved individual awards, some may be the heart and soul of their club... but they all have one thing in common. They all have empty spaces in their bedside tables where an AFL Premiership medal is supposed to be.

#5: Rory Sloane

No matter who you support, even if you hate the Crows, everyone loves Rory. A team-first, loyal, honest and humble veteran of the game has played over 200 games for the Crows and despite offers to return to Victoria, opted to stay with his beloved Adelaide. A Preliminary Final loss as a younger player in 2012 comes as one to look back on as a significant opportunity missed for Sloane. 2016 in a career best year, winning All-Australian and best and fairest honours is another one, Adelaide missed the top four by mere percentage and would go on to lose a Semi-Final to Sydney. The big one though, came in 2017 when Adelaide claimed the Minor Premiership, but would go on to lose the Grand Final in a poor performance. Sloane now finds himself on the 'unlikely to win one' fold, as Adelaide have gone from go-to-woe, sitting bottom and winless after ten rounds in 2020. Thirty years old with 2-4 years left, time is running out for Sloane to win a premiership.

#4: Nic Naitanui

One of the great ruckman's of the modern game. Since 2009, the second draft-pick selection has thrilled fans of not only Perth but the entire football nation. His unique jump at the ball, his fantastic tap work and superb skills have made him a fan favourite and colt-figure in our game. Despite multiple injury setbacks including two ACL tears, he has continued to persevere and in 2020 is arguably in career best form. Naitanui has played ten finals including the 2015 Grand Final loss to Hawthorn and was devastated to miss the Eagles premiership three years later through injury. A humble gentleman with a team-first mentality, the All-Australian ruckman has every chance to right the wrongs of 2015 and win that elusive premiership this year.



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Amato's 5th Quarter

Five premiership-less AFL players who deserve a medal

#3: Nathan Fyfe

Club captain, 179 games, 11 finals, three best and fairest awards, three All-Australians, two MVPs, one Grand Final and two brownlow medals... but 0 premiership medals. Nathan Fyfe has been a champion of the game on and off the field and will certainly challenge Matthew Pavlich for the greatest Docker of all time when he hangs up the boots. Played regular finals under Ross Lyon from 2012-2015 including two Preliminary Finals and the heartbreaking 2013 Grand Final loss to Hawthorn which was one of Fyfe's most disappointing performances. With Fremantle struggling at the bottom end of the ladder, it doesn't appear likely Fyfe will win a flag anytime soon. But at the age of 28, he is certainly in the prime of his career and it is not beyond the realms of possibility Fremantle could have another serious assault on the club's first title with their captain still hanging around.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

#2: Patrick Dangerfield

Simply one of the greatest players of the modern generation, winning six All Australians, four best and fairest awards and of course, the 2016 Brownlow Medal. Dangerfield has played over 250 games for both Adelaide and Geelong since 2008, and throughout the journey has been a regular finals player, being a part of four Preliminary finals. He is unfortunately, yet to play in a Grand Final. His biggest opportunities came in 2012 and 2016 when both Adelaide and Geelong were at the peak of their powers, finishing second in those respective years. A five point loss against red hot favourites Hawthorn in 2012 despite stealing the lead deep into the fourth term would be seen as the one that got away. The embarrassing 2016 loss to Sydney after having a week's rest and home ground advantage would also leave a sour taste. With Geelong looking likely to play finals again this season, and 'Patty' now entering his thirties, he still has a chance to win a flag, but time is certainly running out.

#1: Nathan Jones

The longest-serving current Melbourne player, debuting in 2006, Jones has certainly been Melbourne's best player. His first season began on a real high as the Demons finished seventh and made their way into a Semi Final, Jones played in both finals and put together a solid campaign. Throughout his 15 season career, he has played at least 20 games every season bar two, consistently performing at a high standard with his bull-like attack on the ball, his clean disposal on either side of the body and most of all, his incredible leadership when desperately needed. His accolades include three best and fairest awards and captaining the club for six years. His career has coincided with a dark period for the Melbourne Football Club both on and off the field, and he has always been seen as the shining light at the end of the dark tunnel. Jones has played in just 90 wins, multiple 100+ point losses, seven bottom four finishes along with two wooden spoons. His career highlight came in 2018 when he lead the Demons into the finals for the first time in 12 years, playing in a Preliminary Final in which may have been his last opportunity to win that elusive flag. An ageing warrior until the very end, he won't give up the dream of putting a medal around his neck before hanging up the boots.



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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM WITH KAYLA

How youth benefits the game...

Young players in today's game are lighting up the stage. Debutantes, no matter the era, are always exciting moments for clubs and fans, but in today's game it feels exciting for different reasons. Or, perhaps, the reasons are simply emphasised.



by
Kayla Voss

Sure there is excitement of witnessing the game's future stars, but in recent years debutantes are having more of an impact than ever. The nature of the modern game is paving the way for these exciting players.

PERSONALITY. If there is one thing these young guns have in common, it is their ability to add their own flare and personality to the game. Xavier Duursma introduced the AFL world to his bow and arrow celebration, and ignored haters comments by refusing to drop it. Izak Rankine's unique personality shines through in his game. His first touch in AFL football proved just that as he danced around Melbourne defenders and snapped around his body to produce a goal. Bailey Smith has become a crucial part of the Western Bulldog's midfield, as his love of the game is evident through his ball-hunting attitude. Another young star, who just made his debut, is Trey Ruscoe. The Collingwood debutante loves a celebration as he debuted three different handshakes with his teammates to football fans.

The personalities that are showcased each round add another dimension for football fans. Characters like Xavier Duursma, Izak Rankine, Bailey Smith and Trey Ruscoe are producing exciting football while putting on a unique show.

FRESH STYLES. Young, inexperienced players just want to play football. More than ever, their excitement to play is transparent in the way they play. Young players have an element of speed and surprise in their game which has the ability to open up the game. Port Adelaide, Gold Coast and Carlton are perfect examples of how young players are channelling an exciting, fast-paced brand of football.

When talking about Port Adelaide, the young trio of Zak Butters, Xavier Duursma and Connor Rozee often comes to mind. In the past two games, Boyd Woodcock has proven himself to be in the mix. These players are taking on Port Adelaide's fast-paced style and using it beautifully. Their speed and skills are opening up Port's game, whether Duursma is running the ball out of their defensive 50, or Butters is using his clean, quick hands to move the ball out of traffic, or Rozee and Woodcock are outrunning their defenders to create open goal opportunities.

Gold Coast are another example of how injecting youth has transformed and amplified their game style. Matt Rowell, Izak Rankine and Noah Anderson are some of the young players that Gold

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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

How youth benefits the game...

Coast have to support their fast-paced style. These players are creating run using their football IQ to create more effective forward 50 entries.

Carlton are a similar story. After a few seasons of abysmal efforts, they seem to finally be finding their footing in the AFL. Although they still have a long way to go, their young players are promising a bright future. Sam Walsh is the obvious player that has recently come into the side and created exciting possibilities for the team. His poise and pure class at a young age is exciting for Carlton fans.

While these young players are already impressive so early in their career, it is the support they receive from seasoned players that emphasise their impact.

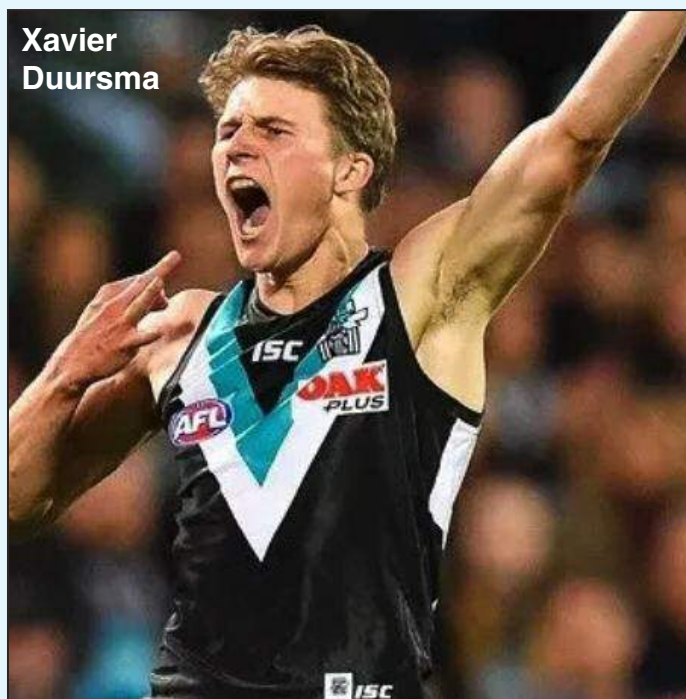
EXUBERANCE FOR "OLD TIMERS". Alone, these young players are imposing, but coupled with experienced players, clubs are presenting a thrilling package. Seasoned players are using these young players to motivate them and channelling their attitudes to enjoy the game. The pressure can get to more experience players, and at times they can find themselves stuck. However, clubs are using youth to loosen up and imploring the importance of simply playing the game they love.



by
Kayla Voss



Zak Butters



Xavier
Duursma

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Amato's 5th Quarter

Over and Unders: Top three rated current AFL players

Overrated #3: Chad Wingard

Perception: Elite, A-Grade Superstar

Reality: Talented Player

While Chad Wingard began his career in emphatic fashion, kicking 148 goals from 89 games in his first four seasons... the early Ken Hinkley days at Port Adelaide still remain his best seasons. While certainly capable of producing match winning moments, incredible skills by foot and the ability to take the ball in the air and out of packs, Wingard is sporadic and tends to have drift in and out of games. While disappointed to lose their favourite-son, Port are winning the Wingard-Burton trade at this point in time.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Underrated #3: Brad Sheppard

Reason: In the shadow of Premiership stars who play similar roles ie. McGovern, Hurn, Yeo etc. Brad Sheppard is easily the most underrated Eagle. While he doesn't have the aerial ability of Jeremy McGovern or the penetrating boot of Shannon Hurn, he has always been a reliable defender who works as the link from defence to midfield. His ability to run off half back cannot be underestimated. Averaging 16 possessions in 2020, he is every chance to finally get that premiership medal he missed out on in 2018.

Overrated #2: Dyson Heppell

Perception: One of the best midfielders in the game.

Reality: 2011 NAB Rising Star winner.

While Dyson Heppell is certainly skilful and by all means a good player and captain, he is nowhere near the level of a Martin, Fyfe or Dangerfield. He gets enough of the ball and does usually use it well, he doesn't impact the game as much as some think. He isn't overly quick, nor is he overly versatile. He rarely goes into the forward line and kick goals, nor does he go in defence... something many A-Graders do. He also has not translated his great games into finals... playing in four losing elimination finals.

Underrated #2: David Mundy

Reason: Playing for the smaller of two Western Australian clubs.

David Mundy just keeps on keeping on, and is now second on the all time Fremantle games played list. Since his debut, he has been a solid, durable and consistent performer who has given his heart and soul to the Dockers. An elite field kick, strong mark and physically imposing, Mundy is tough to quell. Still averages 18 possessions at 70% efficiency at 35 years of age... may very well play on in 2021.



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Amato's 5th Quarter

Over and Unders: Top three rated current AFL players

Overrated #1: Jake Stringer

Perception: Won a flag in 2016

Reality: Plays 1-3 truly great games a season.

Good player, fun to watch and can be trusted in kicking 2-4 goals per game and winning All-Australian. Just because you're a potential match winner, does not necessarily mean you're a superstar. While Stringer is talented, he isn't elite by AFL standards and has only kicked more than 40 goals in a season once. A solid B-Grade forward at his absolute best.

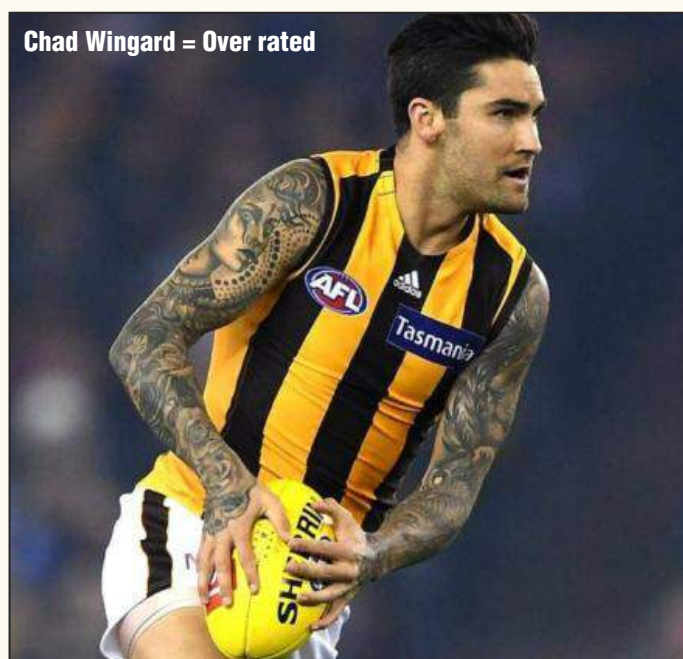


by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Underrated #1: Jarryd Lyons

Reason: Always played with superstars ie. Sloane, Dangerfield, Ablett, Hodge, Neale etc.

Jarryd Lyons has always been in the shadow of some modern day champions. While isn't as fast, silky, skilful or exciting to watch as a Gary Ablett Jnr, Patrick Dangerfield or Lachie Neale, what Jarryd Lyons brings it cannot be denied. What Lyons lacks in speed, he makes up for in ball use. He finds the football and uses it well, averaging 22 possessions or more since 2016, extracting to ball from the contest, creating opportunities for his forwards. If Jarryd Lyons was removed from Brisbane, the likes of Lachie Neale and Dayne Zorko would be double-manned and the connection would be stifled. Could be a premiership player this season.



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A week in football with Madi

The pride of South Australia is not the mighty Adelaide Crows

It's been a difficult year for all clubs this season, but it seems no team more so than the Adelaide Crows have buckled under the pressure of fly-in-fly-out games, hubs and a compressed fixture. After losing many of their star players in the off-season including Eddie Betts, Cam Ellis-Yolmen, Alex Keath, Josh Jenkins and Sam Jacobs, the Crows said they would begin a rebuild, but no one could have expected this.

The Crows have gone from top to bottom in just three years. When there are only two South Australian teams in the competition the chances of them being on completely opposite sides of the ladder is extremely rare. So when your cross-town rivals Port Adelaide are the ladder-leaders while the Adelaide Crows are 18th and bottom there really isn't much to smile about.

It's been a challenging season for Crows fans to watch loss after loss after loss. Their performance against the Sydney Swans in Round 1 was probably their best and most convincing chance of taking home the win, but need I remind you that too was a loss. Rory Laird has been one of the few positives to take away from their games. He has been excellent on the field since moving to the midfield providing pressure to a side with very little and was the leading disposal winner against the Pies in Round 11 with 37 possessions for the night.

Laird has really led the way of this youthful side. Unfortunately, that's where the good news ends.

The Adelaide Crows have made several changes to their list, recruiting Ben Keays ex-Brisbane player, Ben Crocker ex-Collingwood player and former Port Adelaide ruckman Billy Frampton. Rookie Ben Keays has been quite serviceable after spending most of his AFL career playing in the reserves at Brisbane.

