



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET MAY 10, 2025

AFL 2025 ROUND 9 MELBOURNE V HAWTHORN

THE FIRST FINAL BETWEEN THE DEMONS AND THE HAWKS

In 1957 Hawthorn had won the first semi-final against Carlton at the MCG and Melbourne had been unsuccessful in the second semi-final against Essendon. On September 14, 1957, a crowd of 74,090 witnessed Hawthorn take on Melbourne in the preliminary final at the MCG (the matchday program the Football Record is pictured right). Melbourne outclassed Hawthorn by 68 points in this match. Alf Brown, writing in the *Herald*, explained:

“Melbourne won in the ruck and their little men were matchwinners. They took a firm grip on the game with a brilliant second quarter in which they kicked seven goals straight against the wind. Hawthorn battled hard all day but continually broke down. Still, it has been a great season for Hawthorn – finishing up in their first ever final series.”

Melbourne led by 18 points after the first quarter (Melbourne 4.4 (28) to Hawthorn 1.4 (10)). The second quarter saw Melbourne 11.4 (70) to Hawthorn 4.8 (32). The third quarter saw Melbourne 16.9 (105) to Hawthorn 9.9 (63). The final score read Melbourne 22.12 (114) to Hawthorn 11.10 (76). The best players for the Demons were Brian Dixon, Bob Johnson, Geoff Case, Ted Carroll, Frank “Bluey” Adams, Ron Barassi and Athol Webb. For the Hawks, their best were John Peck, Phil O’Brien, Brendan Edwards, Alf Hughes and Roy Simmonds. Goal kickers for the Demons included Athol Webb (3), Geoff Tunbridge (3), Bob Johnson (3) and Frank Adams (3). The Hawks leading goal kicker was John Peck (4). Melbourne went on to defeat Essendon in the grand final, scoring 17.14 (116) to Essendon’s 7.13 (55).



FOOTBALLING KNIGHTS.

There have been five men who played League football and would later be knighted. Two of these footballers have been associated with Melbourne and Hawthorn.

Sir Gilbert Lawrence Chandler, KBE, CMG (1903-1974). Gilbert Chandler was a horticulturist who was involved in a family nursery at The Basin. He was educated at Scotch College and as a 25-year-old, Chandler played one game for Hawthorn Football Club in the 1928 football season. He went on to be a senior politician, he was a cabinet member in the Henry Bolte government. Due to his sporting history, Chandler was a member of the 1956 Summer Olympics organizing committee. He later served as Chairman of the Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust in 1973 and 1974.

Sir Albert Edward (Bert) Chadwick, CMG, MSM. (1897-1983). Educated at Tungamah State School, he was offered a scholarship to University High School but was unable to take the offer up and entered an electrical engineering apprenticeship to support his family. Chadwick served in the Middle East with No. 67 Squadron, Royal Flying Corps (No.1, Australian Flying Corps). In 1918 he was promoted to Sergeant and was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. After the war he played the 1919 season with Prahran (VFA). From 1920 to 1928 he played with Melbourne in 141 games contributing 45 goals. Runner-up to Edward “Carji” Greeves in the 1924 Brownlow Medal. As Melbourne captain between 1924 and 1927 he had the honour of captain/coaching Melbourne to the 1926 premiership victory. In 1929 he captain/coached Hawthorn in the VFL with 17 games and eight goals. During World War II he served with the R.A.A.F as a wing-commander. In working life Bert Chadwick was chairman of the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria. He was the Melbourne Cricket Club president from 1965 to 1979 and the Melbourne Football Club president from 1950 to 1962. He was honoured with membership of Melbourne Football Club’s Team of the Century and the Melbourne Football Club’s Hall of Fame.

THIS ROUND IN HISTORY - ROUND 9 AT 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 MELBOURNE V HAWTHORN

Melbourne v Hawthorn by Venue

	Won by Melbourne	Won by Hawthorn	Drawn
Glenferrie Oval	29	15	0
MCG	43	46	1
Princes Park	4	11	0
Punt Road	3	1	0
Syd. Showground	1	0	0
Waverley Park	3	14	0
	83	87	1

Highest Score

Melbourne	26.20 (176)	Rd 17	1940	MCG
Hawthorn	26.22 (178)	Rd 11	1982	PP

Lowest Score

Melbourne	3.11 (29)	Rd 2	1966	GO
Hawthorn	1.7 (13)	Rd 9	1926	MCG

Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	141 points	Rd 9	1926	MCG
Hawthorn	115 points	Rd 21	1983	Wav

Last Time They Met – Round 2, 2024, MCG

	Melbourne	Hawthorn
Quarter time	5.3	0.1
Half time	6.5	2.3
Three-quarter time	10.7	4.6
Full time	14.9 (93)	5.8 (38)

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

16	P. Hudson	Haw	Rd 5	1969	GO
12	B. Johnson Snr	Melb	Rd 11	1933	MCG
11	F. Fanning	Melb	Rd 11	1944	GO
11	L. Matthews	Haw	Rd 1	1981	MCG
10	P. Hudson	Haw	Rd 22	1971	GO
10	J. Dunstall	Haw	Rd 22	1996	MCG

PLAYED WITH BOTH CLUBS

There have been 27 men who have appeared with both Melbourne and Hawthorn. Here are two of those players.

Jack O'Keefe (1915-2000) played with three VFL clubs in Melbourne 1939-42 in 46 games (27 goals), Hawthorn 1943-45 in 33 games (23 goals) and South Melbourne 1947, 3 games (6 goals), Originally from Northcote (VFA) he was 6'4" tall (193cm) and weighed 87 kg (192lb). From the police force Jack O'Keefe was a tough customer and a member of Melbourne's 1939, 1940 and 1941 premierships sides. As well as being a renowned follower, O'Keefe was a champion boxer in the police force. O'Keefe played a major role in delivering Melbourne a premiership in 1940 when he convincingly defeated Richmond's Jack "Captain Blood" Dyer in the 1940 grand final. O'Keefe was a reserve in Melbourne's 1939 grand final victory in his first season. He was a premiership player again in his next two seasons with the Demons, 1940 and 1941.

Gordon Bowman. (1927–2013). Recruited from East Malvern F.C., Bowman joined Melbourne from 1945 to 1950 where he played 53 games and kicked nine goals. He played in Melbourne's 1948 premiership side and was vice-captain of the Seconds premiership side in 1949. Bowman crossed to Hawthorn for seasons 1950 and 1951 where he played 29 games and kicked two goals. He then moved to Sandy Bay in Tasmania where he captained the club for seven years including a premiership in 1952. He moved to Queensland side Mayne where he played five seasons for two premierships. He then finished his playing career with NSW side Newtown, captain-coaching premierships in 1968 and 1969. He has been a premiership player in four states.

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>

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