



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET MAY 11, 2024

AFL 2024 ROUND 9 RICHMOND V WESTERN BULLDOGS

THEIR FIRST MCG ENCOUNTER

The first VFL game between the Tigers and the Bulldogs at the MCG did not take place until 1966. In 1965 Richmond began playing home games at the MCG, becoming co-tenants with Melbourne. Previously, Richmond had played home games at the Punt Road Oval. As the only game between the Tigers and the Bulldogs in 1965 took place at the Western Oval, it was not until Round 2 the following season that the sides met at the MCG. Richmond were captained by Neville Crowe and coached by Tom Hafey. Ted Whitten Snr captained and coached the Bulldogs (known then as Footscray). A crowd of 28,596 witnessed a close first quarter with Richmond leading by five points (1.7 to 1.2) at the first break. The Tigers completely dominated the game after that, however, kicking 16 goals to just four by Footscray. The Tigers led by 29 points at half time, 49 at three quarter time and eventually ran out winners by 70 points. The final scores were Richmond 17.15 (117) to Footscray 5.17 (47). Frank Dimattina kicked five goals for Richmond, and Paddy Guinane and Fred Swift booted four each. Doug Prior kicked two for Footscray. In the return match at the Western Oval in Round 13, the Tigers were again victorious, this time by 25 points. Richmond just missed making the finals in 1966, finishing in fifth position on the ladder with 13 wins, four losses and a draw (only the top four teams played in the finals at this time). Footscray finished tenth on the ladder with four wins and 14 losses.

DRAWN GAMES

The clubs have only played two drawn games since the 'Scray entered the League almost 100 years ago. The first of these was in Round 6, 1944, at the Punt Road Oval, when Richmond scored 19.11 (125) and Footscray 18.17 (125). The second was in Round 5, 2008, at Docklands Stadium, when the Western Bulldogs scored 19.16 (130) and Richmond 20.10 (130).

However, the clubs had played three drawn matches when both were in the VFA. The first two of these were played according to a scoring system in which only goals were counted. The third, and their first drawn match under the 1897 scoring system (6 points for a goal and one point for a behind) was in 1904. On June 18 Richmond and Footscray tied 5.7 (37) apiece before a capacity crowd of 9,000 at the Punt Road Oval. Both clubs qualified for the VFA finals that year. Richmond were the minor premiers while Footscray finished second on the table.

However, the third-placed North Melbourne would defeat both Richmond, and then Footscray in the finals. The 1904 season finished sensationally off-the-field when Richmond refused their right, as the minor premier, to face North again in a grand final if a particular umpire was appointed. He was duly appointed, Richmond forfeited the grand final, and North were handed the 1904 VFA premiership.

OVER TO YOU

1. Which player has won the most Charlie Sutton Medals as the best and fairest player at Footscray/Western Bulldogs?
2. Which player has won the most Jack Dyer Medals as the best and fairest player at Richmond?

WHO AM I?

1. I played 107 games (43 goals) for the Bulldogs from 1951 to 1957. I was a premiership player, won a Brownlow Medal and a club best and fairest award.
2. I played 195 games (127 goals) for the Tigers from 1946 to 1959. I won four Richmond best and fairest awards and was twice the winner of the Brownlow Medal.
3. I was a Richmond premiership player in 1921 and the Tigers' leading goal-kicker in 1920, 1921 and 1922. I played 89 games and kicked 217 goals for Richmond. I debuted in 1914 and played my last game with the Tigers in 1923. I then played nine League games, and kicked 18 goals, for Footscray in 1925.



A scene from the tie between Richmond and Footscray on June 18, 1904. [Photo by Sears, *Melbourne Punch*, June 23, 1904.]

THIS ROUND IN HISTORY – ROUND 9 ON THE MCG

The highest Round 9 score on the MCG is 32.19 (211) by Geelong against Richmond 10.17 (77) in 1989. This is also the highest score for this Round on all grounds. The most goals kicked in this round is 14 kicked by Gary Ablett Snr. in the same game. The greatest winning margin here in Round 9 is 141 points by Melbourne over Hawthorn in 1926 – 21.28 (154) to 1.7 (13). There has been one drawn game in Round 9 on the MCG. Melbourne and Collingwood each scored 10.5 (65) in 1909. Four drawn games have occurred on other grounds in Round 9. The highest Round 9 attendance was at the MCG in 1964 when 86,664 saw Melbourne 10.13 (73) defeat Collingwood 8.15 (63).

STATISTICS FOR RICHMOND V FOOTSCRAY/WESTERN BULLDOGS

Richmond v Footscray/Western Bulldogs by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Bulldogs	Drawn
Carrara	1	0	0
Docklands	6	10	1
MCG	25	16	0
Princes Park	1	0	0
Punt Road	19	13	1
Waverley Park	4	5	0
Western Oval	26	31	0
Yarraville Oval	0	1	0
	82	76	2

Highest Score

Richmond	27.18 (180)	Rd 7	1980	WO
Bulldogs	25.17 (167)	Rd 1	2006	Dock

Lowest Score

Richmond	2.11 (23)	Rd 13	1958	WO
Footscray	3.11 (29)	Rd 12	1935	PR

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	115 points	Rd 18	1980	MCG
Bulldogs	115 points	Rd 1	2006	Dock

Last Time They Met – Round 21, 2023, Docklands

	Bulldogs	Richmond
Quarter time	9.3	2.1
Half time	12.5	5.5
Three-quarter time	16.7	7.8
Full time	19.12 (126)	10.11 (71)

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

12	Simon Beasley	Foot	Rd 18	1985	Wav
11	Michael Roach	Rich	Rd 7	1980	WO

PLAYED FOR BOTH

Paul Hudson followed in his father Peter's footsteps and joined Hawthorn. A half forward, he played 134 games, and kicked 264 goals, for the Hawks from 1990 to 1996. He was a member of Hawthorn's 1991 premiership team. He was traded to the Western Bulldogs in 1997, where he recorded another 108 games and kicked a further 214 goals up until the end of the 2001 season. He earned All Australian selection in 1998 and was the Bulldogs' leading goal-kicker in 1998 and 1999. He was traded to Richmond after the 2001 season but played only three games for the Tigers (one goal) before he retired in 2002.

DID YOU KNOW?

Richmond and Footscray/Western Bulldogs are yet to meet in a VFL/AFL final. The former joined the VFL (now AFL) competition in 1908 and the latter in 1925. Prior to joining the League both clubs had been members of the VFA where they had met in two VFA finals matches.

1903 Footscray won the 1903 VFA semi final, 8.8 (56) to Richmond 5.9 (39) at Arden Street, North Melbourne. Richmond, the minor premier, would lose to North Melbourne in the 1903 VFA grand final.

1906 Footscray won the 1906 VFA semi final between the clubs 6.14 (50) to Richmond's 6.5 (41), before a capacity attendance of 12,000 at the East Melbourne Cricket Ground. Footscray would lose to West Melbourne in the 1906 VFA final.

OVER TO YOU ANSWERS

Q1 Scott West (7). Q2 Kevin Bartlett (5).

WHO AM I? ANSWERS

Q1 Peter Box. Q2 Roy Wright. Q3 George Bayliss.

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

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