



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

## QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY

AFL 2022 ROUND 13

LIBRARY FACT SHEET

COLLINGWOOD V MELBOURNE

JUNE 13, 2022

### MELBOURNE VERSUS COLLINGWOOD ON QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

While Melbourne and Collingwood had played matches at the MCG on the Queen's Birthday holiday a number of times before, including the famous clash in 1958 that attracted 99,256 fans, it was not until 2001 that the AFL agreed to schedule the Melbourne versus Collingwood encounter as the only game on the Monday public holiday. The Magpies have won 12 of the 19 clashes at the MCG since 2001, the Demons have won six and one has been drawn. After Collingwood won in 2001, 2002 and 2003, Melbourne were the victors for four years straight from 2004 to 2007. The Magpies were then victorious in each Queen's Birthday clash from 2008 to 2015, except in 2010 when the teams played out a draw. Since 2001, the largest crowd here has been 83,518 in 2018 and the lowest 50,835 in 2013. The biggest winning margin has been 88 points by Collingwood in 2011 and the smallest four points by Melbourne in 2017. The highest score has been 22.9 (141) by Melbourne in 2006 and the lowest Melbourne's 3.10 (28) in 2014. The COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on sport in Melbourne meant that there was no Queen's Birthday clash between the clubs in 2020, and the Melbourne v Collingwood match was rescheduled for August 15 at the Gabba in Brisbane. In 2021 the Queen's Birthday match between the clubs was moved to the Sydney Cricket Ground.

### KING'S BIRTHDAY 1950

On Monday June 12, 1950, Melbourne met Collingwood at the MCG in Round 8. This was one of three games played on the King's Birthday holiday, the others being St Kilda versus Fitzroy at the Junction Oval (St Kilda won by 5 points) and North Melbourne versus Geelong at the Arden Street Oval (North won by 17 points). A crowd of 55,002 were in attendance at the MCG, and they saw the Demons 16.9 (105) defeat the Magpies 8.11 (59). Melbourne led by 16 points at the first change (5.2 to 2.4) and held the same margin at half-time (7.4 to 4.6). A four-goal to one third quarter gave the Demons a handy 39-point lead at the final change and they increased this to 46 points at the final siren. Writing in the *Argus* the next day, former Melbourne and Fitzroy defender Audley Gillespie-Jones reported:

Melbourne adapted themselves better to the conditions, and with their back line on top all day, won a highly interesting match against Collingwood on the M.C.G. yesterday. Melbourne were not impressive on the forward line, and would have been in trouble but for the magnificent display of Denis Cordner (who kicked six goals straight), and of Len Dockett (four goals) [Note: *AFL Tables* list Dockett as kicking three goals]. Collingwood's half back line, with Neil Mann and Jack Hamilton excelling, repulsed Melbourne time and time again. Hamilton and Bob McKenzie staged interesting duels, but Hamilton, who was Collingwood's best player, had the better of the day. McKenzie was playing his first game for some weeks. Shane McGrath (Melbourne full back), and Bill Twomey, were well matched, but the conditions generally favoured the Melbourne player. Twomey's three goals were well earned. He moved far from goal, but could not lose the tenacious McGrath. The centre line seemed to be fairly evenly matched, although George Bickford (Melbourne) had a slight call over Charlie Utting (Collingwood). The scores were not a true indication of the play, which was of a high order, taking the heavy ground into account. Melbourne obtained the winning break in the third term, when they held Collingwood to one goal. Neither side slackened in the last quarter, the highlight being a beautiful goal by Arthur Pound, the new Melbourne full forward, after the bell had sounded. Melbourne's best player was Denis Cordner, who marked the greasy ball perfectly, and whose kicking was of a high standard. He was the best of the ruck men, and, in addition, kicked six goals. Collingwood's best player was Hamilton, who gave a splendid exhibition of half back play.

