



## MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET APRIL 27, 2025

### AFL 2025 ROUND 7 CARLTON V GEELONG

#### JACK CONWAY – A BLUES LEGEND

The *Kalgoorlie Sun* newspaper, on August 29, 1909, recorded the death of Carlton footballer Jack Conway. The obituary stated:

“Mr Conway had few, if any, equals in Australia as an all-round sportsman and sporting journalist. . . . (He was) widely known throughout Australia as the originator and manager of the first Australian team of cricketers that toured England in 1878. . . . But it is his connection with Australia’s great winter pastime that the deceased gentleman rendered greater service. Mr Conway played the game in the days of the Harrisons and the Marshalls. He was a splendid specimen of the Victorian footballer and was associated with the famous Carlton Club in its early years. Under his captaincy the dark blues attained great renown. . . Carlton has had many great captains but Jack Conway was the greatest of them all. . . .”

It is possible that Conway was in the Melbourne Grammar side that took on Scotch College in the 1858 match in Yarra Park. At the age of 17, Conway, with other students from Melbourne Grammar, was playing for the South Yarra side. He then played for the Melbourne side from 1863. Players at the time often played for more than one side during a season, and Conway played for Carlton as well as Melbourne in 1865, the Carlton club having been formed in 1864. He captained the Carlton side from 1868 to 1871. It was at this time that Carlton became a powerhouse, being Challenge Cup premiers in 1869, 1871, 1873, 1874 and 1875 and Victorian Football Association premiers in 1877 and 1887.

After a charity game against Geelong in 1889, former Carlton champion Lanty O’Brien was reported in the *Carlton Gazette* as follows, “Mr L. O’Brien while endorsing what has been said of the present state of football, regretted the absence of a man whose name was familiar to all. He referred to Jack Conway, who has done more than any man he knew, with H.C.A. Harrison, to make the game of football.”

Conway played cricket for Victoria. He was a right-handed batsman and right arm fast bowler, taking 6 for 42 against New South Wales during a 1876-77 season match. It was during this season that he was the agent for the English touring team and arranged for a combined New South Wales and Victoria side to play a match against the tourists, which match is now regarded as the first Test match. Later, Conway became an acknowledged journalist, covering, cricket, football horse racing and coursing.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Cats supporters must have been nervous wrecks by the time their team reached the 1994 Grand Final. In the first qualifying final against Footscray, with 30 seconds left, the Bulldogs were a point up and looked safe, but a quick move out of the centre saw Billy Brownless lead and mark at centre half forward. The siren having sounded, Brownless kicked truly to give the Cats victory by five points. Having defeated Carlton by 33 points in the second semi final, they went on to meet North Melbourne in the first preliminary final. This time, with 40 seconds remaining and scores level in the last quarter, a desperate kick by Geelong’s Leigh Tudor from the forward pocket was marked by Gary Ablett senior. The siren sounded, which meant that Ablett only had to score to give his team victory. He kicked truly to give the Cats a six-point victory and see them into the Grand Final against the West Coast Eagles, the second time in three weeks that Geelong had won with a kick after the final siren.

#### WHAT YEAR WAS THAT?

Can you name the year in which Ross Smith (St Kilda) won the Brownlow Medal, Red Handed won the Melbourne Cup, Australia voted by referendum to include indigenous people as part of the population and Elvis Presley married Priscilla Beaulieu.



## THIS ROUND IN HISTORY – ROUND 7 ON THE MCG

The highest score on the MCG in Round 7 is 28.12 (180) by North Melbourne against Melbourne 22.11 (143) in 1982. The overall Round 7 record is 37.17 (239) by Geelong against the Brisbane Bears 11.9 (75) at Carrara in 1992. The biggest winning margin at the MCG in Round 7 is 122 points by Melbourne 25.16 (166) when they defeated North Melbourne 5.14 (44) in 1937. The overall Round 7 record is 164 points by Geelong against the Brisbane Bears at Carrara in 1992. The lowest Round 7 score at the MCG since 1925 is 3.9 (27) by North Melbourne against Melbourne 15.21 (111) in 1927. This is the overall Round 7 record since 1925. The most goals by an individual in Round 7 at the MCG is 10 by Sydney's Tony Lockett against Collingwood in 1998. The overall Round 7 record is 17 by Jason Dunstall for Hawthorn versus Richmond at Waverley Park in 1992. The highest score in a quarter for Round 7 at the MCG is 10.3 (63) by the Kangaroos against Adelaide in the first quarter in 1999 and by North Melbourne against Melbourne in the second quarter in 1982. The overall Round 7 record is 14.3 (87) in the fourth quarter by Geelong when playing the Brisbane Bears at Carrara in 1992. The highest Round 7 attendance was in 2024 when 93,644 saw Essendon and Collingwood draw 12.13 (85) apiece at the MCG on ANZAC Day.

## STATISTICS FOR CARLTON V GEELONG

### Carlton v Geelong by venue

	Won by Carlton	Won by Geelong	Drawn
Corio Oval	20	20	1
Docklands	1	15	0
Kardinia Park	24	21	0
MCG	10	11	1
Princes Park	61	33	0
SCG	0	1	0
Waverley Park	4	3	0
	120	104	2

### Highest Score

Carlton	23.28 (166)	Rd 17	1944	PP
Geelong	24.18 (162)	Rd 2	2007	Dock

### Lowest Score

Carlton	1.5 (11)	Rd 2	1899	PP
Geelong	3.4 (22)	Rd 4	1919	PP

### Greatest Winning Margin

Carlton	106 points	Rd 17	1944	PP
Geelong	78 points	Rd 2	2007	Dock

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

11	L. Hagger	Geel	Rd 4	1927	Corio
10	L. White	Geel	Rd 19	1947	KP

### Last Time They Met – Round 15, 2024, MCG

	Carlton	Geelong
Quarter time	5.3	2.2
Half time	11.5	5.5
Three-quarter time	12.11	8.8
Full time	21.12 (138)	11.9 (75)

What Year was That? Answer: 1967

## PLAYED FOR BOTH

A defender, **Billie Smedts** came to Geelong from North Warrnambool and TAC Cup side Geelong Falcons with the Cats taking him at Pick 15 in the 2010 National Draft. Making his debut in Round 1, 2012, he played 38 games (19 goals) for the Cats but was traded to Carlton at the end of the 2016 season where he played nine games (1 goal) in 2017, being delisted at the end of the season. His career was riddled with injuries, with him suffering a broken leg twice, a broken collarbone and undergoing a shoulder reconstruction. He played with Leopold in 2018 before returning to North Warrnambool the following year, helping the Eagles to grand final appearances in 2019 and 2022.

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## FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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