



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2021 ROUND 1 RICHMOND V CARLTON

LIBRARY FACT SHEET MARCH 18, 2021

CARLTON'S FIRST VFL PREMIERSHIP TEAM (1906)

Along with seven other clubs, Carlton left the VFA to become a foundation member of the VFL in 1897. After struggling in the early years of the new competition, the club played its first final in 1903, won its first flag in 1906 (beating Fitzroy) and then made it three in a row in 1907 and 1908. Below is the 1906 premiership team, with the number of games listed referring to games played with Carlton.

B	Norman Clark , winner of the 1899 Stawell Gift, was a dashing defender who played 126 games (1905-12). He went on to coach Carlton's 1914/15 premiership teams.	Doug Gillespie played 90 games (1906-10, 1912). Although short for a key position player, he was strongly built, reliable and a fine mark and kick.	Les Beck was recruited from Carlton Juniors. The Blues won 53 of Beck's 60 games (1906-09), three of those being premiership victories.
HB	Billy Payne , who was recruited from then VFA club Footscray, played 127 games (1904-1912). An attacking, flamboyant defender, he was best afield in the 1906 premiership match.	George Johnson , who crossed from then VFA club Richmond, played 90 games (1905-09). Initially a key position player, he went on to become a champion ruckman. He would be best afield in the 1907 grand final.	Charlie Hammond played 154 games (1906-09 and 1914-18). A rugged defender or follower, Hammond played in five Carlton premiership teams. He would be best afield in the 1908 grand final.
C	Ted Kennedy played 106 games (1904-09). A triple premiership player, Kennedy had appeared in 43 games for Essendon before switching to the Blues. An outstanding winger, he was fleet of foot and a superb kick.	Rod McGregor played 236 games (1905-12 and 1914-1920). One of the stars of the era, McGregor was cool, elusive and highly skilled. He held the games record at Carlton until it was broken by John Nicholls.	George Bruce (vc), recruited from West Adelaide, played 181 games (1903-13). Renowned as a big occasion player, the lightning fast Bruce played in three premiership teams.
HF	Frank Caine , who played 80 games (1905-09), was probably Carlton's best forward during this very successful period. A spectacular high flyer, he kicked three goals in the 1906 premiership decider.	Mick Grace played 86 games (1903-07). Having won two flags with Fitzroy, Grace, one of the best marks of the era, switched to Carlton and played in the 1906 and 1907 premiership teams.	Jim Marchbank played 115 games (1903-04 and 1906-13). A strong, raw-boned type, Marchbank played in the 1906 and 1908 premiership teams.
F	Ike Little was recruited from then VFA club North Melbourne. With a career total of just eight games, Little was in the right place at the right time.	George Topping played 125 games (1902-10, 1912, 1914 and 1916). Brilliant but fiery, he played in the 1906/07/08 premiership teams. He would be suspended for 18 months in 1910.	Alex Lang played 105 games (1906-10 and 1916-17). A champion rover, Lang would be suspended for five years for his involvement in match fixing during the 1910 finals.
R	Jim Flynn (capt) played 72 games for Geelong before switching to Carlton in 1903. A skilled and tireless ruckman, he also filled key positions in both attack and defence.	Fred Elliott played 197 games (1900-01 and 1903-11). An outstanding follower, he would captain the Blues in 1908/09 and then become captain-coach in 1910/11.	Fred Jinks , who was recruited from then VFA club Footscray, played 60 games (1906-09). A versatile footballer, he would play as a half-forward in the 1907 grand final and at half-back the following year.

RICHMOND'S 1943 PREMIERSHIP

Due to the war, only sixteen home and away games were played in 1943, Geelong being prevented from competing because of transport difficulties. After finishing on top of the ladder by percentage, the Tigers began their finals campaign inauspiciously, going down to Essendon by 23 points in the second semi final. They were in trouble again the following week, trailing Fitzroy by 15 points at half time in the preliminary final. Returning to top form in the second half, Richmond drew away to take the match by 25 points. The grand final was a tense struggle, the Tigers overcoming a five-point deficit at the final change to win a cliffhanger by five points. Richmond's Dick Harris was the match-winner with seven goals. The grand final saw the Tigers 12.14 [86] defeat Essendon 11.15 [81].