The Crows have had an AFL-high eight debutants and used 37 players across the course of the season, which is more than any other club. While it has been excellent to give so many young players more experience in the AFL and more opportunity to develop, it does seem odd that some of their more-experienced players are not making the team. Now when a player like Bryce Gibbs and even Billy Frampton to an extent, cannot even make the team when that team is losing every week, something must be wrong. Especially when these two players would give the Crows a boost in two areas they seem to be lacking in, a target inside-50 and a strong, clearance-winning midfielder.

This season the Crows have had many big outs, with Rory Sloane, Taylor Walker, Tom Doedee, Daniel Talia, Tom Lynch, Brad Crouch, Wayne Milera, Riley Knight and Jordan Gallucci all sidelined for extended periods. The Crows have struggled in all areas on the field, their depleted list would not have helped but they just seem to be lacking, not running as hard, no consistency



by
Madison Mifsud-Ure

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A week in football with Madi

The pride of South Australia is not the mighty Adelaide Crows

and are really struggling to string together four-quarters of tough, pressure-intense, contested and confident football. The Crows are rated 18th in the league in all major statistics culminating in points for and points against, which is very disappointing, especially given just a few years ago they had one of the best midfields in the competition. Injury concerns aside, the Crows need to completely change their game plan for the remainder of the season if they have any shot of winning a single game and not being the first club in 56 years to be winless for an entire season. They have to create contests, win clearances and set-up better defensively. They are only averaging four marks inside-50 a game and need to improve in the midfield exponentially. They are letting teams too easily take the ball out the middle and quickly move it into their (Crows') defensive-50 and score. Changes also need to be made off-field.



by
Madison Mifsud-Ure

It's been over 380 days since the Crows last secured victory and while it is a feat, it's one I'm sure they are not proud of. With a current record of zero wins and 12 losses, the question remains: will it be a winless season for the Crows? For some reason I have a feeling we might see them achieve the biggest upset this year, beating Geelong at home. Now you may ask why I would think that, but given the Crows are highly underestimated, they literally have nothing to lose, and they will want to prove everyone wrong, this might just be their game to win. Nevertheless, the Crows will no doubt finish bottom of the ladder and receive the wooden spoon for the first time in their 30-year history.



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The Mantis file

Rebuilding stage for Adelaide Crows

The Crows, who attained their first win of the season against Hawthorn last week, showed a glimpse of the prideful footy that we've seen them play in the past. Crows play their best when they show that type of aggression like they did, and most importantly, when they start to dominate clearances. However, it is no mystery that both the Crows and Hawks are undergoing a rebuild stage with their sights keen on the AFL Draft.




by
Foti Mantis

Depending if the Crows trade or not, they will get this year's first pick in the draft. However, they probably could not have chosen a worst year to get it. Although South Australian football has continued, other states, like Victoria and New South Wales, have cancelled their local and state competitions. That means the Crows will have a limited choice of players to consider, and will probably have to use their pick to fill in a hole in their squad, rather than choosing the most promising and talented player.

As for trades and transfers, the Crows will probably lose a few more key players. Although the Tex has not been in the best form, he is still an important player for the Crows who acts as the glue of their forward line. Brad Crouch, on the other hand, is on the ropes. No one questions the fact that he is a star midfielder, but I think he's done all he can at the Crows, and it would be a waste of talent for the young gun to remain with Adelaide through a rebuilding phase. And, as Crouch will be a restricted free agent, the Crows could end up being compensated with the second pick in the draft too. Also, it seems Rory Atkins has already expressed his interest in free agency, adding to the list of key players the Crows will lose. But, to reiterate, these are, or will be, important moves for the Crows in their rebuilding stage.

Having debuted the most number of players for any team this year, the Crows have shown that their top priority is to advance youth players to the first team for experience and improvement. Players like Will Hamill, Lachlan Scholl, Shane McAdam, Andy McPherson and Harry Schoenberg are sure to be names that we will see in a few years when the Crows grow passed this rebuilding stage. To add to this, the Crows are looking at Jackson Hatelly from the Giants, who seems to be a young midfielder that isn't getting any game time in Sydney.

This will definitely remain a theme through the post-season, as the Crows aim to make their youth the core of the team. As for the rest of this season, I think Adelaide can muster one more win. It won't come easy, but it's crucial for the confidence of the players, and will give fans something to be happy about for this dreadful season.



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The Mantis file

Stop and Go

In the last few years, Australian Football has taken a frightening path towards becoming a stop-and-go game. One could argue that it has always been a type of game that is centered around winning stoppages and controlling possession through marks. But, when you think of the term 'footy,' and maybe even when you try to describe the sport to an unfamiliar spectator, what comes to mind is the excitement, speed and aggressiveness associated with what some would call 'a dangerous sport.'



by
Foti Mantis

When we think of footy, we don't think of stoppages. We think of counter-attacking football, players with elite speed, teams with incredible ball movement; but, most especially, we think of goals.

The worry for fans of footy is whether the AFL is trying to mould Australia's national sport into a replica of American Football. The NFL (National Football League) is one of the most watched sports in the world and millions of people tune in to the Super Bowl on TV every year. On that same day, some of the world's biggest brands sponsor the event and pay millions of dollars for a single commercial during the breaks. The half-time show alone is enough for the event to attract global attention, especially on social media platforms like Twitter and YouTube. From the AFL's perspective, this is something that Australia should be aiming towards. In this case, they are right. But it is a fine line between global exposure and the ruin of a national sport.

As mentioned before, footy is a unique sport in the sense that it asks players to put themselves on the line for their team's success (without protective gear). However, the sport has begun to ask players to do something else; that is, play competitively, but control your aggression. As a player, it's difficult to enforce that type of message into your performance. Aggression is an important part of this sport, and the constant rule changes to 'protect' players seems to be doing more harm to the game than good.

Disregarding this season, the amount of goals scored in each game has been dropping dramatically. In 2018, the AFL's average scores were the lowest ever seen for 52 years (83.1 points per game). Unless it's a total blowout, you won't see a game where both teams kick 20 goals in a competitive match of footy. Gone are those days. Instead, now it's considered lucky if a single game can consist of 20 goals (in total).

With this in mind, it's important that we recognize what a 'stop-and-go' style of play could do to the game. Alas, these continuing reinforcements of 'protective footy' rules do two things: slow down the pace of the game by rewarding more free kicks, resulting in less goals; and, most concerningly, pushes us closer towards a mimic of American-style Football.

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Amato's 5th Quarter

The week off. Blessing or curse?

The McIntyre final eight system the AFL (and NRL) use for their respective finals series, has been used for twenty years now. Majority of the time, there was rarely any dissatisfaction from the players, coaches media and fans. It seems as fair as can be, first and second host third and fourth respectively in Qualifying Finals. The winner is granted a week's rest and home Preliminary Final, the loser is forced to host a home Semi Final. For the bottom half of the top eight, they are required to win four consecutive finals (all away games for 7th and 8th) in order to claim the ultimate glory.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Since 2016 however, the AFL implemented a bye week before the finals where all eight competing clubs had the opportunity to rest, prepare and recover from any injuries. The rule was bought in to allow all players the opportunity to be in the best possible condition for the best standard finals series possible. This rule coincided with the year the Western Bulldogs became the first club since 1998 to win a premiership from outside the top, winning four consecutive finals. The Bulldogs limped over the line this season, losing to 16th placed Fremantle in the final week of the home and away season with a mounting injury list. That pre-finals bye allowed the club to regain a large percentage of players to recover and be fit, ready to go for their Elimination Final in Perth. Chances are, had they not had the bye, they would not have even beaten West Coast, let alone won the Premiership. This is an example of the pre-finals bye being a possible blessing.

Geelong in 2016 oppose this, as they were one of the best teams in the competition. Finishing second on the ladder and beating Hawthorn by less than a goal in the Qualifying Final, they looked just about headed for the big dance. The Sydney Swans (minor premiers) lost their Qualifying Final to baby brothers GWS and therefore, had to host Adelaide in a Semi Final at the SCG before meeting Geelong at the MCG. Despite Geelong being hot favourites, the Swans slammed the first eight goals of the game and would run away with a commanding win to set up their Grand Final. There are many reasons Geelong did not win this game, but could having a week off before the finals, then another directly after that first final have been a reason? Only playing one game of football in twenty days against a club who have had continuity and been able to consistently play have been their downfall?

A similar example is Richmond of 2018 who were the best team in the competition by a long way, claiming the minor premiership and comfortably defeating Hawthorn in their Qualifying Final to secure a home Prelim after another week's break. They faced an underdog Collingwood side who were playing their third game in as many weeks, and similarly, the Tigers got off to a shocking start. At the 22nd minute mark of the second quarter, the score read 64-11 and the Pies on their



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The week off. Blessing or curse?

way to causing one of the biggest upsets in Preliminary Final history. Ironically, the year after Collingwood secured home ground advantage after another week off, and were handed a taste of their own medicine by GWS who upset the favourites by less than a goal in their third straight final.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

The statistics show since the pre-finals bye, in three out of four seasons a club has lost their home Preliminary Final after winning a Qualifying Final and securing that extra week off. This was not so much the case pre-2016, as only 4/20 seasons saw a team from outside the top four reaching a Preliminary Final.

This begs the question, just how valuable is that week off? Does home ground advantage really matter all that much considering it would only be a club's second game in three weeks? History suggests not so much. Does this bode well for Port Adelaide and Brisbane, who this weekend will be doing something they haven't done in several days... playing.



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The Clemente Code

How will we remember season 2020?

The strangest season that Australian Rules Football has ever endured. It is a fair assessment to say that it has been the most unorthodox seasons of AFL football.



by
William Clemente

We are currently at the twilight stages of the home and away season as 14 rounds have been played in a shortened season of 18 rounds. The impact of COVID-19 has severely affected all aspects of life across the globe, including our great game. A much-shortened home and away season and shortened quarters by five minutes have been severe changes to the format that players, coaching staff, umpires and spectators have required adjusting to. However, the establishment of hubs in Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia, has been the most significant COVID influenced adjustment.

I believe that one of the greatest debacles of the season thus far was the situation of Victorian clubs being isolated to play in Victoria before the escalation of the COVID crisis. My interpretation was that the arrangement stirred a lot of emotions of football fanatics in the AFL realm. It is also reignited the "Victorian bias" debate, one of the most heated footy discussions that always seems to get swept under the rug. Many argued, including myself I may add; it is unfair for interstate teams to travel every second week interstate and Victorian clubs play in their home state week in, week out. The escalation of this fiery debate has been one of the highlights of the season off the field.

Off field debates and debacles occur in every season no matter the conditions. We footy enthusiasts are like moths to the flame when action on the field is taking place and that is what it is all about. The severe demise of the Adelaide Crows, remaining winless so far with 13 consecutive losses is one of the most whopping results to be seen. Adelaide have been a strong performing club since their establishment and their maiden wooden spoon in 2020 has been executed in poor style.

It has been competitive at the top end of the table as Port Adelaide, Brisbane, West Coast and Geelong are making their premiership bids. It will be intriguing to see who will be lifting the premiership at seasons end but I am more intrigued to see how the premiers of this season will be accepted into history. Will this season be revered as the season that did not matter or will it be one of the most important seasons our game has ever endured? The rise of prevalent young talents that will be the future of our game is something this strange season will be remembered for. The rise of number one draft pick, Matt Rowell in the early season, Izak Rankine, Jack Lukosius, Ben and Max King, Harris Andrews, Jack Steele and many more have injected excitement into our game. The breakout talents we have seen emerge in this COVID stricken season has made this season detrimental to future of the AFL I strongly believe.

It is yet uncertain where the Grand Final will be staged at the conclusion of the season, but we do know that it will not be at the MCG. This is enormous; the MCG has been the main stage of the Grand Final for decades and to will this Grand Final played outside of Victoria influence seasons to come?

The affects of COVID-19 is making this season a memorable one; the rise of young talent, drastic changes to conditions, off-field debacles and the relocation of the Grand Final. However, I believe we're all intrigued to see how this season gets revered in footy history, only time will tell.

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INSIDE **THE LOCKER ROOM** WITH KAYLA

Is the Brownlow Medal really the best individual honour?

The Brownlow Medal is AFL's night of all nights. It has all the glitz and glamour of a red carpet event as players, partners, AFL staff, coaches, and former winners come together to celebrate. As viewers we speculate, perhaps placing bets between families and friends, about who will take out the medal. We judge every dress that walks down the red carpet, vocalising our opinions to those watching with us. Most of all, it is a night to reflect on the season that was and kicking off the excitement of Grand Final week.



by
Kayla Voss

However, while we hype up the night and the event is celebrated in style, is it a true reflection of who played the most consistent and compelling season? The Brownlow medal is an award presented to a player who received the most votes according to the umpires. While the umpires are a critical part of the game, are they necessarily the best people to determine the best player for the season? The field umpires are heavily involved in the game, but it is not their job to study other teams and players. Their opinions and voting decisions are dictated only by what they see, which you can argue is not the most credible voting source. Umpires are focused on enforcing the rules of the game, and even then they don't get it right 100 per cent of the time.

It is a fair argument to suggest that coaches and players are in a better position to determine the most valuable player of the season. Sure, they are involved in how the game unfolds, and more aware of the oppositions movements. But, if anything, it is the extensive analysis that coaches and players do before, during and after that puts them in the best position.

Players and coaches awards already exist. The Leigh Matthews Trophy and the AFL Coaches Association Champion Player of the Year are determined by the players and coaches respectively. So why is the Brownlow Medal considered the AFL's highest individual honour? As a player, I imagine being voted by your peers and expert coaching staff throughout the AFL would feel like a greater achievement. If the same player won all three awards every year then this argument is pointless, but the awards often have different results. For example, in the past 20 years, the Brownlow medallist winner/s and the Leigh Matthews Trophy winner were different (in the same season) 11 times. The differing results certainly suggest different approaches in determining the AFL's most valuable player.

Either way the Brownlow Medal is an AFL tradition that will evolve with our game, and the prestige of the night cannot be argued, even if it is influenced. It is a night which celebrates the best players of our game, while also including the legends of old. As the 2020 season draws closer to finals, the Brownlow Medal predictions will start firing up. It will certainly be a Brownlow to remember as COVID will change the dynamic of the night.