# Queen's/King's Birthday Holiday Football Matches at the MCG from 1861

Date	Day	Match	Home Team	G	B	Away Team	G	B	Crowd	Neale Daniher Trophy		
24/05/1861	Fri		Melbourne	2	-	(2)	Geelong	0	-	(0)	600	
24/05/1865	Wed	ASC Cup	Melbourne	2	-	(2)	Geelong	1	-	(1)		
24/05/1884	Sat	Tour	Carlton	3	14	(3)	Norwood	3	12	(3)	6-12,000	
25/05/1885	Mon	Tour	Melbourne	7	16	(7)	Port Adelaide	4	6	(4)	500	
24/05/1888	Thu	VFA	Melbourne	3	15	(3)	Carlton	10	6	(10)	5-6000	
	Thu	VFA	North Melbourne	8	11	(8)	Geelong	8	4	(8)	16,000	
24/05/1889	Fri	VFA	North Melbourne	2	8	(2)	Geelong	4	10	(4)	20,000	
24/05/1890	Sat	VFA	North Melbourne	9	8	(9)	Geelong	0	5	(0)	4000	
25/05/1891	Mon	VFA	North Melbourne	4	6	(4)	Geelong	11	8	(11)	7000	
24/05/1893	Wed	VFA	North Melbourne	2	8	(2)	Geelong	3	6	(3)	2-3000	
24/05/1895	Fri	VFA	Carlton	6	8	(6)	St Kilda	3	3	(3)	3300	
25/05/1896	Mon	VFA	Melbourne	5	8	(5)	Fitzroy	6	3	(6)	4000	
24/05/1898	Tue	Rd 3	Melbourne	6	10	(46)	Collingwood	5	6	(36)		
09/06/1902	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	7	5	(47)	South Melbourne	6	10	(46)		
08/06/1903	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	4	8	(32)	Carlton	1	2	(8)		
06/06/1904	Mon	Rd 6	Melbourne	8	10	(58)	Carlton	5	5	(35)		
04/06/1906	Mon	Rd 5	Melbourne	8	8	(56)	Geelong	11	9	(75)		
08/06/1908	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	10	6	(66)	Essendon	10	12	(72)		
07/06/1909	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	18	9	(117)	Geelong	5	8	(38)	8495	
06/06/1910	Mon	Rd 6	Melbourne	10	7	(67)	Essendon	16	21	(117)	8810	
05/06/1911	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	6	12	(48)	Richmond	9	15	(69)	8130	
03/06/1912	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	8	6	(54)	Essendon	16	12	(108)	12,085	
09/06/1913	Mon	Rd 8	University	10	9	(69)	South Melbourne	13	12	(90)	9458	
08/06/1914	Mon	Rd 8	University	3	6	(24)	Fitzroy	15	18	(108)	7655	
05/06/1922	Mon	Rd 5	Melbourne	9	12	(66)	Geelong	9	6	(60)	16,189	
09/06/1924	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	11	17	(83)	Richmond	13	9	(87)	27,533	
08/06/1925	Mon	Amat	MAFA (VFA)	21	22	(148)	SAAFL	8	10	(58)	2656	
07/06/1926	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	12	16	(88)	South Melbourne	8	17	(65)	20,974	
04/06/1928	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	10	14	(74)	Carlton	9	10	(64)	41,402	
03/06/1929	Mon	Rd 6	Melbourne	8	13	(61)	St Kilda	8	11	(59)	38,104	
08/06/1931	Mon	Amat	MAFA (VFA)	15	16	(106)	SAAFL	6	16	(52)	1639	
03/06/1935	Mon	Rd 6	Melbourne	15	13	(103)	St Kilda	15	20	(110)	22,711	
29/06/1936	Mon	Rep	Victoria (VFL)	16	21	(117)	Victoria (VFA)	10	10	(70)	12,000	
12/06/1939	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	18	14	(122)	Footscray	15	13	(103)	22,016	
17/06/1940	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	12	15	(87)	Fitzroy	12	13	(85)	19,737	
16/06/1941	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	14	13	(97)	Carlton	19	10	(124)	29,000	
12/06/1950	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	16	9	(105)	Collingwood	8	11	(59)	55,000	
11/06/1951	Mon	Rd 7	Melbourne	9	13	(67)	Richmond	12	9	(81)	51,000	
14/06/1954	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	11	13	(79)	Essendon	14	17	(101)	36,800	
13/06/1955	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	13	16	(94)	Richmond	11	12	(78)	39,949	
17/06/1957	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	23	16	(154)	Geelong	14	10	(94)	48,001	
16/06/1958	Mon	Rd 10	Melbourne	12	12	(84)	Collingwood	10	13	(73)	99,256	
15/06/1959	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	19	15	(129)	Essendon	8	8	(56)	52,880	
13/06/1960	Mon	Rep	Victoria (VFL)	21	15	(141)	South Australia	12	19	(91)	34,062	
12/06/1961	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	17	19	(121)	Collingwood	7	10	(52)	78,465	
10/06/1963	Mon	Rd 8	Melbourne	11	16	(82)	Geelong	4	11	(35)	81,550	
15/06/1964	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	10	13	(73)	Collingwood	8	15	(63)	86,660	
14/06/1965	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	9	7	(61)	St Kilda	18	14	(122)	72,114	
13/06/1966	Mon	Rd 8	Richmond	10	11	(71)	North Melbourne	8	23	(71)	33,959	
12/06/1967	Mon	Rd 9	Melbourne	19	14	(128)	South Melbourne	12	17	(89)	45,723	
10/06/1968	Mon	Rd 8	Richmond	11	15	(81)	Hawthorn	11	14	(80)	31,325	
16/06/1969	Mon	Rd 10	Melbourne	17	18	(120)	Footscray	12	23	(95)	27,330	
15/06/1970	Mon	Rd 11	Richmond	22	15	(147)	Footscray	13	12	(90)	41,866	
14/06/1971	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	10	14	(74)	Hawthorn	14	10	(94)	52,256	
17/06/1974	Mon	Rd 11	Richmond	19	19	(133)	Footscray	15	11	(101)	68,447	
16/06/1975	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	14	11	(95)	Collingwood	9	19	(73)	42,803	
13/06/1977	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	11	20	(86)	Collingwood	17	17	(119)	63,966	
16/06/1980	Mon	Rd 12	Richmond	16	12	(108)	Hawthorn	11	22	(88)	57,572	
13/06/1983	Mon	Rd 12	Richmond	21	15	(141)	Carlton	13	13	(91)	48,243	
10/06/1985	Mon	Rd 11	North Melbourne	17	11	(113)	Hawthorn	17	11	(113)	39,084	
09/06/1986	Mon	Rd 11	Richmond	15	7	(97)	Footscray	12	8	(80)	35,360	

