



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

AFL 2023 FIRST ELIMINATION FINAL

CARLTON V SYDNEY

CARLTON IN THE FINALS

Carlton has played in a total of 139 VFL/AFL finals, winning 65, losing 72 and drawing 2. Of these 29 were grand finals of which they won 16, and lost 13. Bruce Doull holds the record for most finals played, with 29, followed by Stephen Silvagni with 26. Stephen Kernahan holds the finals goal kicking record, with 65, followed by Harry Vengeance, with 53. David Parkin (1981, 1982 and 1995) and Jack Worrall (1906, 1907 and 1908) hold the premiership coaching record with three each. The club has four Norm Smith Medal winners, Wayne Harmes (1979), Bruce Doull (1981), David Rhys-Jones (1987) and Greg Williams (1995). The Blues' highest grand final score is 28.9 (177) against Richmond in 1972. This is also their highest ever finals score. Their lowest grand final score is 4.8 (32) against Richmond in 1921. Their lowest finals score is 3.5 (23) against Collingwood in a 1903 semi final. The record for the most goals in a final was achieved by Harry Vengeance with 11 goals against Collingwood in a 1931 semi final, and again against Collingwood in a 1932 preliminary final.

SOUTH MELBOURNE/SYDNEY IN THE FINALS

Sydney and South Melbourne have played in a total of 93 finals, winning 42 and losing 51, with no draws. Of these, 18 were grand finals of which they have won five and lost 13. Adam Goodes and Jarrad McVeigh hold the record for playing the most finals with 28 each. Barry Hall holds the record for the most goals kicked in finals, with 39, followed by Bob Pratt and Michael O'Loughlin both with 37. Their premiership coaches, all with one each, are Charlie Ricketts (1909), Bert Howson (1918), Jack Bisset (1933), Paul Roos (2005) and John Longmire (2012). Their only Norm Smith Medallist is Ryan O'Keefe in 2012. Their highest finals score is 19.22 (136) against North Melbourne in the 2014 first preliminary final. Their lowest finals score is 3.8 (26) against Fitzroy when they lost the 1899 grand final by one point. This is also their lowest grand final score. Their highest grand final score is 14.7 (91) in their ten point victory over Hawthorn in 2012. The record for the most goals in a final is held by Lindsay White who kicked nine goals against Essendon in a 1942 preliminary final.

PLAYED FOR BOTH

A backman, **Nic Newman** was picked up by Sydney in the 2015 rookie draft from the Frankston Dolphins in the VFL, making his debut against the Western Bulldogs in Round 2, 2017. After playing 31 games (8 goals) for the Swans, he was traded to Carlton at the end of the 2018 season. To date he has played 76 games (9 goals) for the Blues. Blues General Manager of List Management and Strategy, Stephen Silvagni, said of Newman: "Nic is a solid defender... and with his ability to pinch hit on the wing, we believe he will strengthen our defence and provide us with flexibility." Newman has won the club's best clubman award twice and is involved in assistant coaching with both the club's AFLW and VFL sides. He was re-signed this year until the end of 2025. On his re-signing, Carlton's Head of List Management, Nick Austin said: "Nic has had a terrific season, building from the real consistency he showed last year... his passion for the game and his teammates is evident every time he steps onto the field... he is a natural leader on the field and off."

George Hewett was picked up by Sydney from North Adelaide in the 2013 national draft. He struggled to find a place in the senior side and did not make his debut until Round 1 of the 2016 season. A midfielder, he played 120 games (32 goals) for the Swans from 2014 to 2021 going off to Carlton as a free agent at the end of the 2021 season. He has played a total of 34 games (7 goals) to date for the Blues. Carlton's List Manager Nick Austin said of Hewett when he signed with the club: "He's got over 100 games experience, he's featured in finals and performed well in them. He gives us a different look in our midfield group and we think he's someone our fans will really resonate with given his manic attack on the football."

OVER TO YOU

1. Name the year. South Melbourne defeated Carlton in the VFL grand final. Prince Foote won the Melbourne Cup. Tommy Bent retired as Premier of Victoria.
2. In 1970 Carlton won the flag against the Magpies. A Carlton reserve came on to the ground and contributed four goals. Who was he?
3. How many times has Lance Franklin been Sydney's leading goalkicker? How many times did he lead Hawthorn's goalkicking before he joined the Swans?