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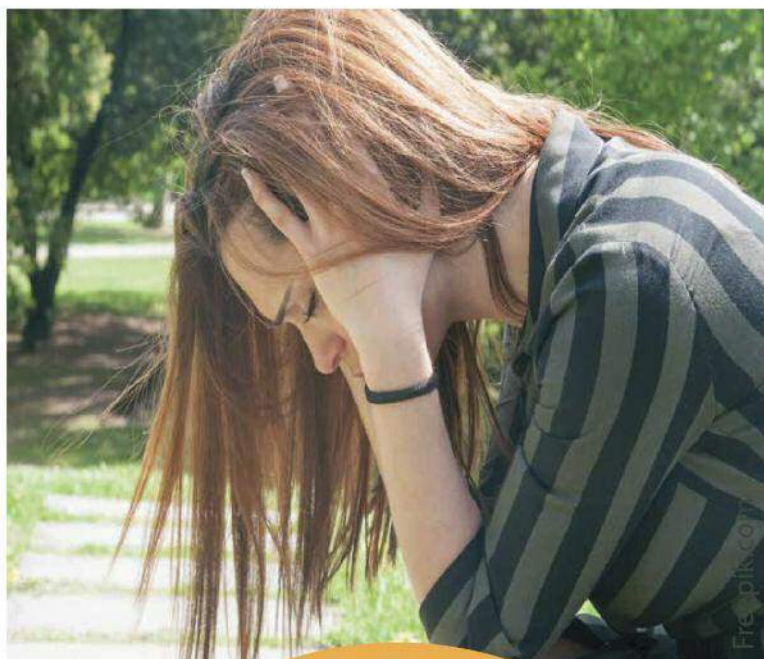
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Amato's 5th Quarter

All good things must come to an end. Yes...even you Hawthorn

The Hawthorn Football Club, are now for the first time in almost two decades, one of the laughing stocks of the AFL. Think back to just five years ago when they defeated the West Coast Eagles by eight goals in the 2015 Grand Final, completing their three-peat... it seemed nothing could ever bring them down. They would be at the top forever.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

Since then however, they have seen the moving on or retirements of some of their greatest players and premiership heroes; Bradley Hill, Brian Lake, Cyril Rioli, David Hale, Luke Hodge, Jarryd Roughead, Jordan Lewis Sam Mitchell and several others. Since their third consecutive premiership, they have missed the finals three of the last four seasons and are now sitting third bottom with just four wins, their lowest tally since Alastair Clarkson's first season at the helm in 2005. A prime of example of 'all good things must come to an end.'

After a promising 3-1 start to this abnormal 2020 season, Alastair Clarkson seemed to be getting the very best out of this average Hawthorn side, but since then the club has conjured just one win from its previous eleven attempts and now sit 16th and just one win ahead of wooden spoon contenders North Melbourne and Adelaide.

Nothing seems to have worked for the Hawks this season, their midfield doesn't gel at all. With Tom Mitchell still gathering possessions, but not having much impact on the result, James Worpel and Jaegar O'Meara not necessarily declining, but not advancing their games to any great lengths and a forward line that seems to be missing the presence of Jarryd Roughead, with the major goal kicker being Jack Gunston with 27, the next highest being Chad Wingard with only 18. The Hawks as a unit are 12th or lower per game for scores disposals, tackles, inside 50s, clearances and marks... so they struggle to get the ball and when they use it, rarely does it result in sufficient scoring.

It seems the club tried to re-emulate what they did a decade ago, by recruiting mature-age talent from other clubs. Ben McEvoy, Brian Lake, David Hale Shaun Burgoyne, Jack Gunston, Josh Gibson and the like all played major parts in their premiership success. As a football club you don't always get it right, but what have the acquisitions of Chad Wingard, Jaegar O'Meara, Jarman Impey, Jonathon Patton and Tom Scully to advance their premiership credentials? While Impey has been solid, and the injury factor with Patton can be a valid excuse, the second attempt at recycling players has failed thus far. Alastair Clarkson seems to be frustrated at his team's inability to remain competitive for long enough, taking shots at the opposition game plans in his press conferences. They were certainly good enough to defeat your club, Clarko?

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Amato's 5th Quarter

All good things must come to an end. Yes...even you Hawthorn

No one can deny Hawthorn's legacy, the dynasty of 2011-2016 was an incredible chapter in this remarkable club's history... but those days are over now. With Ben Stratton and Paul Puopolo adding to the retirements, it seems this club will need to stay at the bottom for a few seasons before it can realistically return to where it belongs it should be.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

As the saying goes; "All good things must come to an end." You can't expect to be at the top forever, Hawthorn need to focus their attention to the draft and utilising their number three (currently) draft pick to bring in a young man, develop him into a superstar and focus on 2022-2025. The next few seasons, unless Clarkson has one last miracle up his sleeve, may be tough for Hawthorn fans used to the upmost success.



Adaptive coaching does not equal soft coaching

I was sitting in a coffee shop last Friday morning, reading the sports section of the paper, before coming across an article by Kane Cornes. In his words: “soft bosses who give in to precious players don’t succeed in football”. He believes AFL coaches need “to embrace old school toughness”.



by
Kayla Voss

Kane Cornes started his career in 2001 at Port Adelaide. He played against some of the toughest teams in the early 2000s, with coaches to match their ruthless approach. However, we are not in the early 2000’s anymore and the coach-player relationship has evolved. Of course there needs to be a level of toughness. Coaches, more than ever, need to earn the respect of the players to get results. Yet, reviving old school coaching techniques will only cause coaches to lose their players and produce unfavourable results.

Social media is an overwhelming influence in the modern world as its design can cause mental health problems for any of us. In particular, people like AFL players who are in the public eye can experience this effect even more. The constant comments and opinions from fans, former players, coaches and media personnel can become too much for today’s players. It is not difficult to understand why. It was much easier to tune out others opinions of your team and performance when platforms like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter did not exist.

Players from the 2000s era have taught us exactly why old school coaching techniques are no longer effect on modern playing groups. Michael Voss, Nathan Buckley, Justin Leppitsch and Damien Hardwick are prime examples of the importance of evolving with the ‘times’. Nathan Buckley and Damien Hardwick are proof of the difference coaching techniques make on team performance.

Nathan Buckley was one of the toughest leaders in the late 90s and early 2000s era. His opponents and teammates have all commented on his intensity and focus as a player. When he was named Senior Coach of the Collingwood Football Club, Buckley used the same mentality. However, the response from his players was underwhelming and worrying for Collingwood fans. Today, coaches are tasked with the responsibility to create connections and build relationships with their players, while also gaining their respect. Nathan Buckley focused more on his empathy as a coach to make that connection with his players and the results speak for themselves. Even though they have not won a premiership, they made the decider in 2018 and have been a competitive finals side for a few years now.

Damien Hardwick is another successful example of this new, modern-day coaching mentality. He has led his Richmond team to two premierships in the last three seasons and has addressed

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Adaptive coaching does not equal soft coaching

how creating a 'family club' environment contributed greatly to their success.

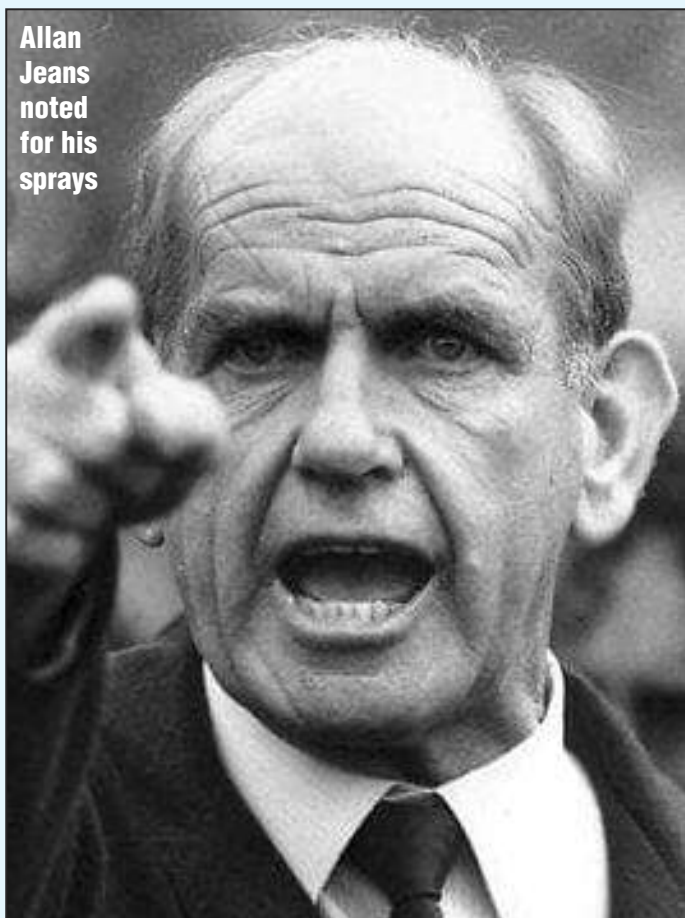
The AFL 2020 season is a perfect example of what clubs are prioritising within their football environments. Hubs have created opportunities for players and coaching staff to develop and build relationships with each other. Those teams who have embraced these opportunities are proving its benefits with successful results.

The modern-day game is a completely different environment than it was 10 to 20 years ago. Relationships and connections are the new forefront of football clubs to achieve successful results. Coach and player relationships are more important than ever to create safe and supportive environments for players.

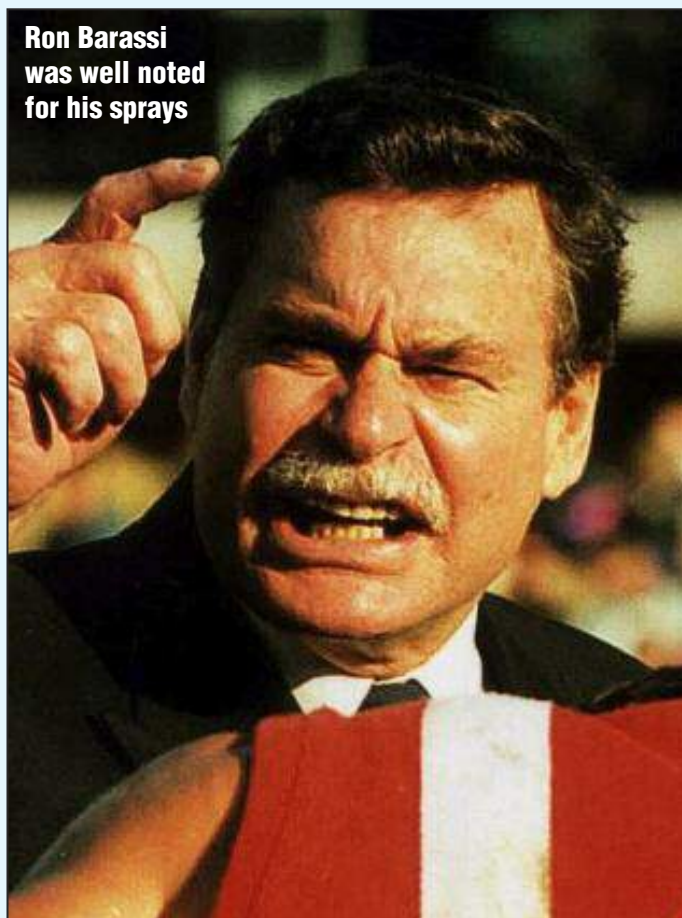


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Kayla Voss

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Amato's 5th Quarter

Is a Tiger dynasty about to happen?

Premierships are rare, every team wants to win one, trains an entire preseason and plays an entire season in search of one... but only one team achieves it every year. This begs the question, what exactly is a dynasty? The word gets thrown around a fair bit, but what really makes one? Looking back at some of the past few premierships.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato

The Western Bulldogs of 2016 won a premiership from 7th position to claim the holy grail, but it was just that... a premiership. In 2015, they enjoyed a solid season and made a finals appearance, but were bundled out in the first week by Adelaide, and subsequently missed the eight in 2017 and 2018. So no, that is not a dynasty because it is just one single flag.

Looking back to the late nineties when North Melbourne and Adelaide won four premierships together (North in 1996 and 1999, Adelaide in 1997 and 1998). Particularly with the Kangaroos, they went through a sustained period of on-field dominance, playing in seven consecutive Preliminary Finals from 1994-2000, including two Grand Finals for three premierships.

However, due to the fact they only won two of possible three Grand Finals, it cannot be called a dynasty. A fantastic period yes, but a dynasty? No. Adelaide are even less an example, because although they won two remarkable premierships in a row despite being underdogs on both accounts, they finished 12th and 13th on either side of the flags (1996 and 1999). So while the back-to-back titles against unbackable odds was an incredible achievement, it is still not a dynasty.

Now, what can be considered a dynasty? For one, the Brisbane Lions of 2001-2004. Particularly for a non-Victorian team, to qualify in four consecutive Grand Finals, having to travel interstate every second week and still win three premierships in a row is the stuff of legends, and is still certainly the greatest three-peat of all time. Despite the fact they couldn't quite complete the four-peat in 2004, this is absolutely considered a dynasty. Not only did the Lions qualify for finals and Grand Finals, they actually won them and took their opportunities more often than not.

Geelong of 2007-2011 is another one, in five years they finished a home and away season either first or second, made the preliminary final on every occasion, making four Grand Finals and winning three. Despite not winning any of them consecutively, this is still a dynasty because they won three within a small timeframe. Hawthorn of 2011-2016 is the last of the recent dynasties. A heartbreaking three point loss in the Preliminary Final against Collingwood, backed up by four Grand Finals in a row for three flags in 2013-2015. This is the last true dynasty we have seen... until possibly now.



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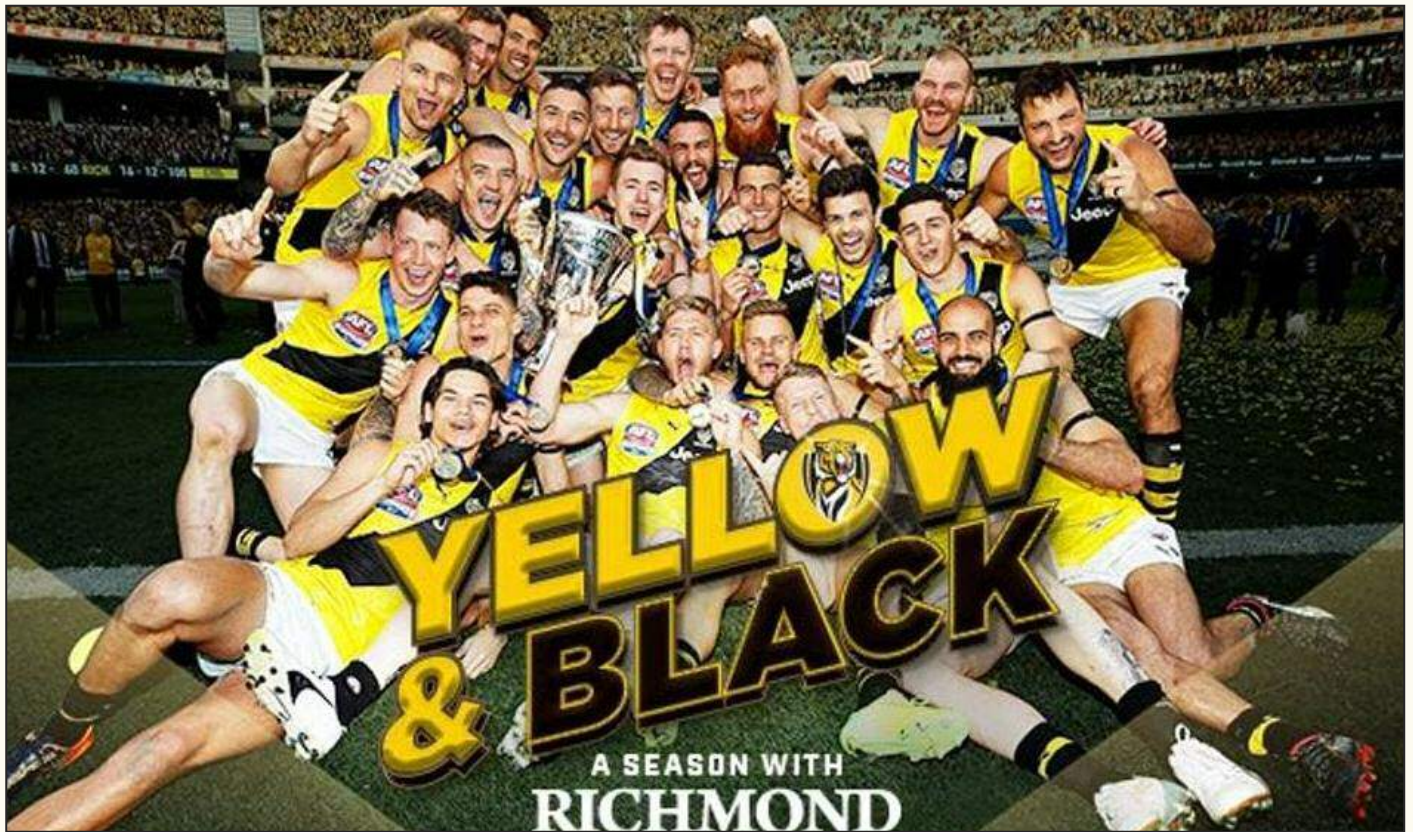
Is a Tiger dynasty about to happen?