Date	Day	Match	Home Team	G	B	Away Team	G	B	Crowd	Neale Daniher Trophy		
08/06/1987	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	13	12	[90]	Carlton	21	9	[135]	49,812	
13/06/1988	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	13	15	[93]	West Coast	10	13	[73]	28,045	
12/06/1989	Mon	Rd 11	Geelong	12	17	[89]	Essendon	4	11	[35]	87,653	
11/06/1990	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	15	9	[99]	Carlton	13	15	[93]	59,782	
10/06/1991	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	13	12	[90]	Richmond	14	12	[96]	29,415	
08/06/1992	Mon	Rd 12	Collingwood	11	10	[76]	St Kilda	10	17	[77]	80,060	
14/06/1993	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	24	16	[160]	Collingwood	16	13	[109]	57,833	
13/06/1994	Mon	Rd 12	Richmond	14	18	[102]	Collingwood	4	12	[36]	61,983	
12/06/1995	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	12	8	[80]	Carlton	16	16	[112]	53,290	
10/06/1996	Mon	Rd 10	Melbourne	17	12	[114]	Collingwood	10	16	[76]	48,302	
09/06/1997	Mon	Rd 11	North Melbourne	15	15	[105]	Fremantle	12	7	[79]	20,585	
08/06/1998	Mon	Rd 11	North Melbourne	19	12	[126]	Collingwood	13	19	[97]	58,369	
14/06/1999	Mon	Rd 11	Collingwood	11	12	[78]	Melbourne	13	11	[89]	40,031	
12/06/2000	Mon	Rd 14	Richmond	12	15	[87]	Western Bulldogs	7	10	[52]	49,557	
11/06/2001	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	8	9	[57]	Collingwood	19	20	[134]	62,761	
10/06/2002	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	10	15	[75]	Collingwood	19	12	[126]	65,860	
09/06/2003	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	10	17	[77]	Collingwood	20	13	[133]	60,010	
14/06/2004	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	12	10	[82]	Collingwood	11	7	[73]	56,988	
13/06/2005	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	17	15	[117]	Collingwood	10	12	[72]	65,347	
12/06/2006	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	22	9	[141]	Collingwood	14	10	[94]	78,773	
11/06/2007	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	13	16	[94]	Collingwood	11	15	[81]	70,660	
09/06/2008	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	13	17	[95]	Collingwood	17	14	[116]	59,548	
08/06/2009	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	8	12	[60]	Collingwood	19	12	[126]	61,287	
14/06/2010	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	11	10	[76]	Collingwood	9	22	[76]	67,454	
13/06/2011	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	6	5	[41]	Collingwood	19	15	[129]	75,998	
11/06/2012	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	13	9	[87]	Collingwood	19	15	[129]	64,250	
10/06/2013	Mon	Rd 11	Melbourne	5	9	[39]	Collingwood	17	20	[122]	50,835	
09/06/2014	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	3	10	[28]	Collingwood	8	13	[61]	68,130	
08/06/2015	Mon	Rd 10	Melbourne	13	7	[85]	Collingwood	17	18	[110]	66,120	T. Cloke [Coll]
13/06/2016	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	16	8	[104]	Collingwood	8	10	[58]	60,158	M. Gawn [Melb]
12/06/2017	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	15	14	[104]	Collingwood	15	10	[100]	70,926	C. Petracca [Melb]
11/06/2018	Mon	Rd 12	Melbourne	14	7	[91]	Collingwood	20	13	[133]	83,518	M. Cox [Coll]
10/06/2019	Mon	Rd 12	Collingwood	15	8	[98]	Melbourne	15	15	[105]	74,036	A. Treloar [Coll]

## THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY CLASH

The highest home and away crowd occurred in the 1958 Melbourne and Collingwood Queen's Birthday fixture, when 99,256 attended the Round 10 match. The popularity of the Queen's or King's Birthday matches is astounding. In the early 1890s, crowds turned out in great numbers. One of the great Queen's Birthday rivalries was Essendon and South Melbourne and their meetings at the East Melbourne Cricket Ground attracted 37,108 on Saturday, May 24, 1890, 37,202 on Monday, May 25, 1891 and 35,409 on Tuesday May 24, 1892. In the years of Queen Victoria's reign, the Queen's Birthday holiday was celebrated on May 24 – the date of her birth in 1819 – whichever day of the week it fell on, except when it fell on a Sunday, when Monday May 25 became the holiday. The first VFL season, in 1897, contained one split round: Round 3, with two matches on Saturday, May 22 and two on Monday, May 24. Full rounds were played on Tuesday, May 24, 1898, Wednesday, May 24, 1899, and Thursday, May 24, 1900, with the exception of the Essendon v Collingwood match, which was brought forward to Wednesday, May 23, 1900, an additional public holiday spontaneously proclaimed to celebrate the "Relief of Mafeking" in the Boer War. When Queen Victoria died early in 1901, and Edward VII ascended the throne, the practice began of gazetting this holiday (known as the King's Birthday from 1901 to 1951) on a Monday early in June, while May 24, though no longer a public holiday, was retained as Empire Day.

## ABOUT THE KING'S/QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY IN AUSTRALIA

The day has been celebrated since 1788 when Governor Arthur Phillip declared a holiday to mark the sovereign's birthday. Until 1936, it was held on the actual birthday of the monarch, but, after King George V died, it was decided to keep the date on the second Monday in June. This has more evenly spaced out public holidays throughout the year. While George V's successor, Edward VIII, also celebrated his birthday in June, the two sovereigns since have not: George VI's birthday was in December, very close to public holidays for Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year's, while Queen Elizabeth II's birthday falls shortly after holidays for Good Friday and Easter and very close to ANZAC Day.

## FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at: <http://tinyurl.com/mcclcatalogue>

## This Round in History – Round 13 on the MCG

The highest score at the MCG is 29.18 (192) by Geelong against North Melbourne 17.13 (115) in 1992. The overall Round 13 record is 34.16 (220) by Fitzroy against North Melbourne 10.10 (70) at the Junction Oval in 1983. The highest score in a quarter at the MCG is 10.1 (61) by Geelong during the last quarter against Richmond in 1972. The overall Round 13 record for the highest score in a quarter is 13.2 (80) by South Melbourne against Carlton in the third quarter at the Lakeside Oval in 1934. The most goals kicked by an individual at the MCG in this Round is 11 by Doug Wade for Geelong against Richmond in 1972. The overall Round 13 record is 16 goals by Gordon Coventry for Collingwood against Hawthorn at Victoria Park in 1929. The highest Round 13 attendance at the MCG is 83,407 in 2009 when Essendon defeated Carlton.

### Statistics for Melbourne v Collingwood

#### *Melbourne v Collingwood by venue*

	Won by Melbourne	Won by Collingwood	Drawn
Albert Park	0	2	0
Gabba	1	0	0
MCG	58	83	3
Punt Road	2	3	0
Victoria Park	19	56	2
SCG	0	1	0
Waverley	4	6	0
	84	151	5

#### *Highest Score*

Melbourne	25.18 (168)	Rd 20	1982	VP
Collingwood	27.11 (173)	Rd 2	1996	MCG

#### *Lowest Score*

Melbourne	1.5 (11)	Rd 10	1898	VP
Collingwood	2.2 (14)	GF	1960	MCG

#### *Greatest Winning Margin*

Melbourne	94 points	Rd 10	1939	MCG
Collingwood	109 points	Rd 15	1919	MCG

#### *Last Time They Met – Round 13, 2021, SCG*

	Collingwood	Melbourne
Quarter time	1.4	2.2
Half time	6.8	4.4
Three-quarter time	8.11	8.6
Full time	11.14 (80)	9.9 (63)

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

10	Gordon Coventry	Coll	Rd 18	1933	VP
10	George Margitich	Melb	Rd 18	1933	VP
10	Peter McKenna	Coll	Rd 6	1971	MCG
10	Saverio Rocca	Coll	Rd 2	1997	MCG

### PLAYED WITH BOTH CLUBS

Billy "Pickles" Libbis had a distinguished career with Collingwood between 1925 and 1933, playing 138 games and kicking 150 goals. He was a forward and rover in some of Collingwood's greatest ever teams, during the period when they won four consecutive premierships from 1927 to 1930. Team-mate Gordon Coventry claimed he was "the best rover he ever saw". After Round 2, 1931, Libbis was suspended for eight games for striking Ted Pool of Hawthorn and he only played three further games that season before being hospitalised with appendicitis. He returned to play 18 games for the Magpies in 1932 but, after one game with Collingwood in 1933, a pay dispute with the club saw him continue his League career at Melbourne, where he played a further 39 games (25 goals) from 1933 to 1935. He represented Victoria in his first season at Melbourne, and in total played 12 games for Victoria from 1926 to 1933. In 2003, 70 years after he transferred to Melbourne, and 17 years after his death, Collingwood made Libbis a Life Member of the club. Ten years later he became a member of Collingwood's Hall of Fame.

### BIG FREEZE AT THE 'G

The annual Big Freeze at the 'G was first held in 2015 as a Motor Neurone Disease (MND) fundraiser. "Big Freeze at the 'G"-branded merchandise is sold, and celebrities and football personalities in fancy dress take a waterslide into a pool of ice-water, situated in the Ponsford Stand, to raise money and awareness. Since 2015 the best player in the Queen's Birthday match has been awarded the Neale Daniher Trophy, named after the Essendon great and former Melbourne coach, whose inspiring battle with MND has galvanised the football community.

In 2020, due to the pandemic and Melbourne being in lockdown, the MND Fundraiser, branded Big Freeze 6, was broadcast by Channel 7 from numerous venues on the Queen's Birthday holiday. Although the 2021 Queen's Birthday match was shifted to Sydney, Big Freeze 7, went ahead as scheduled at the MCG.

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