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

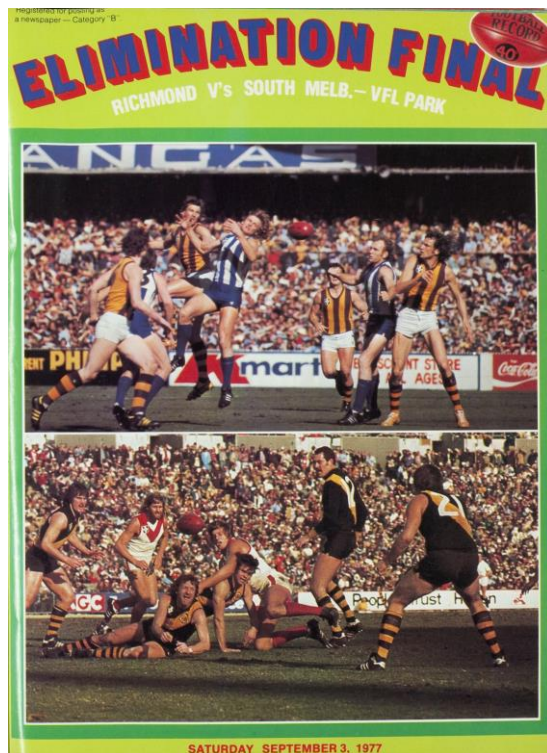
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ELIMINATION FINALS EXPLAINED

The elimination final was first played in 1972 following the introduction of the McIntyre final five system. Elimination finals were played from 1972 to 1993 inclusive and were re-introduced in 2000. Between 1972 and 1990 the elimination final was played between the teams which finished fourth and fifth on the ladder. The loser was eliminated and the winner proceeded to the first semi final.

In 1991, when the admission of Adelaide created a 15-team competition, the McIntyre final six system was introduced. Under this system two elimination finals were played with the fifth-placed side playing sixth and the third-placed playing fourth. The losing teams were eliminated. This arrangement was amended for the next two seasons, when fourth played fifth and third played sixth. Elimination finals were not played from 1994 to 1999.

With the introduction of the McIntyre final eight system in 1994, four qualifying finals were played in the first week when first played eighth, second played seventh, third played sixth and fourth played fifth. Under this system, the two lowest-placed losing teams were eliminated. The elimination final was re-introduced in 2000 as part of the revised final eight system. Under the current scheme, the fifth-placed team plays eighth and sixth-placed plays seventh. The losers are eliminated and winners play the losers of the qualifying finals in the semi finals.



ELIMINATION FINALS SCORES

1972	EF	Waverley	St Kilda	18.16 (124)	Essendon	10.11 (71)	52,499
1973	EF	Waverley	St Kilda	24.14 (158)	Essendon	13.13 (91)	53,405
1974	EF	Waverley	Collingwood	19.10 (124)	Footscray	6.19 (55)	57,912
1975	EF	Waverley	Richmond	11.11 (77)	Collingwood	10.13 (73)	65,512
1976	EF	Waverley	Geelong	14.18 (102)	Footscray	14.11 (95)	50,686
1977	EF	Waverley	Richmond	13.10 (88)	South Melbourne	7.12 (54)	63,663
1978	EF	Waverley	Carlton	15.15 (105)	Geelong	9.18 (72)	57,505
1979	EF	Waverley	Fitzroy	17.22 (124)	Essendon	5.13 (43)	49,470
1980	EF	MCG	Collingwood	14.20 (104)	North Melbourne	14.12 (96)	83,033
1981	EF	Waverley	Fitzroy	16.13 (109)	Essendon	13.16 (94)	58,598
1982	EF	Waverley	North Melbourne	19.14 (128)	Essendon	16.19 (115)	50,537
1983	EF	Waverley	Essendon	17.12 (114)	Carlton	12.9 (81)	65,881
1984	EF	MCG	Collingwood	23.15 (153)	Fitzroy	15.17 (107)	73,994
1985	EF	Waverley	North Melb	20.6 (126)	Carlton	16.11 (107)	49,126
1986	EF	Waverley	Fitzroy	8.10 (58)	Essendon	8.9 (57)	59,420
1987	EF	MCG	Melbourne	22.26 (158)	North Melbourne	5.10 (40)	72,628
1988	EF	Waverley	Melbourne	11.7 (73)	West Coast	10.11 (71)	43,438
1989	EF	Waverley	Melbourne	17.9 (111)	Collingwood	13.10 (88)	63,062
1990	EF	MCG	Melbourne	10.13 (73)	Hawthorn	8.16 (64)	74,954
1991	1EF	Waverley	Melbourne	17.11 (113)	Essendon	11.9 (75)	46,032
1991	2EF	Waverley	Geelong	15.14 (104)	St Kilda	14.13 (97)	63,796
1992	1EF	Subiaco Oval	West Coast	14.16 (100)	Hawthorn	12.15 (87)	40,237
1992	2EF	Waverley	St Kilda	13.13 (91)	Collingwood	12.11 (83)	74,253
1993	1EF	MCG	Adelaide	16.14 (110)	Hawthorn	13.17 (95)	55,287
1993	2EF	Waverley	West Coast	17.18 (120)	North Melbourne	11.3 (69)	29,147

Elimination finals were not played from 1994 to 1999.