The Richmond Football Club, after finishing 13th in 2016, have come from seemingly nowhere to win two premierships since and if they are successful in this year's crazy season... will officially create their own dynasty. The flags coming in 2017 and 2019, they need just one more to claim it. A dynasty is lucky number three, if a club wins three premierships within a 4-7 year bracket, it is a dynasty. One or two is great, no doubt... but it is not a truly sustained period of success. In reality, Richmond could have and should, be going for their fourth premiership in a row. They were the surprise packet in 2017 and 2019 they were continuing on... but 2018 they were truly the best team in the competition and the Preliminary Final loss to Collingwood was an absolute choke of the highest quality. But if they win their third flag in four years, it will officially enter the rare mould.

With a Qualifying Final battle against Brisbane, whom they boast a great record over, could be the first step in achieving that rare feat. Time will tell.



by
Daniel Emilio Amato



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A week in football with Madi

Home finals are advantageous, but they are not deal-breakers!

This is the season like no other. In July, given the current global pandemic and increasing COVID-19 cases in Victoria, the decision was made that all Victorian AFL teams were to relocate to various States across the country and play there for the remainder of the 2020 season. While this allowed the season to continue, the only downfall was that these teams then had to play their “home” games at grounds in which they rarely played at. Those teams who have been able to play at home have a big edge on the rest of the competition, but could it decide who wins the flag?



by
Madison Mifsud-Ure

The end of the season is nearing, and the top eight teams have been decided. The current coronavirus control measures in place has meant that there are only four grounds where matches will be played for the finals – Adelaide Oval, the Gabba, Metricon Stadium and Optus Stadium (where only one elimination final will take place). While six teams have won the right to play a home final only three teams will actually play at their home ground, and coincidentally the three teams are the only non-Victorian teams in the eight: Port Adelaide, Brisbane Lions and West Coast Eagles. This will be the first time in the history of the AFL where there will be no finals played in Melbourne, but with five Victorian sides left in the competition, how much impact will this have on their push for the premiership?

There's a reason they call it a home-ground advantage and why teams and fans alike want to finish as close to the top of the ladder as possible, so they can guarantee themselves a home final and give themselves the best possible chance of winning finals and then holding up that elusive premiership cup. Not having to travel, ground familiarity and supporters are three of the main factors that give you an advantage when playing at home. This season Brisbane are undefeated at the Gabba, West Coast are undefeated at Optus Stadium while Port Adelaide have won seven matches and only lost one at the Adelaide Oval.

Sitting at first and second on the ladder respectively, Port Adelaide guaranteed themselves two home finals at the Adelaide Oval, likewise Brisbane guaranteed themselves two home finals at the Gabba. The Grand Final is being played at the Gabba this year, so despite possibly being the “away” team, Brisbane could end up playing all of their matches at their home fortress and given their current form this would make them premiership favourites. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions in Western Australia, West Coast will only play one home final at Optus Stadium. That's at least five of nine matches which will definitely be played at these teams' home ground (COVID-19 dependent). Therefore, do the three non-Victorian teams in the eight have more of an advantage? It's more than likely that those teams playing at their home ground for finals will have some advantage over their opponents, but five top eight teams have played very few games at



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Home finals are advantageous, but they are not deal-breakers!

their home ground and yet have managed to finish in the top eight. To reward the teams finishing higher on the ladder and mitigating any advantage to away sides playing at “home”, the likes of Geelong, Richmond and Saint Kilda will get the opportunity to decide where they want their “home” final to be held between the three grounds – Adelaide Oval, the Gabba and Metricon Stadium. Having earned that right to nominate a preferred ground to play their home finals at, if they are scheduled to compete against either Port or Brisbane you would expect them to select a different ground to the normal home ground that their opponents usually play at.

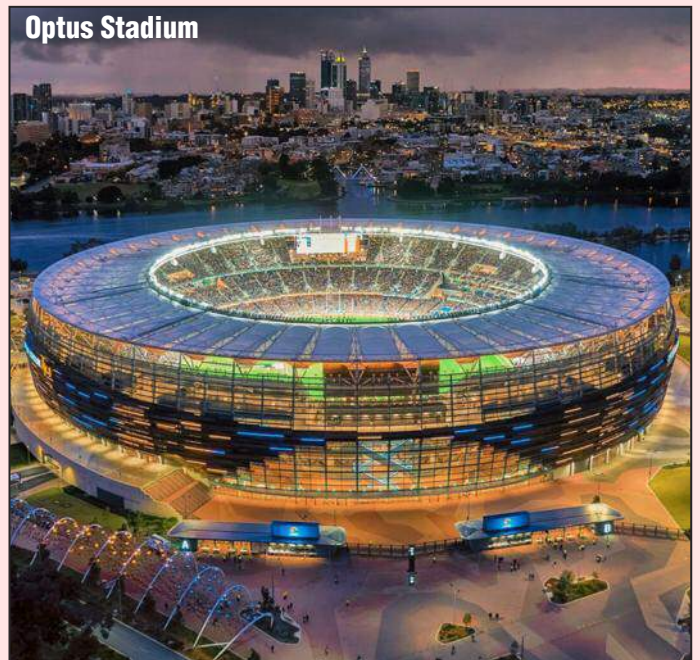


by
Madison Mifsud-Ure

Home finals do not always result in victory. Putting it into perspective, last year Brisbane had two home finals at the Gabba but lost both of them, while retrospectively in 2018 when West Coast won the premiership, they played both the semi-final and preliminary final at home. Then way back in 2016, the Western Bulldogs played and won four away finals matches and went on to win the premiership that year. The saying goes, to be the best you have to beat the best and win anywhere and beating the best at their home ground is about as big as it gets. Those teams that can beat their opponents at their opponent's home ground or at a ground less familiar to them, will be more than just premiership pretenders and seen as true premiership contenders.



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SANFL - LEAGUE

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SANFL League - Premiership Ladder

TEAM	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGN	%	PTS
1 Eagles	14	11	3	0	1151	735	61.03	22
2 North Adelaide	14	10	4	0	1039	916	53.15	20
3 South Adelaide	14	9	5	0	1127	851	56.98	18
4 Glenelg	14	9	5	0	1081	1057	50.56	18
5 Norwood	14	6	8	0	977	1082	47.45	12
6 Sturt	14	5	9	0	872	954	47.75	10
7 Central District	14	3	10	1	945	1211	43.83	7
8 West Adelaide	14	2	11	1	814	1200	40.42	5

SANFL League - Leading Goalkickers

Player	Team	Games	Goals	TIBP	MGG
James Rowe	Eagles	16	45	7	5
Liam Mcbean	Glenelg	15	39	4	5
Lewis Hender	North Adelaide	15	30	2	7
Eamon Wilkinson	South Adelaide	16	26	4	3
Samuel Overall	South Adelaide	16	26	4	4
Tom Pinyon	Norwood	14	26	4	4
Jake Von Bertouch	Eagles	15	24	1	4
Justin Hoskin	Central District	13	22	4	6
Kym Lebois	North Adelaide	15	22	5	3
John Butcher	Central District	10	21	4	5
Luke Reynolds	Glenelg	14	21		3
Darcy Bailey	Glenelg	15	20	2	3
Beau McCreery	South Adelaide	15	19	1	3
Nicholas Hayes	Eagles	16	19	4	3
Thomas Keough	West Adelaide	14	18	6	5
William Combe	North Adelaide	15	18	3	4
Isaac Johnson	West Adelaide	14	17	6	3
Jack Hayes	Eagles	14	17	5	3
Matthew Panos	Norwood	11	16	4	4
Joel Cross	South Adelaide	16	15	7	3
Jake Sutcliffe	Sturt	8	14	2	6
Liam Fitt	South Adelaide	10	14	1	3
Mark Evans	Sturt	13	14	4	3
Mitchell Harvey	North Adelaide	15	14	4	4
Jack Kluske	Glenelg	13	13		2
Richard Douglas	Norwood	14	13	6	3
Tristan Carcuro	Eagles	9	13		4

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Eagles 13.9-87

North Adelaide 7.6-48

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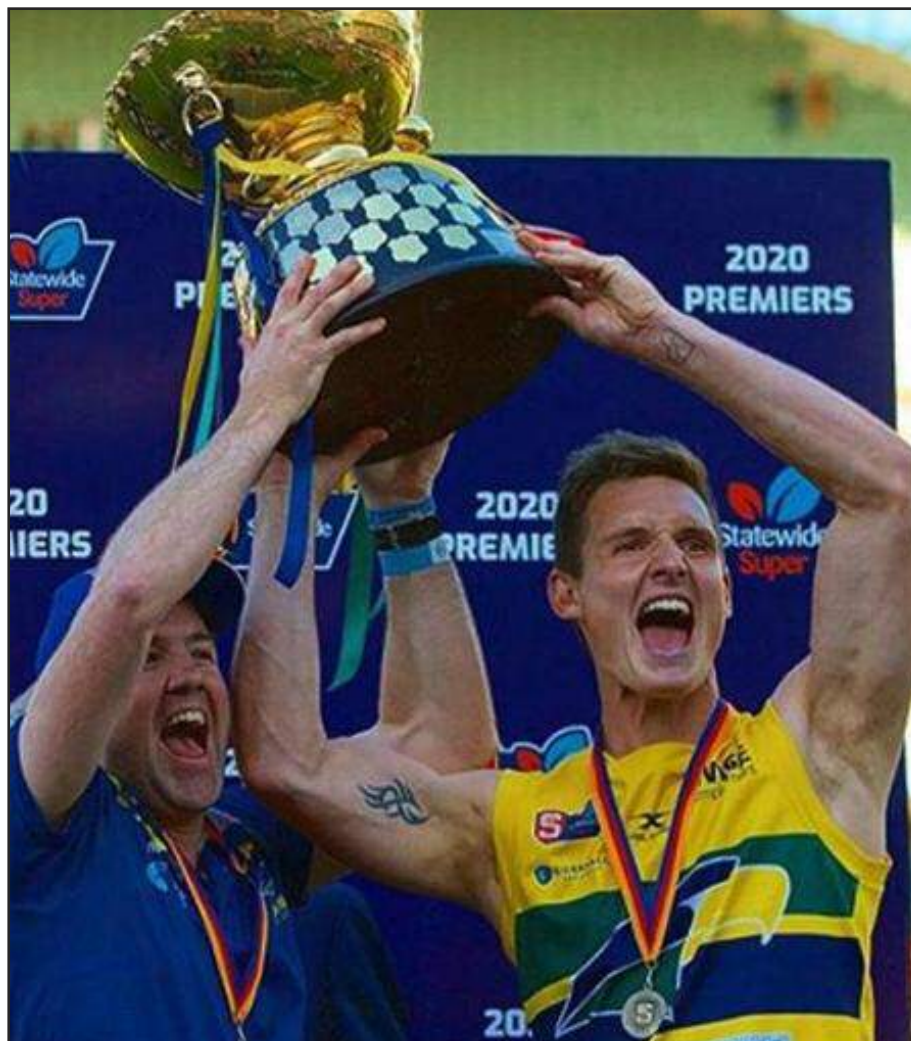
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LEAGUE

THE FINAL SCOREBOARD

Eagles 13.9-87

North Adelaide 7.6-48



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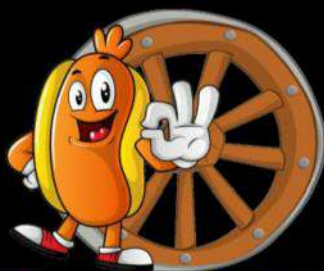
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SANFL Reserves - Premiership Ladder

TEAM	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGN	%	PTS
1 Central District	14	13	1	0	1296	734	63.84	26
2 Eagles	14	11	3	0	1061	700	60.25	22
3 Sturt	14	9	5	0	959	690	58.16	18
4 North Adelaide	14	8	6	0	917	879	51.06	16
5 Glenelg	14	6	8	0	856	994	46.27	12
6 South Adelaide	14	4	10	0	909	976	48.22	8
7 West Adelaide	14	3	11	0	666	1136	36.96	6
8 Norwood	14	2	12	0	604	1159	34.26	4

SANFL Reserves - Leading Goalkickers

Player	Team	Games	Goals	TIBP	MGG
Nicholas Leck	Glenelg	14	27	6	5
Harrison Morgan	Eagles	12	26	2	5
Damon Robinson	Central District	15	24	1	4
Thomas Condon	Glenelg	11	22	2	8
Brett Kennedy	Central District	13	18	2	3
Lachlan Grubb	Central District	11	18	2	5
Nicholas Moore	Eagles	15	18	6	4
Mitchell Martin	Glenelg	14	17	1	3
Matthew McKenzie	West Adelaide	14	16	1	3
Sam Barnett	Norwood	13	16	5	4
Terrel Rigney	North Adelaide	16	16	3	3
Christopher Barns	North Adelaide	15	15	4	3
Jak Goudman-Glasson	North Adelaide	8	15	1	3
Jake McCreery	South Adelaide	14	15	4	3
Samuel Davis	North Adelaide	16	15	4	3
Tristan Carcuro	Eagles	7	15	1	5
James Langley	North Adelaide	17	14	6	3
Lachlan Pascoe	Norwood	14	14	5	2
Mihail Lochowiak	Sturt	11	14		3
Tyler Harris	West Adelaide	14	14	3	4
Zane Williams	Eagles	9	14	4	4
Beau Schwarze	Sturt	10	13	1	2
James Richards	Sturt	11	13		3
Oliver Grivell	Sturt	9	13	5	3
Thomas Whittlesea	South Adelaide	6	13	4	4
Cooper Machin	South Adelaide	13	12	2	3
Tom Emmett	Sturt	6	12	4	5

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*Eagles 8.11-59
North Adelaide 6.8-44*

