



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET

APRIL 20, 2024

AFL 2024 ROUND 6

COLLINGWOOD V PORT ADELAIDE

FOURTH VFL PREMIERSHIP IN A ROW FOR COLLINGWOOD

Collingwood's 30-point win over Geelong in the 1930 grand final gave them their fourth VFL premiership in a row, a record premiership streak that has yet to be broken in the VFL/AFL. The 1930 grand final was played at the MCG on Saturday, October 11. The final scores were Collingwood 14.16 (100) to Geelong 9.16 (70). In the previous week's (preliminary) final Geelong had defeated Collingwood by 26 points. Under the finals system operating at the time, Collingwood had the right to challenge Geelong to another (grand final) match because they had finished the home and away season on top of the ladder. This game would decide the premiership winner. Writing in the *Argus*, 'Old Boy' (R W E Wilmot) made the following comments about the game:

Collingwood by its victory over Geelong in the grand final of the Victorian Football League competition won the premiership in what was perhaps the most dramatic game in the memory of football enthusiasts. A crowd of 45,022 persons attended, the gate takings amounting to £2,061/8/. A week before Geelong had defeated Collingwood by pace and skill, and for half the game on Saturday it seemed that the ambition of Collingwood to win the premiership four years in succession was to be frustrated. In the first term Collingwood had done remarkably well, but in the second quarter Geelong took complete charge, and had its methods in attack been reasonably sound it must have established such a lead that even the wonderful recovery of Collingwood would have proved unavailing...

The change in the fortunes of the game was as dramatic as it was unexpected, but it was none the less convincing. From having been the dominant side Geelong wilted under the indomitable determination of Collingwood and its lead of 21 points dwindled in six minutes in the third quarter to vanishing point. Having wiped out the deficit Collingwood, relentless in its energy and determination, proceeded to establish a lead, and in the next 20 minutes put on 32 points. One could hardly realise that the players who had been outwitted, outpaced, and out-bumped in the second quarter were the same who in the third term rose to a great occasion and triumphed. We have seen many reversals of form in recent years, but none so dramatic, none so sudden, as we saw on Saturday...

PORT WINS THEIR SIXTH SANFL PREMIERSHIP IN A ROW

In the 1959 South Australian National Football League (SANFL) grand final played at the Adelaide Oval on Saturday October 3, Port Adelaide defeated West Adelaide. The final scores were Port Adelaide 13.9 (87) to West Adelaide 11.11 (77). This win gave Port six premierships in row, a record number of consecutive premierships in any senior football competition in Australia. The Port Adelaide side was led by captain-coach Geof Motley, who had taken over from "Fos" Williams, who had been captain-coach when Port won the SANFL premiership in 1951, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958. Motley, who died in 2023, was a nine-time premiership player for Port (1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1963 and 1965). In 2018, the 1954-59 premiership teams were inducted into the Port Adelaide Hall of Fame. In the lead-up to this event, Motley is reported to have said: "All records were made to be broken, but that one I think you will find extremely difficult to break." Motley was judged best afield in the 1959 grand final, while Wally Dittmar (four goals) and Peter Obst (three goals) were other damaging players for Port. Port started the game well with a five goals to one opening quarter and then piled on another four goals to take a 36-point lead into the main break. West Adelaide reduced the margin to 23 points at the final change, and scored four goals to two in the final term, but this was not enough to catch Port Adelaide. There was a strong rivalry between Port Adelaide and West Adelaide during the 1950s and 1960s, Port also defeating West Adelaide in close games in the 1954, 1956 and 1958 grand finals. The teams met again in the 1962 grand final, when Port prevailed by three points. West Adelaide had won the premiership the previous year, defeating Norwood in the grand final.

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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

<http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

Fact sheets are prepared by MCC Library Volunteers David Allen, Eric Panther, Quentin Miller, Dennis Carroll, Ian Wilkinson, Gaye Fitzpatrick, and Edward Cohen, with MCC Deputy Librarian Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.

THIS ROUND IN HISTORY – ROUND 6 ON THE MCG

The highest score on the MCG in Round 6 is 31.18 (204) by St Kilda against Melbourne 21.15 (141) in 1978. The biggest winning margin at the MCG in Round 6 is 107 points by Melbourne 19.23 (137) when defeating South Melbourne 3.12 (30) in 1939. The lowest Round 6 score at the MCG since 1925 is 1.11 (17) by South Melbourne against Melbourne 8.15 (63) in 1962. This is the overall Round 6 record. The biggest bag of goals in Round 6 at the MCG took place in 1993 when Geelong's Gary Ablett Snr kicked 14 goals against Essendon. The highest score in a quarter for Round 6 at the MCG is 11.5 (71) by St Kilda against Melbourne in the second quarter in 1978. The highest score for a quarter in Round 6 was when Essendon scored 15.4 (94) against the Gold Coast Suns in the first quarter at the Docklands in 2011.

