



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

**AFL 2022 ROUND 15  
GEELONG V RICHMOND**

**LIBRARY FACT SHEET  
JUNE 25, 2022**

## **VALE Alex Mathieson 1921 – 2022**

On May 13 last, Geelong's oldest living player Alex Mathieson died at the age of 101. Alex started his football career in the early 1940s with the Newtown and Chilwell Football Club in the Geelong District Football League. However, with the war intervening, football ceased for some time, and it was not until 1944 that he made his debut for Geelong against Essendon at Windy Hill in Round 5, kicking a goal with his first kick. He played seven games for the club before he enlisted and was transferred to Papua New Guinea, where he contracted malaria and was unable to return to football. Alex's uncle, Jim, played 71 games for Geelong from 1920 to 1924.



## **A GEELONG LEGEND – REG HICKEY**

Reg Hickey is described in *The Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers* as "perhaps the greatest footballing figure in Geelong's history, he reigned supreme as a player, captain then coach over a 35 year period in which the club won four flags." A strong and intelligent player who could kick with either foot, Hickey played almost his entire career at centre half back. He played in the club's 1931 premiership side and was captain-coach of their next premiership winning team in 1937. After playing 245 games (24 goals) for the club from 1926 to 1940, he retired from playing but continued as coach. From 1932 to 1959 he coached the side on 304 occasions for 183 wins, 118 losses and three draws. Those wins included premierships in 1951 and 1952. He won Geelong's best and fairest award in 1928 and 1934. He ran third to Fitzroy's Haydn Bunton in the 1931 Brownlow Medal and second to Fitzroy's Denis Ryan in 1936. He is named as captain, coach and centre half back in Geelong's Team of the Century. The R.J.Hickey Award is presented annually by the Geelong club to an individual selected for his or her outstanding service to Australian Rules football.

## **1931 - THEIR FIRST GRAND FINAL**

Geelong and Richmond finished first and second respectively on the VFL ladder at the end of the 1931 season. They met in the second semi final at the MCG before a crowd of 48,353. With Jack Titus kicking four goals, the Tigers ran out convincing winners by 33 points. Geelong beat Carlton by just six points in the preliminary final, and therefore started underdogs in the grand final, the first between these two sides. In a fast play-on game only seven points separated the teams at half-time. A three goals to one third quarter saw Geelong hold a commanding 24 point lead at the final change, and they held on to win the club's second premiership by 20 points. For Geelong, Len Metherell, Les Hardiman, and Edward Baker each kicked two goals and Doug Strang and Jack Titus both kicked two for the Tigers. Geelong 9.14 (68) def. Richmond 7.6 (48)

## **PLAYED FOR BOTH**

Adam Houlihan came to Geelong from the Murray Bushrangers. A forward, he endured a number of serious injuries during his time with the Cats, totalling 61 games (75 goals). He made his senior debut against Essendon in Round 4, 1997 and was a Rising Star nominee that year. He was delisted at the end of the 2001 season and went off to the Tigers. He played 33 games (24 goals) for Richmond but after playing six games in 2003 he left the club in 2004. He had always had a strong interest in horse racing and he hosted a racing program on radio station SEN1116 for several years as well as continuing his football with the Old Scotch Football Club.

## **WHO AM I?**

I was the coach of the Brisbane Bears side against which Geelong kicked the AFL record score of 37.17 (239) in 1992, and I was also a member of the Fitzroy side that had previously held the record of 36.22 (238).

## This Round in History – Round 15 on the MCG

The highest Round 15 score on the MCG is 27.20 (182) by Essendon against Melbourne 8.12 (60) in 1986. The overall Round 15 record is 28.23 (191) by Hawthorn against Geelong 13.6 (84) at Princes Park in 1977. The most goals by an individual is 11 by Peter Sumich for West Coast against Essendon in 1992 and by Gary Ablett Snr for Geelong against Melbourne in 1993. The overall Round 15 record is 12 which has been recorded by three players – Bob Pratt for South Melbourne against Footscray at the Lakeside Oval in 1934, Peter Hudson for Hawthorn against St Kilda at Glenferrie Oval in 1971 and Simon Beasley for Footscray against Melbourne at the Western Oval in 1985. The highest score in a quarter is 10.5 (65) by Richmond in the last quarter against Hawthorn in 1997. Richmond kicked 22.13 (145) to win by 76 points. The overall Round 15 record for the highest score in a quarter is 12.6 (78) by Geelong against Brisbane at Carrara in 1989. Geelong kicked 22.19 (151) to win by 74 points after leading by only 21 points at three-quarter time. The highest Round 15 attendance at the MCG is 81,099 in 1960 when Melbourne defeated Collingwood by 46 points. This is the overall Round 15 record.

## Statistics for Geelong v Richmond

### Geelong v Richmond by venue

	Won by Geelong	Won by Richmond	Drawn
Carrara	0	1	0
Corio Oval	19	10	1
Docklands	5	1	0
Gabba	0	1	0
Kardinia Park	36	15	0
MCG	26	22	0
Princes Park	1	0	0
Punt Road	15	33	2
Waverley Park	4	8	0
	<b>106</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>3</b>

### Highest Score

Geelong	35.12 (222)	Rd 6	2007	Docklands
Richmond	25.23 (173)	Rd 7	1944	Punt Road

### Lowest Score

Geelong	4.10 (34)	Rd 4	1915	Corio
Richmond	4.5 (29)	Rd 5	1910	Corio

### Greatest Winning Margin

Geelong	157 points	Rd 6	2007	Docklands
Richmond	118 points	1SF	1969	MCG

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

14	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 9	1989	MCG
12	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 20	1990	MCG
12	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 8	1993	KP
11	G. Goninon	Geel	Rd 5	1953	PR
11	D. Wade	Geel	Rd 13	1972	MCG
10	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 4	1988	MCG

### Last Time They Met – Round 19, 2021, MCG

	Geelong	Richmond
Quarter time	3.0	1.2
Half time	8.3	1.4
Three-quarter time	10.3	3.7
Full time	15.5 (95)	8.9 (57)

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Richmond's greatest winning and losing finals margins are both against the Cats. In the 1969 first semi final at the MCG they eclipsed Geelong by a massive 118 points - 25.17 (167) to Geelong's 7.7 (49). Doug Wade kicked five of the Cats' goals. At Waverley Park, in the 1995 preliminary final, Geelong won by 89 points - 20.9 (129) to 6.4 (40). Gary Ablett snr. and Billy Brownless each kicked four goals for Geelong with no Tiger registering more than a single goal.
- In Round 13, 1899 three sets of brothers played for Geelong against South Melbourne, whose team contained two sets of brothers. George and Teddy Lockwood, Jim and Joe McShane and Harry and Jack Parkin wore the blue and white and Bert and Henry Howson and Frank and Jim O'Hara donned the red and white.

**WHO AM I ANSWER:** Robert Walls

### FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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

<http://tinyurl.com/mcclcatalogue>

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