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RESERVES

THE FINAL SCOREBOARD

Eagles 8.11-59

North Adelaide 6.8-44

North Adelaide

Goal Kickers: P. Davies 2, T. Rigney, D. Fahey, L. Minervini, S. Davis

Best Players: J. Neade, P. Davies, D. Hilder, T. Rigney, L. Minervini



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SANFL - UNDER 18's

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SANFL Under 18's - Premiership Ladder

	TEAM	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGN	%	PTS
1	Sturt	14	10	4	0	1146	821	58.26%	20
2	Norwood	14	10	4	0	1134	843	57.36%	20
3	Eagles	14	9	5	0	1203	872	57.98%	18
4	South Adelaide	14	9	5	0	1105	915	54.7%	18
5	North Adelaide	14	8	6	0	1066	918	53.73%	16
6	Glenelg	14	5	9	0	944	1170	44.65%	10
7	Central District	14	4	10	0	771	1232	38.49%	8
8	West Adelaide	14	1	13	0	694	1292	34.94%	2

SANFL Under 18's - Leading Goalkickers

Player	Team	Games	Goals	TIBP	MGG
Finn Heard	Norwood	8	28	5	5
Brayden Cook	South Adelaide	13	26	8	5
Morgan Ferres	Sturt	9	25	4	6
Jack Wheare	Eagles	13	23	2	4
Jordan Opperman	Sturt	17	23	2	3
Jordan Kasianowicz	Eagles	14	20	2	4
Cooper Murley	Norwood	16	19	8	3
Hugo Hoeck	South Adelaide	13	18	2	4
Zabien Parker-Boers	Sturt	9	18	2	7
Cody Gilchrist	Central District	11	17	4	4
Jay Watson	Eagles	15	17	3	3
Leo Coates	North Adelaide	14	17	5	4
Shaun Bennier	North Adelaide	7	17	1	4
Tariek Newchurch	North Adelaide	10	16	3	4
Luke Young	West Adelaide	13	15	6	3
Liam Hamilton	South Adelaide	13	14	2	5
Aiden Holland	Sturt	17	13	4	2
Elliott Mcnamara	North Adelaide	9	13	4	6
Henry Smith	Eagles	13	13	4	2
Jackson Murphy	Norwood	16	13	2	3
Jacob Godden	Eagles	13	13	1	4
Mani Liddy	Sturt	17	13	6	2
Henry Nelligan	Norwood	10	12	5	3
Lucas Schultz	Glenelg	5	12	1	5
Luke Heitmann	West Adelaide	13	12	4	3
Marcus Roberts	Norwood	13	12	3	2
Max Litster	Eagles	16	12	10	3

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Sturt 8.5-53

Norwood 15.13-103

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UNDER 18

THE FINAL SCOREBOARD

Sturt

8.5-53

Norwood

15.13-103

Sturt

Goal Kickers: J. Ferrari 2, B. Higgins, Z. Parker-Boers, B. Jefferies, M. Ferres, M. Liddy, T. Powell

Best Players: W. Spain, J. Borlase, M. Carruthers, N. Walter, W. Staples, J. Hein

Norwood

Goal Kickers: F. Heard 3, E. Schwerdt 2, X. Tranfa 2, M. Roberts 2, J. Higgins 2, Z. Bishop, C. Murley, J. Murphy, H. Nelligan

Best Players: N. Hearing, H. Chandler, H. Nelligan, X. Tranfa, D. Fairbrother, S. Duke



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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

ALL THE STATISTICS FOR EVERY CROWS PLAYER ON THE LIST IN 2020

No	Player Name	Games	Age	DOB	Height	Weight	Position
1	Jones, Chayce	23	20yr 8mth	14 Jan 2000	180cm	77kg	Forward
2	Crouch, Brad	95	26yr 8mth	14 Jan 1994	186cm	85kg	Midfield
3	Knight, Riley	55	25yr 6mth	27 Mar 1995	181cm	80kg	Forward
4	Murphy, Lachlan R	44	21yr 10mth	4 Dec 1998	176cm	76kg	Forward
5	Crouch, Matt	125	25yr 5mth	21 Apr 1995	182cm	80kg	Midfield
6	Gibbs, Bryce	268	31yr 6mth	15 Mar 1989	188cm	84kg	Midfield
7	Gallucci, Jordan	27	22yr 5mth	4 May 1998	182cm	78kg	Forward
8	Kelly, Jake	90	25yr 8mth	21 Jan 1995	190cm	89kg	Defender
9	Sloane, Rory	211	30yr 6mth	17 Mar 1990	182cm	83kg	Midfield
10	Poholke, Myles	16	22yr 3mth	10 Jul 1998	186cm	86kg	Forward
11	Seedsman, Paul	110	28yr 8mth	22 Jan 1992	190cm	87kg	Midfield
12	Talia, Daniel	200	29yr	2 Oct 1991	197cm	98kg	Defender
13	Walker, Taylor	203	30yr 5mth	25 Apr 1990	193cm	100kg	Forward
14	MacKay, David	230	32yr 2mth	25 Jul 1988	181cm	78kg	Defender
							Midfield
15	Hartigan, Kyle	113	28yr 11mth	7 Nov 1991	194cm	98kg	Defender
16	Brown, Luke	167	28yr	22 Sep 1992	181cm	81kg	Defender
17	Hamill, Will	8	19yr 10mth	17 Nov 2000	186cm	71kg	Defender
18	Stengle, Tyson	16	21yr 11mth	19 Oct 1998	172cm	73kg	Forward
20	Crocker, Ben R	33	23yr 7mth	19 Feb 1997	188cm	84kg	Forward
21	Atkins, Rory	101	26yr 2mth	12 Jul 1994	186cm	85kg	Midfield
22	Frampton, Billy	8	23yr 10mth	20 Nov 1996	200cm	90kg	Forward
23	McAdam, Shane	13	25yr 4mth	28 May 1995	181cm	78kg	Forward
24	Worrell, Josh	0	19yr 6mth	11 Apr 2001	195cm	74kg	Defender
							Forward
25	McHenry, Ned	8	20yr 2mth	13 Jul 2000	179cm	70kg	Midfield
26	Schoenberg, Harry	8	19yr 7mth	21 Feb 2001	180cm	78kg	Midfield
27	Lynch, Tom	152	30yr	15 Sep 1990	193cm	88kg	Forward
28	Keays, Ben R	46	23yr 7mth	23 Feb 1997	185cm	89kg	Forward
29	Laird, Rory	160	26yr 9mth	29 Dec 1993	177cm	81kg	Defender
30	Milera, Wayne	62	23yr	14 Sep 1997	184cm	81kg	Defender
							Midfield
31	Wilson, Patrick R	2	25yr 10mth	11 Dec 1994	188cm	89kg	Midfield
32	Fogarty, Darcy	24	21yr	25 Sep 1999	193cm	94kg	Forward
33	Smith, Brodie	183	28yr 8mth	14 Jan 1992	189cm	90kg	Defender
34	Himmelberg, Elliott	19	22yr 4mth	4 Jun 1998	198cm	96kg	Forward
35	McAsey, Fischer	10	19yr 7mth	8 Mar 2001	197cm	91kg	Defender
36	McPherson, Andrew	9	21yr 3mth	20 Jun 1999	186cm	79kg	Defender
37	O'Connor, Ronin	0	19yr 8mth	1 Feb 2001	191cm	85kg	Midfield
38	Sholl, Lachlan	8	20yr 7mth	7 Mar 2000	185cm	77kg	Defender
39	Doedee, Tom	30	23yr 7mth	1 Mar 1997	188cm	88kg	Defender
40	Davis, Ben	2	23yr 4mth	19 May 1997	187cm	85kg	Forward
41	Butts, Jordon R	2	20yr 9mth	31 Dec 1999	198cm	83kg	Defender
42	Taylor, Ayce R	0	20yr	26 Sep 2000	190cm	81kg	Defender
43	O'Brien, Reilly	37	25yr 1mth	20 Aug 1995	202cm	101kg	Ruck
44	Gollant, Lachlan	0	19yr	12 Sep 2001	191cm	72kg	Defender
							Midfield
45	Strachan, Kieran R	1	25yr	5 Oct 1995	204cm	95kg	Forward Ruck



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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - TACKLES PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	4.56
2	Rory Sloane	12	4.08
3	Rory Laird	17	4.06
4	Reilly O'Brien	17	4.00
5	Brad Crouch	12	3.75
6	Ben Keays	16	3.31
7	Lachlan Murphy	12	3.17
8	Paul Seedsman	9	3.11
9	Shane McAdam	13	2.92
10	Ned McHenry	8	2.88
11	Jake Kelly	15	2.53
12	Ben Crocker	7	2.43
13	Myles Pohlke	5	2.40
14	Brodie Smith	16	2.38
15	Darcy Fogarty	10	2.20
16	Tyson Stengle	12	2.08
17	Luke Brown	17	2.06
18	Harry Schoenberg	8	1.88
19	Chayce Jones	15	1.87
20	Elliott Himmelberg	11	1.82
21	Will Hamill	8	1.75
22	Andrew McPherson	9	1.67
22	Tom Doedee	9	1.67

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - EFFECTIVE DISPOSALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	18.62
2	Rory Laird	17	16.94
3	Brad Crouch	12	13.92
4	Tom Lynch	13	12.15
5	David MacKay	10	12.00
6	Brodie Smith	16	11.94
7	Ben Keays	16	11.88
8	Tom Doedee	9	11.78
9	Paul Seedsman	9	11.56
10	Rory Sloane	12	11.17
11	Luke Brown	17	9.94
12	Andrew McPherson	9	9.78
13	Lachlan Sholl	8	9.25
14	Reilly O'Brien	17	8.29
15	Harry Schoenberg	8	8.00
16	Kyle Hartigan	12	7.08
17	Daniel Talia	14	6.93
18	Jake Kelly	15	6.80
19	Tyson Stengle	12	6.75

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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - SCORE INVOLVEMENTS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	4.12
2	Elliott Himmelberg	11	4.09
3	Shane McAdam	13	3.77
3	Tom Lynch	13	3.77
5	Rory Sloane	12	3.58
6	Lachlan Murphy	12	3.42
7	Paul Seedsman	9	3.33
7	Tyson Stengle	12	3.33
9	Ben Crocker	7	3.29
10	Billy Frampton	5	3.20
11	Ben Keays	16	3.19
12	Rory Laird	17	3.18
13	Brad Crouch	12	3.17
14	Taylor Walker	14	3.07
15	Brodie Smith	16	3.06
16	Darcy Fogarty	10	3.00
17	Harry Schoenberg	8	2.88
17	Reilly O'Brien	17	2.88
19	David MacKay	10	2.80
19	Myles Pohlke	5	2.80
21	Lachlan Sholl	8	2.38
22	Andrew McPherson	9	2.33

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - CLEARANCES PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Brad Crouch	12	5.00
2	Matt Crouch	16	4.25
3	Rory Sloane	12	3.50
4	Rory Laird	17	3.06
5	Ben Keays	16	2.94
6	Reilly O'Brien	17	1.65
7	Harry Schoenberg	8	1.62
8	Myles Pohlke	5	1.40
9	Paul Seedsman	9	1.33
10	Lachlan Sholl	8	1.25
11	Chayce Jones	15	1.20
12	Tom Lynch	13	1.00
12	Brodie Smith	16	1.00
14	Elliott Himmelberg	11	0.82
15	Ned McHenry	8	0.75
15	Tyson Stengle	12	0.75
17	Ben Crocker	7	0.57
18	David MacKay	10	0.50
19	Luke Brown	17	0.41

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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - CONTESTED POSSESSIONS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Brad Crouch	12	10.25
2	Matt Crouch	16	9.69
3	Rory Laird	17	8.82
4	Rory Sloane	12	8.42
5	Reilly O'Brien	17	7.47
6	Ben Keays	16	6.81
7	Harry Schoenberg	8	5.88
8	Elliott Himmelberg	11	5.73
9	Andrew McPherson	9	5.11
10	Tom Lynch	13	5.00
11	Tom Doedee	9	4.89
12	Darcy Fogarty	10	4.70
13	Shane McAdam	13	4.62
14	Myles Pohlke	5	4.60
15	Chayce Jones	15	4.53
16	David MacKay	10	4.50
17	Tyson Stengle	12	4.42
18	Paul Seedsman	9	4.33
19	Brodie Smith	16	4.25
20	Taylor Walker	14	4.14
21	Ned McHenry	8	4.12
22	Lachlan Murphy	12	4.08

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - METRES GAINED PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Brodie Smith	16	454.75
2	Paul Seedsman	9	319.56
3	Tom Lynch	13	303.38
4	Rory Laird	17	289.24
5	Brad Crouch	12	263.33
6	David MacKay	10	257.40
7	Luke Brown	17	256.47
8	Lachlan Sholl	8	256.25
9	Matt Crouch	16	245.94
10	Rory Sloane	12	245.25
11	Ben Keays	16	229.25
12	Tom Doedee	9	222.67
13	Taylor Walker	14	175.93
14	Myles Pohlke	5	174.40
15	Ben Crocker	7	168.14
16	Kyle Hartigan	12	159.00
17	Andrew McPherson	9	158.89
18	Shane McAdam	13	158.23
19	Daniel Talia	14	156.00

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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - EFFECTIVE DISPOSALS % PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Luke Brown	17	85.76
2	Tom Doedee	9	82.21
3	Jake Kelly	15	81.63
4	Daniel Talia	14	78.22
5	David MacKay	10	77.42
6	Andrew McPherson	9	77.19
7	Kyle Hartigan	12	75.88
8	Will Hamill	8	75.06
9	Rory Laird	17	74.04
10	Darcy Fogarty	10	72.60
11	Paul Seedsman	9	72.25
12	Ben Keays	16	71.74
13	Matt Crouch	16	71.29
14	Tom Lynch	13	71.14
15	Rory Sloane	12	70.56
16	Lachlan Sholl	8	70.50
17	Brodie Smith	16	69.46
18	Lachlan Murphy	12	69.41
19	Tyson Stengle	12	69.23
20	Harry Schoenberg	8	68.09
21	Chayce Jones	15	68.02
22	Elliott Himmelberg	11	67.95

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - DISPOSALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	26.12
2	Rory Laird	17	22.88
3	Brad Crouch	12	22.00
4	Brodie Smith	16	17.19
5	Tom Lynch	13	17.08
6	Ben Keays	16	16.56
7	Paul Seedsman	9	16.00
8	Rory Sloane	12	15.83
9	David MacKay	10	15.50
10	Tom Doedee	9	14.33
11	Reilly O'Brien	17	13.65
12	Lachlan Sholl	8	13.12
13	Andrew McPherson	9	12.67
14	Harry Schoenberg	8	11.75
15	Luke Brown	17	11.59
16	Myles Pohlke	5	10.40
17	Tyson Stengle	12	9.75
18	Elliott Himmelberg	11	9.64
19	Shane McAdam	13	9.38