2000	1EF	Docklands	Hawthorn	14.8 (92)	Geelong	12.11 (83)	44,709
2000	2EF	Gabba	Brisbane Lions	15.20 (110)	Western Bulldogs	10.16 (76)	25,925
2001	1EF	MCG	Carlton	17.16 (118)	Adelaide	6.14 (50)	53,982
2001	2EF	Docklands	Hawthorn	19.15 (129)	Sydney	11.8 (74)	32,910
2002	1EF	Docklands	Essendon	17.9 (111)	West Coast	11.12 (78)	37,475
2002	2EF	MCG	Melbourne	18.14 (122)	Kangaroos	11.18 (84)	53,967
2003	1EF	Subiaco Oval	Essendon	15.11 (101)	Fremantle	8.9 (57)	42,770
2003	2EF	Football Park	Adelaide	16.17 (113)	West Coast	8.9 (57)	38,641

2004	1EF	MCG	Essendon	15.14 (104)	Melbourne	15.9 (99)	60,903
2004	2EF	Stadium Australia	Sydney	11.9 (75)	West Coast	4.10 (34)	40,282
2005	1EF	Docklands	Port Adelaide	26.8 (164)	Kangaroos	11.11 (77)	25,195
2005	2EF	MCG	Geelong	18.8 (116)	Melbourne	9.7 (61)	65,018
2006	1EF	MCG	Western Bulldogs	18.13 (121)	Collingwood	11.14 (80)	84,284
2006	2EF	MCG	Melbourne	13.12 (90)	St Kilda	10.12 (72)	67,528
2007	1EF	Docklands	Hawthorn	15.15 (105)	Adelaide	15.12 (102)	36,534
2007	2EF	MCG	Collingwood	18.17 (125)	Sydney	13.9 (87)	64,645
2008	1EF	Football Park	Collingwood	19.11 (125)	Adelaide	14.10 (94)	37,685
2008	2EF	Stadium Australia	Sydney	17.8 (110)	Kangaroos	11.9 (75)	19,127
2009	1EF	Football Park	Adelaide	26.10 (166)	Essendon	10.10 (70)	50,393
2009	2EF	Gabba	Brisbane	16.15 (111)	Carlton	15.14 (104)	32,702
2010	1EF	Stadium Australia	Sydney	14.15 (99)	Carlton	13.16 (94)	41,596
2010	2EF	Subiaco Oval	Fremantle	14.10 (94)	Hawthorn	8.16 (64)	42,719
2011	1EF	MCG	Carlton	21.23 (149)	Essendon	13.9 (87)	90,370
2011	2EF	Docklands	Sydney	12.10 (82)	St Kilda	8.9 (57)	39,205
2012	1EF	Subiaco Oval	West Coast	24.18 (162)	North Melbourne	9.12 (66)	41,790
2012	2EF	MCG	Fremantle	14.12 (96)	Geelong	11.14 (80)	44,460
2013	1EF	MCG	Richmond	14.12 (96)	Carlton	18.8 (116)	94,690
2013	2EF	MCG	Collingwood	9.9 (63)	Port Adelaide	12.15 (87)	51,722
2014	1EF	Adelaide Oval	Port Adelaide	20.12 (132)	Richmond	11.9 (75)	50,618
2014	2EF	MCG	North Melbourne	14.9 (93)	Essendon	12.9 (81)	78,561
2015	1EF	MCG	Richmond	14.4 (88)	North Melbourne	15.15 (105)	90,186
2015	2EF	MCG	Western Bulldogs	14.18 (102)	Adelaide	16.13 (109)	60,872
2016	1EF	Adelaide Oval	Adelaide	21.15 (141)	North Melbourne	12.7 (79)	49,007
2016	2EF	Subiaco	West Coast	7.10 (52)	Western Bulldogs	14.15 (99)	42,079
2017	1EF	Adelaide Oval	Port Adelaide	10.16 (76)	West Coast	12.6 (78)	41,172
2017	2EF	SCG	Sydney	19.7 (121)	Essendon	8.8 (56)	46,323
2018	1EF	MCG	Melbourne	10.15 (75)	Geelong	6.10 (46)	91,767
2018	2EF	SCG	Sydney	4.6 (30)	GWS	10.19 (79)	40,350
2019	1EF	Perth Stadium	West Coast	17.14 (116)	Essendon	9.7 (61)	59,216
2019	2EF	Sydney Showground	GWS	16.17 (113)	Western Bulldogs	8.7 (55)	19,218
2020	1EF	Gabba	St Kilda	10.7 (67)	Western Bulldogs	9.10 (64)	10,561
2020	2EF	Perth Stadium	West Coast	11.9 (75)	Collingwood	12.4 (76)	32,865
2021	1EF	York Park	Sydney	10.13 (73)	GWS	11.8 (74)	8,635
2021	2EF	York Park	Western Bulldogs	13.7 (85)	Essendon	4.12 (36)	9,760
2022	1EF	Gabba	Brisbane Lions	16.10 (106)	Richmond	16.8 (104)	35,013
2022	2EF	Perth Stadium	Fremantle	11.7 (73)	Western Bulldogs	8.12 (60)	58,982