STATISTICS FOR COLLINGWOOD V PORT ADELAIDE

Collingwood v Port Adelaide by venue

	Won by Collingwood	Won by Port Adel.	Drawn
Adelaide Oval	1	2	0
Docklands	5	1	0
Football Park	6	7	0
Gabba	0	1	0
MCG	7	7	0
	19	18	0

Highest Score

Collingwood	26.10 (166)	Rd 1	1997	MCG
Port Adel.	19.11 (125)	Rd 11	2016	MCG

Lowest Score

Collingwood	7.3 (45)	Rd 18	2020	Gabba
Port Adel.	3.3 (21)	Rd 20	2011	FP

Last Time They Met – Round 19, 2023, Adelaide Oval

	Port Adel.	Collingwood
Quarter time	4.0	4.3
Half time	6.4	5.3
Three-quarter time	9.9	7.4
Full time	12.11 (83)	13.7 (85)

Greatest Winning Margin

Collingwood	138 points	Rd 20	2011	FP
Port Adel.	67 points	Rd 11	2016	MCG

A SEVEN-TIME SANFL PREMIERSHIP PLAYER WITH PORT

Born in Ouse in the Tasmanian midlands in 1962, **Bruce Abernethy** left the state as a youngster. He played for the South Australian Amateur Football League (SAAFL) club Rosewater before being recruited by Port Adelaide in the SANFL. He debuted for Port as a 17-year-old in 1979 and quickly made his mark as an outstanding player. He was a member of Port premiership sides in each of his first three years at senior level (1979, 1980 and 1981), before transferring to VFL club North Melbourne in 1982. He made his VFL senior debut in Round 1, 1982, against Richmond at the MCG and played 43 games (21 goals) in two seasons for the Kangaroos before being traded to Collingwood. He spent three seasons with the Magpies (1984-86), playing 58 games and kicking 16 goals. A wingman or half-back, Abernethy returned to Port Adelaide in 1987 rather than continue his VFL career. He won Port's best and fairest in 1987 and played a key role in their trifecta of premierships from 1988 to 1990. This included a Jack Oatey Medal as best on the ground in the 1988 grand final. When the Adelaide Crows were formed in 1991, Abernethy was one of their first recruits. He made 11 appearances for the Crows in 1991 and 1992, kicking two goals. He was a member of a seventh premiership-winning Port Adelaide side in 1992. At the time, he was eligible to play with Port's SANFL team when not required by the Crows and he played enough games for Port during the 1992 season to be able to play for them in the SANFL finals. Health problems led to his early retirement from football after the 1992 season. Abernethy was inducted into the South Australian Football Hall of Fame in 2007.

ASSOCIATED WITH BOTH CLUBS

Mark Williams, the son of South Australian football legend "Fos" Williams, was born on August 21, 1958. He played football with SANFL clubs West Adelaide (1976-78) and Port Adelaide (1979-80) before being recruited by Collingwood in 1981. Williams played 135 games and kicked 178 goals for the Magpies from 1981 to 1986. He won the best and fairest award in 1981 and 1985 and was the club's leading goal-kicker in 1984 with 53 goals. He captained the Magpies from 1983 to 1986, represented both Victoria and South Australia in interstate football and was selected in the 1980 All-Australian team. He then moved to the Brisbane Bears, where he played a further 66 games (58 goals) from 1987 to 1990. He was a member of the Bears' inaugural VFL side. Midway through the 1990 season he left the Bears and returned to South Australia, playing out the remainder of the season with Port Adelaide. He had a further two full seasons with Port. After that he was a member of their 1990 and 1992 premiership teams (he had previously been a member of Port premiership teams in 1979 and 1980). After coaching Glenelg in the SANFL in 1993 and 1994, and being an assistant coach at Essendon in 1995 and 1996 under Kevin Sheedy, Williams returned to Port Adelaide as assistant coach in 1997. He became senior coach in 1999, replacing John Cahill. From 1999 to 2010 he coached Port in a total of 273 games, winning 150, losing 121 and drawing two. He led the club to their first AFL premiership in 2004. Williams resigned as Port Adelaide coach during the 2010 season and worked in assistant roles at Greater Western Sydney and Richmond before coaching Werribee in the VFL in 2019 and 2020. In December 2020, he joined Melbourne as their Head of Development. He played a key role in the Demons' 2021 AFL premiership win as a member of the coaching panel under senior coach Simon Goodwin.