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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - KICKS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Brodie Smith	16	12.69
2	Brad Crouch	12	11.33
3	Tom Lynch	13	11.08
4	Rory Laird	17	10.94
5	Matt Crouch	16	10.12
6	Ben Keays	16	9.19
7	Lachlan Sholl	8	9.00
8	Paul Seedsman	9	8.78
9	Tom Doedee	9	8.33
10	Luke Brown	17	8.29
11	Rory Sloane	12	7.67
12	David MacKay	10	7.30
13	Ben Crocker	7	6.43
14	Reilly O'Brien	17	6.29
15	Andrew McPherson	9	6.22
16	Shane McAdam	13	6.08
17	Daniel Talia	14	5.93
18	Myles Pohlke	5	5.80
19	Kyle Hartigan	12	5.75
20	Jake Kelly	15	5.73
21	Tyson Stengle	12	5.50
22	Taylor Walker	14	5.29
23	Elliott Himmelberg	11	5.27
24	Harry Schoenberg	8	5.00
25	Lachlan Murphy	12	4.75
26	Billy Frampton	5	4.40
27	Chayce Jones	15	4.27

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - GOALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Taylor Walker	14	1.07
2	Billy Frampton	5	1.00
3	Shane McAdam	13	0.92
4	Elliott Himmelberg	11	0.82
5	Darcy Fogarty	10	0.80
6	Tyson Stengle	12	0.67
7	Lachlan Murphy	12	0.58
8	Ben Crocker	7	0.57
9	Tom Lynch	13	0.46
10	Paul Seedsman	9	0.44
11	Rory Sloane	12	0.42
12	Chayce Jones	15	0.40
12	Myles Pohlke	5	0.40

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ADELAIDE CROWS IN 2020

2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - AFL FANTASY SCORE PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	88.38
2	Reilly O'Brien	17	86.76
3	Rory Laird	17	79.94
4	Brad Crouch	12	74.17
5	Brodie Smith	16	68.25
6	Tom Lynch	13	63.77
7	Ben Keays	16	63.75
8	Paul Seedsman	9	63.56
9	Rory Sloane	12	60.75
10	Tom Doedee	9	59.00
11	Shane McAdam	13	52.62
12	David MacKay	10	51.80
13	Elliott Himmelberg	11	50.09
14	Lachlan Sholl	8	49.25
15	Luke Brown	17	47.06
16	Andrew McPherson	9	46.56
17	Ben Crocker	7	46.00
18	Myles Pohlke	5	45.00
19	Lachlan Murphy	12	43.75
20	Harry Schoenberg	8	41.25
21	Tyson Stengle	12	40.58
22	Billy Frampton	5	40.40
23	Jake Kelly	15	39.60

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2020 ADELAIDE CROWS - SUPERCOACH SCORE PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Matt Crouch	16	110.69
2	Reilly O'Brien	17	106.24
3	Rory Laird	17	105.12
4	Rory Sloane	12	87.83
5	Tom Doedee	9	85.22
6	Brad Crouch	12	83.50
7	Brodie Smith	16	81.56
8	Ben Keays	16	81.19
9	Paul Seedsman	9	80.00
10	Tom Lynch	13	75.92
11	David MacKay	10	73.20
12	Andrew McPherson	9	68.56
13	Luke Brown	17	67.65
14	Elliott Himmelberg	11	66.64
15	Shane McAdam	13	66.00
15	Daniel Talia	14	66.00
17	Lachlan Sholl	8	63.88
18	Lachlan Murphy	12	61.17
19	Harry Schoenberg	8	58.75

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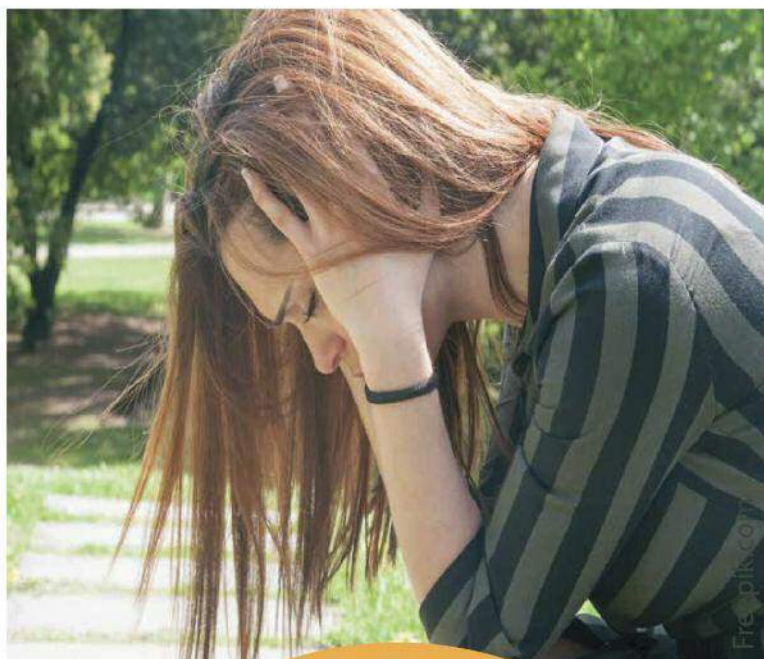
“ At ONE Life Community Assist, people are treated with honour and respect. ”

Our aim is to provide a multifaceted range of unique and compassionate services that offer hope and opportunity to those facing personal challenges and hardship.



PURPOSE /VISION

To provide a multifaceted range of unique and compassionate services that offer hope and opportunity to those facing personal challenges and hardship



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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

ALL THE STATISTICS FOR EVERY PORT ADELAIDE PLAYER ON THE LIST IN 2020

No	Player Name	Games	Age	DOB	Height	Weight	Position
1	Jonas, Thomas	158	29yr 9mth	9 Jan 1991	188cm	89kg	Defender
2	Powell-Pepper, Sam	76	22yr 9mth	8 Jan 1998	187cm	91kg	Midfield
3	Burton, Ryan	71	23yr 8mth	31 Jan 1997	191cm	90kg	Forward
4	Marshall, Todd	34	22yr	8 Oct 1998	198cm	87kg	Defender
5	Houston, Dan	77	23yr 5mth	12 May 1997	186cm	83kg	Forward
6	Motlop, Steven	184	29yr 7mth	12 Mar 1991	183cm	76kg	Defender Midfield
7	Ebert, Brad	260	30yr 6mth	2 Apr 1990	189cm	90kg	Forward
8	Hartlett, Hamish	183	30yr 2mth	14 Aug 1990	185cm	83kg	Forward
9	Gray, Robbie	237	32yr 6mth	30 Mar 1988	183cm	84kg	Defender
10	Boak, Travis	283	32yr 2mth	1 Aug 1988	183cm	85kg	Midfield Forward
11	Rockliff, Tom	206	30yr 7mth	22 Feb 1990	185cm	85kg	Midfield
12	McKenzie, Trent	125	28yr 6mth	3 Apr 1992	191cm	83kg	Defender
13	Buzza, Wylie	9	24yr 7mth	2 Mar 1996	199cm	103kg	Forward
14	Bergman, Miles	0	19yr	18 Oct 2001	186cm	75kg	Forward
15	Amon, Karl	78	25yr 2mth	19 Aug 1995	181cm	71kg	Midfield
16	Wines, Oliver	158	26yr	7 Oct 1994	187cm	89kg	Midfield
17	Clurey, Tom	99	26yr 6mth	23 Mar 1994	193cm	88kg	Defender
18	Butters, Zak	36	20yr 1mth	8 Sep 2000	181cm	71kg	Forward
19	Georgiades, Mitch	7	19yr	28 Sep 2001	191cm	78kg	Forward
20	Rozee, Connor	38	20yr 8mth	22 Jan 2000	185cm	74kg	Forward
21	Duursma, Xavier	35	20yr 3mth	7 Jul 2000	186cm	73kg	Midfield
22	Dixon, Charlie	153	30yr	23 Sep 1990	200cm	105kg	Forward
23	Watts, Jack	174	29yr 6mth	26 Mar 1991	196cm	88kg	Defender
24	Farrell, Kane	23	21yr 7mth	17 Mar 1999	182cm	74kg	Forward
25	Hayes, Sam	0	21yr 4mth	9 Jun 1999	203cm	93kg	Ruck
26	Bonner, Riley	51	23yr 7mth	7 Mar 1997	190cm	85kg	Defender
27	Garner, Joel	4	21yr 4mth	21 May 1999	184cm	83kg	Defender
28	Drew, Willem	10	22yr	1 Oct 1998	188cm	78kg	Midfield
29	Lycett, Scott	108	28yr	26 Sep 1992	203cm	98kg	Ruck
30	Atley, Joe	4	22yr 2mth	4 Aug 1998	186cm	84kg	Midfield
31	Burgoyne, Trent R	0	19yr	2 Oct 2001	177cm	70kg	Forward
32	Mayes, Sam	107	26yr 4mth	20 May 1994	187cm	84kg	Midfield
33	Byrne-Jones, Darcy	105	25yr	20 Sep 1995	181cm	75kg	Defender
34	Williams, Dylan	0	19yr 3mth	1 Jul 2001	185cm	79kg	Midfield Forward
36	Woodcock, Boyd R	5	20yr 7mth	5 Mar 2000	179cm	76kg	Forward
37	Patmore, Jake	0	21yr 8mth	29 Jan 1999	181cm	72kg	Midfield Forward
38	Ladhams, Peter	15	22yr 9mth	14 Jan 1998	202cm	95kg	Forward Ruck
39	Westhoff, Justin	280	34yr	1 Oct 1986	199cm	96kg	Midfield Forward
40	Lienert, Jarrod	18	26yr 2mth	5 Aug 1994	195cm	88kg	Defender
41	Grundy, Riley R	0	20yr 2mth	28 Jul 2000	194cm	86kg	Defender
44	Mead, Jackson	0	19yr	30 Sep 2001	184cm	83kg	Midfield
45	Frederick, Martin	0	20yr 5mth	17 May 2000	178cm	74kg	Defender
47	Cox, Tobin	0	21yr 3mth	15 Jul 1999	181cm	73kg	Forward
48	Pasini, Jake R	0	19yr 8mth	6 Feb 2001	192cm	81kg	Defender
50	Sutcliffe, Cameron	113	28yr 4mth	23 May 1992	186cm	88kg	Forward



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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - TACKLES PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Tom Rockliff	16	6.25
2	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	4.05
3	Travis Boak	19	3.79
3	Brad Ebert	14	3.79
5	Oliver Wines	17	3.76
6	Connor Rozee	16	3.25
7	Robbie Gray	19	3.00
8	Karl Amon	19	2.89
9	Dan Houston	17	2.88
10	Sam Mayes	6	2.83
11	Hamish Hartlett	19	2.79
12	Zak Butters	17	2.76
13	Kane Farrell	11	2.73
14	Scott Lycett	15	2.60
15	Todd Marshall	14	2.50
16	Xavier Duursma	15	2.40
17	Justin Westhoff	12	2.17
18	Mitch Georgiades	7	2.00
19	Peter Ladhams	10	1.90
20	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	1.79
21	Steven Motlop	14	1.71
22	Charlie Dixon	18	1.67

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - EFFECTIVE DISPOSALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Travis Boak	19	15.63
2	Tom Rockliff	16	15.31
3	Oliver Wines	17	15.06
4	Dan Houston	17	12.76
5	Robbie Gray	19	11.84
6	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	11.79
7	Hamish Hartlett	19	11.26
8	Zak Butters	17	11.12
9	Karl Amon	19	11.00
10	Jarrold Lienert	5	10.80
11	Sam Mayes	6	10.67
12	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	10.42
13	Riley Bonner	9	10.33
14	Xavier Duursma	15	9.67
15	Peter Ladhams	10	9.40
16	Trent McKenzie	17	9.35
17	Ryan Burton	8	9.12
18	Brad Ebert	14	9.00
19	Connor Rozee	16	8.88

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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - SCORE INVOLVEMENTS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Robbie Gray	19	5.26
2	Charlie Dixon	18	5.22
3	Travis Boak	19	5.11
4	Zak Butters	17	5.00
5	Brad Ebert	14	4.36
6	Oliver Wines	17	4.29
7	Connor Rozee	16	3.94
8	Steven Motlop	14	3.93
9	Boyd Woodcock	5	3.80
10	Mitch Georgiades	7	3.71
11	Karl Amon	19	3.63
12	Tom Rockliff	16	3.62
13	Scott Lycett	15	3.53
14	Kane Farrell	11	3.45
15	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	3.42
16	Justin Westhoff	12	3.33
17	Todd Marshall	14	3.29
18	Peter Ladhams	10	3.00
19	Xavier Duursma	15	2.87
20	Sam Mayes	6	2.83
21	Hamish Hartlett	19	2.74
22	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	2.63

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - CLEARANCES PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Travis Boak	19	5.00
2	Oliver Wines	17	4.82
3	Tom Rockliff	16	4.12
4	Scott Lycett	15	3.47
5	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	2.74
6	Robbie Gray	19	2.37
6	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	2.37
8	Peter Ladhams	10	2.10
9	Karl Amon	19	1.47
10	Connor Rozee	16	1.38
11	Zak Butters	17	1.35
12	Dan Houston	17	1.29
13	Xavier Duursma	15	1.07
14	Hamish Hartlett	19	0.95
15	Brad Ebert	14	0.93
16	Justin Westhoff	12	0.75
17	Sam Mayes	6	0.67
17	Riley Bonner	9	0.67
19	Charlie Dixon	18	0.61

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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - CONTESTED POSSESSIONS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Oliver Wines	17	10.65
2	Travis Boak	19	10.00
3	Tom Rockliff	16	9.19
4	Peter Ladhams	10	7.70
5	Robbie Gray	19	7.32
6	Charlie Dixon	18	6.94
7	Scott Lycett	15	6.93
8	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	6.89
9	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	6.63
10	Zak Butters	17	6.29
11	Brad Ebert	14	6.14
12	Dan Houston	17	5.94
13	Xavier Duursma	15	5.40
14	Connor Rozee	16	5.19
15	Hamish Hartlett	19	4.63
16	Steven Motlop	14	4.50
17	Karl Amon	19	4.47
18	Thomas Jonas	19	4.42
19	Justin Westhoff	12	4.33
20	Mitch Georgiades	7	4.29
21	Todd Marshall	14	3.71
21	Trent McKenzie	17	3.71

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - METRES GAINED PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Dan Houston	17	339.00
2	Karl Amon	19	330.00
3	Travis Boak	19	326.00
4	Jarrold Lienert	5	307.80
5	Sam Mayes	6	298.67
6	Oliver Wines	17	297.82
7	Riley Bonner	9	291.44
8	Trent McKenzie	17	281.94
9	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	261.42
10	Tom Rockliff	16	248.94
11	Brad Ebert	14	247.21
12	Hamish Hartlett	19	245.84
13	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	223.68
14	Xavier Duursma	15	216.67
15	Ryan Burton	8	209.50
16	Thomas Jonas	19	174.37
17	Boyd Woodcock	5	172.80
18	Connor Rozee	16	170.06
19	Zak Butters	17	167.41