This Round in History – Round 1 on the MCG

The MCG has witnessed some big wins in Round 1. The biggest was Geelong's 127-point victory over Melbourne in 1996. This bettered Melbourne's 105-point win over South Melbourne in 1971. The Cats' score of 27.21 (183) in 1996 is also the best Round 1 score on the MCG. The best score in one quarter was by Essendon which kicked 11.3 (69) during the second quarter against Melbourne in 1935. Drawn games have figured prominently in Round 1 over the years. However, only one has taken place on the MCG, when Melbourne drew with Sydney 11.18 (84) apiece on March 27, 2011. The highest tally of goals kicked in Round 1 on the MCG was 12 by Essendon's Ted Freyer against Melbourne in 1935. The top attendance for a Round 1 game at the MCG is 90,151 for the Carlton-Richmond game in 2018.

Statistics for Richmond v Carlton

Richmond v Carlton by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Carlton	Drawn
MCG	47	35	0
Docklands	1	2	0
Princes Park	23	54	1
Punt Road	21	30	0
Waverley	3	4	1
	95	125	2

Highest Score

Richmond	25.24 (174)	Rd 1	1978	MCG
Carlton	28.16 (184)	Rd 15	2011	MCG

Lowest Score

Richmond	2.9 (21)	Rd 10	1958	PP
Carlton	3.10 (28)	Rd 9	1924	PP

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	85 points	Rd 7	2005	MCG
Carlton	115 points	Rd 14	1984	PP

Last Time They Met – Round 1, 2020, MCG

	Richmond	Carlton
Quarter time	7.2	2.1
Half time	11.3	3.5
Three-quarter time	14.5	8.7
Full time	16.9 (105)	12.9 (81)

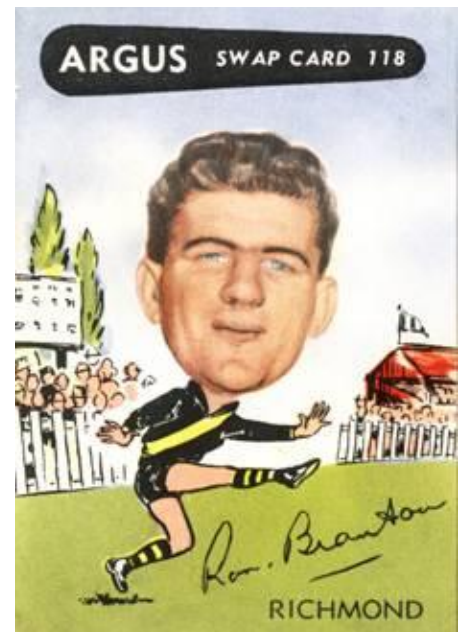
Most Goals in a Match

10	Jim Baird	Carl	Rd 1	1943	PP
10	Sel Murray	Rich	Rd 7	1945	PP
10	Robert Walls	Carl	Rd 7	1976	PP

PLAYING IN THE WRONG ERA

Ron Branton: Some players are lucky enough to join clubs when they are on the brink of a successful era. Others play their entire careers without experiencing finals football. Richmond did not play a final between 1948 and 1966. Many fine footballers represented the club during that period, one of the best of those being Ron Branton (right). Recruited from Maryborough, Branton played 170 games and kicked 171 goals for the Tigers between 1953 and 1962. Originally a rover, he later became a top class back pocket specialist. He topped the club's goalkicking in 1953 and 1954, won the best and fairest award in 1960, 1961 and 1962, captained the club from 1960 to 1962 and represented Victoria twice. He was inducted into the Tigers' Hall of Fame in 2006.

Bruce Comben: Carlton won premierships in 1938, 1945 and 1947. Unfortunately for Bruce Comben, who played 188 games for the Blues between 1950 and 1961, his club would not win another flag until 1968. Although Comben played in four semi finals during his career, he was not on the winning side in any of them. Recruited from Werribee South, he began his career in Carlton's under 19s at 15 years of age. He would develop into a tough and fearless defender who won the best and fairest award in 1957 and 1958, captained the club from 1958 to 1960 and represented Victoria nine times. He was inducted into the Blues' Hall Of Fame in 1989 and named in the back pocket in their Team of the Century.



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.