1909 VFL GRAND FINAL

Although South Melbourne had won five premierships in the VFA (1881, 1885, 1888, 1889 and 1890), it was not until 1909 that South won its first League flag. That year South faced Carlton in the grand final at the MCG before a crowd of 37,759. South were the minor premiers, and although Carlton had defeated them by 22 points the previous week, they had the right to meet Carlton again to determine the VFL premiership in a grand final. From the opening bounce, South used their superior pace and the open MCG spaces to avoid the physical clashes that found them wanting one week earlier. The scores were tight throughout, with nothing separating the teams at quarter and half times, and South holding a seven point advantage going into the final term. Although Carlton pegged one goal back in the last quarter South held on to win by two points, 4.14 (38) to Carlton's 4.12 (36).



A scene from the 1909 VFL grand final. *Australasian*, October 9, 1908.

ELIMINATION FINALS AT THE MCG (1980-2018)

The first eight elimination finals from 1972 to 1979 were held at VFL Park, Waverley. In 1980 Richmond was to play in the qualifying final, but as a MCG tenant the Tigers were forced under then League rules to play this match at the neutral VFL Park. As both qualifying and elimination finals were to be played at the same time, the 1980 elimination final was scheduled for the MCG. An elimination final has not been played at the MCG since 2018 when Melbourne defeated Geelong before 91,767 fans. The highest score in an elimination final at the MCG is 158 points recorded by Carlton 22.26 (158) against North Melbourne 5.10 (40) in 1987. The highest score overall was 26.10 (166) by Adelaide against Essendon in the first elimination final at Football Park in 2009. The lowest score at the MCG is 5.10 (40) by North Melbourne in 1987 and Melbourne's winning margin of 118 points that year is the largest recorded for an elimination final. The lowest score overall is Sydney's 4.6 (30) against Greater Western Sydney at the SCG in 2018. The highest score in a quarter at the MCG is 10.7 (67) by Collingwood in the last quarter against Fitzroy in 1984. Collingwood kicked 23.15 (153) to defeat Fitzroy by 46 points after leading by only four points at three-quarter time. This is also the overall elimination final record. The most goals in an elimination final at the MCG is six, shared by Jason Dunstall for Hawthorn against Adelaide in 1993 and Mark Williams for Collingwood against Fitzroy in 1984. The overall record is nine by Tony Lockett for St Kilda against Geelong at Waverley Park in 1991 but St Kilda lost by seven points. The highest elimination final attendance was recorded on Sunday September 8, 2013 when 94,690 saw Carlton defeat Richmond by 20 points at the MCG.

STATISTICS FOR CARLTON V SOUTH MELBOURNE/SYDNEY

Carlton v South Melbourne /Sydney by venue

	Won by Carlton	Won by Swans	Drawn
Carrara	1	0	0
Docklands	3	7	0
Junction Oval	1	1	0
Lake Oval	36	37	4
MCG	6	4	0
Princes Park	74	23	2
SCG	10	19	0
Stadium Aust.	0	4	0
Waverley Park	0	1	0
	131	96	6

Highest Score

Carlton	27.23 (185)	Rd 17	1998	Princes Pk
Sydney	25.12 (162)	Rd 15	2007	SCG

Lowest Score

Carlton	0.8 (8)	Rd 2	1902	Lake Oval
South Melb.	0.5 (5)	Rd 8	1899	Princes Pk

Greatest Winning Margin

Carlton	102 points	Rd 9	1982	Princes Pk
Sydney	92 points	Rd 22	2006	SCG

Last Time They Met – Round 11, 2023, SCG

	Sydney	Carlton
Quarter time	4.1	3.4
Half time	6.2	4.8
Three-quarter time	8.8	6.12
Full time	11.11 (77)	6.15 (51)

Most Goals in a Match

11	Harry Vallenge	Carl	Rd 15	1929	PP
11	Bob Pratt	SM	Rd 12	1933	LO
11	Bob Pratt	SM	Rd 13	1934	LO
10	Bob Pratt	SM	Rd 2	1934	PP
10	Lance Franklin	Syd	Rd 23	2017	SCG

OVER TO YOU ANSWERS

Q1 1909.

Q2 Ted Hopkins.

Q3 Seven for Sydney (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2021 and 2022) and six times for Hawthorn (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012).

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 Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL

A scene from the 1909 VFL grand final.
South Melbourne 4.14 (38) defeated Carlton 4.12 (36)
Australasian, October 9, 1908.