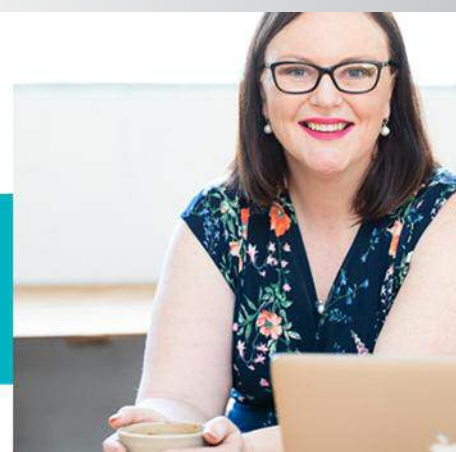
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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - EFFECTIVE DISPOSALS % PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Jarrod Lienert	5	85.71
2	Thomas Jonas	19	81.09
3	Tom Clurey	18	80.67
4	Trent McKenzie	17	80.67
5	Sam Mayes	6	78.05
6	Zak Butters	17	76.22
7	Riley Bonner	9	76.18
8	Hamish Hartlett	19	76.13
9	Steven Motlop	14	75.69
10	Dan Houston	17	74.01
11	Xavier Duursma	15	73.65
12	Justin Westhoff	12	72.96
13	Ryan Burton	8	72.27
14	Robbie Gray	19	71.41
15	Peter Ladhams	10	71.21
16	Boyd Woodcock	5	71.15
17	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	70.69
18	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	69.80
19	Kane Farrell	11	69.58
20	Oliver Wines	17	69.02
21	Connor Rozee	16	68.94
22	Karl Amon	19	68.28

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - DISPOSALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Travis Boak	19	22.95
2	Tom Rockliff	16	22.81
3	Oliver Wines	17	21.82
4	Dan Houston	17	17.24
5	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	16.89
6	Robbie Gray	19	16.58
7	Karl Amon	19	16.11
8	Brad Ebert	14	14.79
8	Hamish Hartlett	19	14.79
10	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	14.74
11	Zak Butters	17	14.59
12	Sam Mayes	6	13.67
13	Riley Bonner	9	13.56
14	Peter Ladhams	10	13.20
15	Xavier Duursma	15	13.13
16	Connor Rozee	16	12.88
17	Ryan Burton	8	12.62
18	Jarrod Lienert	5	12.60
19	Trent McKenzie	17	11.59

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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - KICKS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Dan Houston	17	12.41
2	Tom Rockliff	16	11.94
3	Travis Boak	19	11.42
4	Riley Bonner	9	10.78
5	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	10.74
6	Karl Amon	19	10.47
7	Oliver Wines	17	10.41
8	Trent McKenzie	17	9.94
9	Brad Ebert	14	9.36
10	Ryan Burton	8	9.25
11	Jarrod Lienert	5	9.20
12	Hamish Hartlett	19	9.16
13	Sam Mayes	6	8.33
14	Xavier Duursma	15	7.60
15	Zak Butters	17	7.59
16	Tom Clurey	18	7.50
17	Thomas Jonas	19	7.26
18	Robbie Gray	19	6.68
19	Connor Rozee	16	6.62
20	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	6.47
21	Justin Westhoff	12	6.42
22	Charlie Dixon	18	6.11
23	Peter Ladhams	10	6.00
23	Todd Marshall	14	6.00
25	Steven Motlop	14	5.93

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - GOALS PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Charlie Dixon	18	1.89
2	Mitch Georgiades	7	1.14
3	Steven Motlop	14	0.93
4	Justin Westhoff	12	0.83
5	Brad Ebert	14	0.79
5	Todd Marshall	14	0.79
5	Robbie Gray	19	0.79
8	Zak Butters	17	0.65
9	Peter Ladhams	10	0.60
9	Boyd Woodcock	5	0.60
11	Connor Rozee	16	0.56
12	Kane Farrell	11	0.55
13	Oliver Wines	17	0.47
13	Xavier Duursma	15	0.47
15	Travis Boak	19	0.42
16	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	0.37

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PORT ADELAIDE IN 2020

2020 PORT ADELAIDE - AFL FANTASY SCORE PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Tom Rockliff	16	90.31
2	Travis Boak	19	83.05
3	Oliver Wines	17	77.12
4	Dan Houston	17	71.24
5	Brad Ebert	14	70.14
6	Scott Lycett	15	65.07
7	Karl Amon	19	63.47
8	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	61.68
9	Robbie Gray	19	60.89
10	Zak Butters	17	60.88
11	Hamish Hartlett	19	60.58
12	Sam Mayes	6	57.67
13	Peter Ladhams	10	57.60
14	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	57.53
15	Charlie Dixon	18	56.89
16	Xavier Duursma	15	56.53
17	Connor Rozee	16	55.31
18	Justin Westhoff	12	54.42
19	Trent McKenzie	17	49.76
20	Riley Bonner	9	49.44
21	Ryan Burton	8	49.12
22	Mitch Georgiades	7	45.86

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2020 PORT ADELAIDE - SUPERCOACH SCORE PER GAME LEADERS

Rank	Name	Games	Average
1	Travis Boak	19	108.47
2	Tom Rockliff	16	107.12
3	Oliver Wines	17	104.24
4	Scott Lycett	15	95.20
5	Dan Houston	17	91.53
6	Robbie Gray	19	90.47
7	Charlie Dixon	18	88.39
8	Brad Ebert	14	86.43
9	Zak Butters	17	85.82
10	Peter Ladhams	10	81.90
11	Darcy Byrne-Jones	19	81.05
12	Karl Amon	19	79.00
13	Hamish Hartlett	19	78.53
14	Sam Powell-Pepper	19	75.11
15	Xavier Duursma	15	73.67
16	Thomas Jonas	19	73.32
17	Trent McKenzie	17	71.29
18	Sam Mayes	6	70.83
19	Connor Rozee	16	70.25

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AFL INFORMATION IN 2020

AFL National Draft held at the end of Season 2020

Round	Pick	Drafted By	Player	Current Team	Games Since Drafted
1	1	Gold Coast	Matt Rowell	Gold Coast	5
1	2	Gold Coast	Noah Anderson	Gold Coast	17
1	3	Melbourne	Luke Jackson	Melbourne	6
1	4	GWS	Lachlan Ash	GWS	12
1	5	Sydney	Dylan Stephens	Sydney	8
1	6	Adelaide	Fischer McAsey	Adelaide	10
1	7	Fremantle	Hayden Young	Fremantle	5
1	8	Fremantle	Caleb Serong	Fremantle	14
1	9	Fremantle	Liam Henry A	Fremantle	3
1	10	GWS	Tom Green A	GWS	6
1	11	Gold Coast	Sam Flanders	Gold Coast	5
1	12	Melbourne	Kysaiah Pickett	Melbourne	14
1	13	Hawthorn	Will Day	Hawthorn	11
1	14	Port Adelaide	Miles Bergman	Port Adelaide	0
1	15	Western Bulldogs	Cody Weightman	Western Bulldogs	3
1	16	Geelong	Cooper Stephens	Geelong	0
1	17	Carlton	Brodie Kemp	Carlton	0
1	18	Port Adelaide	Mitch Georgiades	Port Adelaide	7
1	19	Geelong	Sam De Koning	Geelong	0
1	20	Carlton	Sam Philp	Carlton	2
1	21	Richmond	Thomson Dow	Richmond	2
1	22	Brisbane	Deven Robertson	Brisbane	1
2	23	Port Adelaide	Dylan Williams	Port Adelaide	0
2	24	Adelaide	Harry Schoenberg	Adelaide	8
2	25	Port Adelaide	Jackson Mead F	Port Adelaide	0
2	26	Sydney	Will Gould	Sydney	0
2	27	Gold Coast	Jeremy Sharp	Gold Coast	2
2	28	Adelaide	Josh Worrell	Adelaide	0
2	29	Hawthorn	Finn Maginness F	Hawthorn	1
2	30	Essendon	Harrison Jones	Essendon	0
2	31	North Melbourne	Charlie Comben	North Melbourne	0
2	32	Melbourne	Trent Rivers	Melbourne	9
2	33	Brisbane	Brock Smith	Brisbane	0
2	34	North Melbourne	Jack Mahony	North Melbourne	10
2	35	North Melbourne	Flynn Perez	North Melbourne	3
2	36	Sydney	Elijah Taylor	Sydney	4
2	37	Brisbane	Keidean Coleman A	Brisbane	5
2	38	Essendon	Nick Bryan	Essendon	0
2	39	Sydney	Chad Warner	Sydney	2
2	40	Collingwood	Jay Rantall	Collingwood	0
2	41	Geelong	Francis Evans	Geelong	0
2	42	Adelaide	Ronin O'Connor	Adelaide	0
2	43	Richmond	Noah Cumberland A	Richmond	0
2	44	Richmond	Will Martyn A	Richmond	0
3	45	Collingwood	Trent Bianco	Collingwood	0
3	46	Richmond	Hugo Ralphsmith	Richmond	0



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AFL INFORMATION IN 2020

AFL Coaches Records and Statistics

	Coach	Games	Wins	Losses	Draws	Win %
1	Adam Simpson	160	104	55	1	65.0%
2	Alastair Clarkson	368	221	145	2	60.1%
3	Brett Ratten	145	74	70	1	51.0%
4	Chris Fagan	86	41	45	0	47.7%
5	Chris Scott	234	161	71	2	68.8%
6	Damien Hardwick	250	143	104	3	57.2%
7	David Teague	28	13	15	0	46.4%
8	John Longmire	235	144	89	2	61.3%
9	John Worsfold	387	193	191	3	49.9%
10	Justin Longmuir	17	7	10	0	41.2%
11	Ken Hinkley	178	103	75	0	57.9%
12	Leon Cameron	160	87	70	3	54.4%
13	Luke Beveridge	134	74	60	0	55.2%
14	Matthew Nicks	17	3	14	0	17.6%
15	Nathan Buckley	205	113	90	2	55.1%
16	Rhyce Shaw	29	10	19	0	34.5%
17	Simon Goodwin	87	42	45	0	48.3%
18	Stuart Dew	61	12	48	1	19.7%

2020 AFL Attendances

Team	Games	Total	Average
ALL	0	0	0

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SUPER COACH RANKINGS

2020 Supercoach Player Rankings for the last round played - TOP 44 PLAYERS

Rank	Player	Team	Current Salary	2020 R18 Salary	2020 R18 Score	*2020 R18 Value
<i>*Values are points scored per \$100,000 salary</i>						
1	Thomas Liberatore	Bulldogs	\$545,200	\$545,200	196	36.0
2	Jed Anderson	Kangaroos	\$542,600	\$542,600	174	32.1
3	Patrick Dangerfield	Cats	\$591,400	\$591,400	170	28.7
4	Lachlan Hunter	Bulldogs	\$575,300	\$575,300	156	27.1
5	Jack Steele	Saints	\$629,500	\$629,500	149	23.7
6	Daniel Rich	Lions	\$467,500	\$467,500	148	31.7
7	Tom Rockliff	Power	\$582,100	\$582,100	144	24.7
7	Jy Simpkin	Kangaroos	\$398,500	\$398,500	144	36.1
9	Timothy English	Bulldogs	\$491,000	\$491,000	143	29.1
10	Lachie Neale	Lions	\$592,400	\$592,400	142	24.0
11	Shannon Hurn	Eagles	\$454,600	\$454,600	138	30.4
12	Jack Gunston	Hawks	\$424,700	\$424,700	134	31.6
13	Luke McDonald	Kangaroos	\$542,000	\$542,000	131	24.2
14	Tom Mitchell	Hawks	\$542,800	\$542,800	130	23.9
14	Christian Petracca	Demons	\$564,900	\$564,900	130	23.0
16	Reilly O'Brien	Crows	\$537,500	\$537,500	129	24.0
17	Luke Parker	Swans	\$523,300	\$523,300	127	24.3
17	Jared Polec	Kangaroos	\$420,900	\$420,900	127	30.2
19	Dylan Shiel	Bombers	\$482,000	\$482,000	125	25.9
20	Dylan Moore	Hawks	\$284,600	\$284,600	123	43.2
20	Steven May	Demons	\$499,300	\$499,300	123	24.6
20	Andrew Gaff	Eagles	\$535,300	\$535,300	123	23.0
23	Caleb Serong	Dockers	\$420,700	\$420,700	122	29.0
23	Brodie Grundy	Magpies	\$563,200	\$563,200	122	21.7
23	Oscar Allen	Eagles	\$341,100	\$341,100	122	35.8
23	Nicholas Naitanui	Eagles	\$567,700	\$567,700	122	21.5
27	Luke Ryan	Dockers	\$551,200	\$551,200	121	22.0
27	Scott Pendlebury	Magpies	\$570,600	\$570,600	121	21.2
27	Max Gawn	Demons	\$678,000	\$678,000	121	17.8
27	David Swallow	Suns	\$396,100	\$396,100	121	30.5
31	Taylor Adams	Magpies	\$517,100	\$517,100	120	23.2
31	Nathan Fyfe	Dockers	\$549,200	\$549,200	120	21.8
31	Lachie Whitfield	Giants	\$558,900	\$558,900	120	21.5
34	Liam Shiels	Hawks	\$373,400	\$373,400	119	31.9
34	Sam Walsh	Blues	\$586,900	\$586,900	119	20.3
34	Zachary Merrett	Bombers	\$603,100	\$603,100	119	19.7
37	Rowan Marshall	Saints	\$526,000	\$526,000	118	22.4
37	Dan Houston	Power	\$479,200	\$479,200	118	24.6
37	Luke Breust	Hawks	\$405,000	\$405,000	118	29.1
40	Dustin Martin	Tigers	\$471,700	\$471,700	116	24.6
41	David Cuningham	Blues	\$294,800	\$294,800	115	39.0
41	Brayden Maynard	Magpies	\$488,100	\$488,100	115	23.6
41	Stephen Coniglio	Giants	\$455,900	\$455,900	115	25.2
44	Cameron Rayner	Lions	\$387,900	\$387,900	114	29.4
44	Jake Lever	Demons	\$390,300	\$390,300	114	29.2



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FANTASY PLAYER RANKINGS

2020 AFL Fantasy Player Rankings for the last round - TOP 44 PLAYERS

Rank	Player	Team	Current Salary	2020 R18 Salary	2020 R18 Score	*2020 R18 Value
<i>Values are points scored per \$100,000 salary</i>						
1	Taylor Adams	Magpies	\$791,000	\$791,000	120	15.2
2	Lachlan Hunter	Bulldogs	\$820,000	\$820,000	119	14.5
3	Tom Mitchell	Hawks	\$778,000	\$778,000	115	14.8
3	Zachary Merrett	Bombers	\$860,000	\$860,000	115	13.4
5	Lachie Whitfield	Giants	\$784,000	\$784,000	113	14.4
6	Reilly O'Brien	Crows	\$785,000	\$785,000	112	14.3
7	Jack Gunston	Hawks	\$538,000	\$538,000	110	20.4
8	Dan Houston	Power	\$647,000	\$647,000	107	16.5
9	Ed Langdon	Demons	\$688,000	\$688,000	106	15.4
10	Tom Rockliff	Power	\$840,000	\$840,000	105	12.5
11	Caleb Serong	Dockers	\$613,000	\$613,000	101	16.5
11	Sam Menegola	Cats	\$749,000	\$749,000	101	13.5
13	Jy Simpkin	Kangaroos	\$559,000	\$559,000	100	17.9
14	Thomas Liberatore	Bulldogs	\$634,000	\$634,000	98	15.5
14	Jake Lloyd	Swans	\$829,000	\$829,000	98	11.8
16	Mitchell Brown	Demons	\$472,000	\$472,000	97	20.6
17	Dylan Moore	Hawks	\$395,000	\$395,000	96	24.3
17	Jed Anderson	Kangaroos	\$747,000	\$747,000	96	12.9
19	Dustin Martin	Tigers	\$642,000	\$642,000	94	14.6
20	Josh Kennedy	Swans	\$715,000	\$715,000	93	13.0
21	Brodie Grundy	Magpies	\$757,000	\$757,000	92	12.2
21	Jackson Nelson	Eagles	\$494,000	\$494,000	92	18.6
21	Christian Salem	Demons	\$624,000	\$624,000	92	14.7
21	Christian Petracca	Demons	\$721,000	\$721,000	92	12.8
25	Darcy Byrne-Jones	Power	\$545,000	\$545,000	91	16.7
25	Luke Ryan	Dockers	\$622,000	\$622,000	91	14.6
25	Matt Crouch	Crows	\$851,000	\$851,000	91	10.7
25	James Cousins	Hawks	\$574,000	\$574,000	91	15.9
29	Lachie Neale	Lions	\$778,000	\$778,000	90	11.6
29	Shannon Hurn	Eagles	\$578,000	\$578,000	90	15.6
29	Patrick Dangerfield	Cats	\$734,000	\$734,000	90	12.3
29	Harry Perryman	Giants	\$595,000	\$595,000	90	15.1
29	Nathan Fyfe	Dockers	\$653,000	\$653,000	90	13.8
29	Kane Lambert	Tigers	\$527,000	\$527,000	90	17.1
35	Andrew Gaff	Eagles	\$747,000	\$747,000	89	11.9
35	Rowan Marshall	Saints	\$681,000	\$681,000	89	13.1
37	Jared Polec	Kangaroos	\$592,000	\$592,000	88	14.9
37	Timothy English	Bulldogs	\$606,000	\$606,000	88	14.5
39	Matthew Kennedy	Blues	\$536,000	\$536,000	87	16.2
39	Jack Crisp	Magpies	\$749,000	\$749,000	87	11.6
39	Shaun Higgins	Kangaroos	\$659,000	\$659,000	87	13.2
39	Tom Lynch	Crows	\$550,000	\$550,000	87	15.8
43	Jack Steele	Saints	\$809,000	\$809,000	86	10.6
44	Liam Shiels	Hawks	\$579,000	\$579,000	85	14.7



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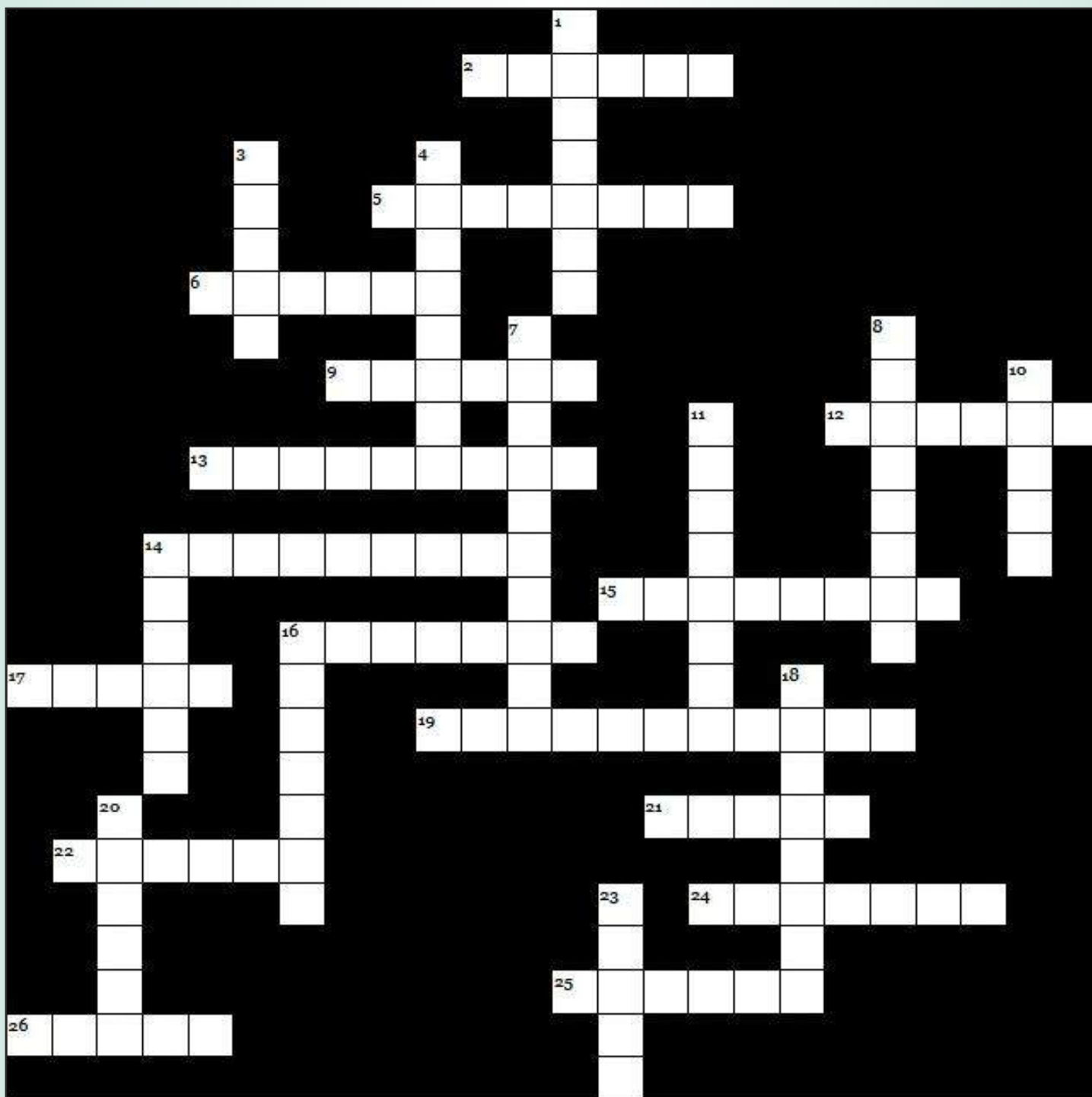
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CROSSWORD - The 80's Part 1



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CROSSWORD - The 80's Part 1

All the clues to solve the weekly puzzle

ACROSS

- 2 Nickname of Hawthorn's best and fairest winner in 1983
5 Hawthorn player who kicked 6 goals in the 1983 Grand Final
6 Only North Melbourne player to kick 100 goals in a season in the 80's
9 The nickname given to Dermott Brereton (3,3)
12 Youngest of all the Brownlow medal winners in the 1980s
13 Collective term of official Swans Cheerleaders
14 Jim Stynes bought this player 15 metres closer to goal in a 1987 preliminary final
15 Surname of brothers who starred for North Melbourne from 1982-89
16 In 1982 this team chalked up their 14th Premiership
17 Dual Brownlow Medallist who captained Collingwood for the 1981 and '82 seasons
19 Only North Melbourne player to win a Brownlow in the '80s
21 Indigeneous player who won back-to-back Jack Dyer Medals
22 Sydney's leading goal scorer from 1984-1987
24 Runner-Up for the 1989 Brownlow Medal
25 Nickname of the team that claimed 5 wooden spoons in the '80s
26 Won a Norm Smith Medal in the '80s despite fracturing a cheek bone in the first quarter

DOWN

- 1 Succeeded Ron Barassi as coach of Melbourne in 1986
3 Carlton great who retired in 1986, finishing with 356 games and 22 goals
4 In 1983 this player became the first to reach the milestone of 400 games.
7 Bulldogs rover who debuted in 1986 and went on to play 286 Games
8 The number of Brownlow Medal winners in the '80s
10 One of two players to win dual Best and Fairest's at Geelong in the '80s
11 This player led the competition stats for marks in the 1987 Season
14 Captained Geelong in their only Grand Final appearance this decade
16 This oval was the first home ground of the Brisbane Bears in 1987
18 The first player to win a Brownlow while playing for a non-Victorian club
20 Collingwood player who kicked 7 goals in each of the first 3 games of the 1985 season
23 Coach of three premiership teams in the '80s



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The Answers - next page



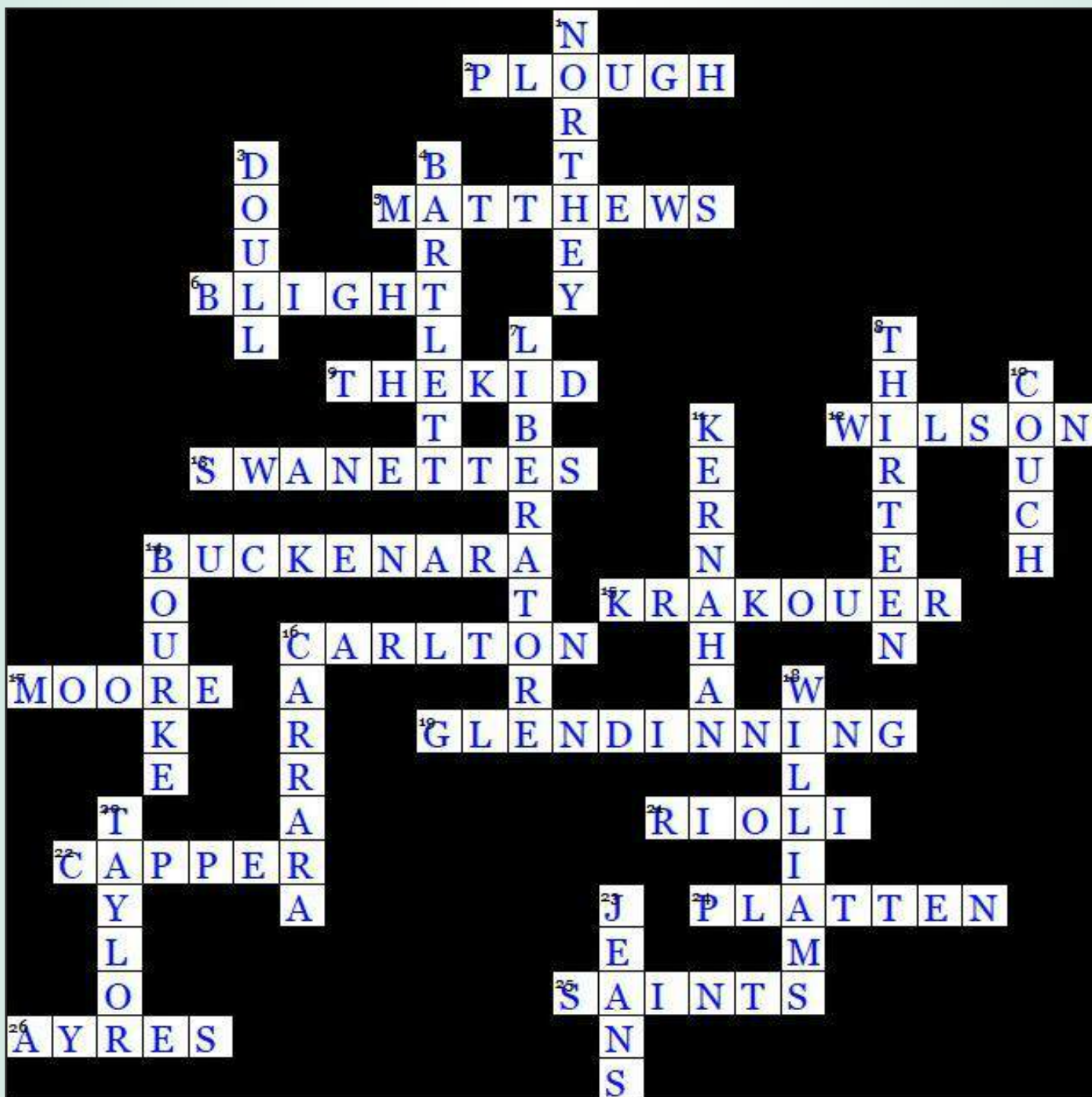
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CROSSWORD - The Answers



QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Sydney Swans | 11. David Pocock | 20. Melbourne Victory, |
| 2. The McClelland Trophy | 12. Tim Walsh | Sydney FC and Adelaide |
| 3. Geelong and Hawthorn | 13. New Zealand | United |
| 4. Essendon | 14. Shami Williams | 21. Besart Berisha |
| 5. St Kilda | 15. New Zealand | 22. Adelaide United |
| 6. Adelaide | 16. 14 | 23. Western Sydney |
| 7. Tom Hawkins | 17. Bruno Fornaroli | Wanderers |
| 8. Jack Steven | 18. Diego Castro | 24. Central Coast Mariners |
| 9. Stephen Moore | 19. Central Coast Mariners | (Nick Montgomery) |
| 10. Michael Hooper | | 25. George Foreman |



WEEKLY Sports QUIZ

1. WHICH TEAM finished the 2016 home-and-away season on top of the AFL ladder with 17 wins?
2. WHAT IS the name of the prize they received?
3. WHICH TWO other teams finished with 17 wins but had slightly lower percentages?
4. WHICH TEAM finished in last spot?
5. WHICH TEAM finished equal eighth on wins but missed the finals on percentage?
6. WHICH TEAM scored the most points in the regular season?
7. WHO KICKED the most goals for Geelong in 2016?
8. WHO WON St Kilda's best-and-fairest award?
9. WHICH WALLABIES front-row forward was born in Saudi Arabia?
10. WHO IS captain of the Waratahs?
11. WHICH WALLABIES star was born in Gweru, Zimbabwe?
12. WHO COACHED Australia to the gold medal in the women's Rugby Sevens tournament at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games?
13. WHO DID the Aussies beat in the final?
14. WHICH CANBERRA player was co-captain of the gold medal Aussies?
15. WHICH COUNTRY won the 2016 Rugby Championship?
16. FOR HOW many series in a row has New Zealand held the Bledisloe Cup?
17. WHICH MELBOURNE City striker won the 2015-16 A-League scoring crown?
18. WHICH PERTH player won the Johnny Warren Medal as best player of the A-League season?
19. WHICH A-LEAGUE club finished the season in last place?
20. WHICH THREE Aussie teams qualified for the 2016 AFC Champions League?
21. WHO WAS top scorer for the Aussie teams in the AFC Champions League?
22. WHICH TEAM won the 2015-16 A-League Grand Final?
23. WHO DID they beat to claim the title?
24. WHICH A-LEAGUE team was captained by a Scot?

I'M A FORMER SPORTS PERSON - WHO AM I?

25. I am a US athlete born in 1949.
In my youth I was interested in American Football but I soon found my chosen sport and went on to win a gold medal in it at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games.
I ended my amateur career with a record of 22 wins and 4 losses. I lost twice to Clay Hodges.
I turned professional in 1969. In 1970 I won all 12 of my bouts, 11 by knock out.
In 1973 I beat Joe Frazier in one of the biggest upsets in boxing history.
In 1994 at age 45 I became the oldest man ever to win the heavyweight boxing title.

The Answers - previous page



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