



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2021 ROUND 15 RICHMOND V ST KILDA

LIBRARY FACT SHEET JUNE 25, 2021

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The *Football Record* of 21 May 1921 filled us in on the celebrations of supporters of these two sides after wins the previous week. Richmond had beaten South Melbourne by 31 points, and the Saints had downed Fitzroy by 10 points.

“The St Kilda trams and trains were fairly buzzing with excitement on Saturday evening. The Richmond contingent of barrackers were on the lines coming towards Melbourne, and they were singing with magnificent earnestness, led by some Tigresses who piped up rather well something about Richmond being on top. Their song did not accurately describe the state of affairs, for Collingwood are on top. Probably they meant that the Tigers were ahead of South on the day’s game. When they had completed their ditty the boys with powerful lungs away along the railway carriages roared fiercely, ‘Eat-em-alive-o!’ St Kilda chaps and chapesses were rather less demonstrative but they were none the less delighted. They exchanged the glad tidings of victory as they passed each other on tram or train.”

It was not all good news for St Kilda however with the *Record* going on to tell us:

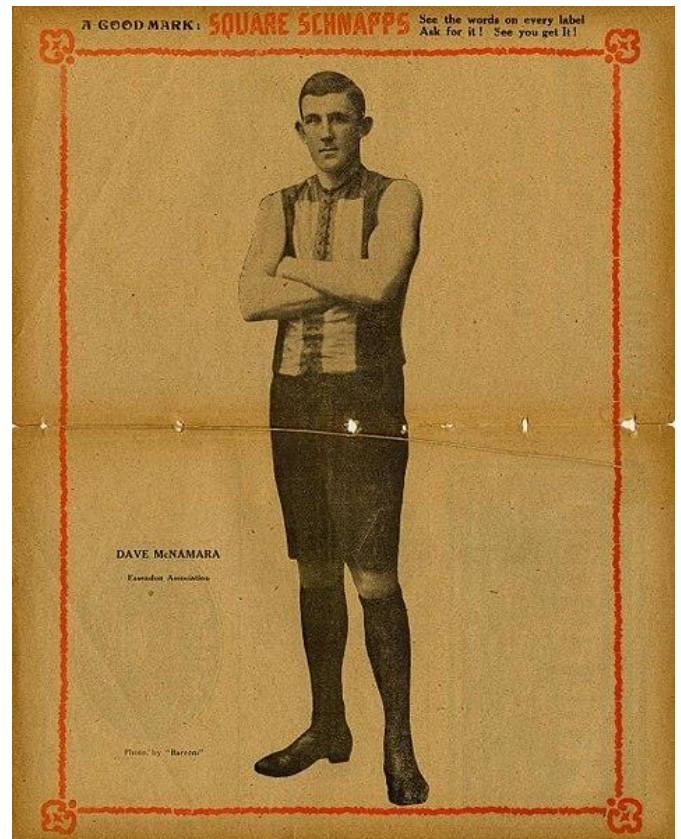
“Dave McNamara’s (St Kilda) come-back act has been unfortunate for him. In his first game he took an accidental crack on the nose, which was ‘bluggy’ (sic) for days. Then at Fitzroy he was taken from the field for the hospital with a broken ankle. Bad luck indeed for the big man, who will have the sympathy of all. It looks as if this is the end of his career as a footballer, but I hope not.”

McNamara (pictured) did, in fact, recover and played a further 22 games for the Saints in 1922 and 1923. He played a total of 122 games for the club, kicking 187 goals. He was renowned for his prodigiously long place and drop kicks, earning him the nickname “Long Dave” McNamara. It is said that one of his kicks in a match against Collingwood was later measured at 93 yards (85 metres). He captained the club in 1923 and later coached the side in 1914, 1922 and 1923. In 1996 he was one of the inaugural inductees into the Australian Football Hall of Fame. In 2003 he was selected as a forward pocket/ruckman in St Kilda’s Team of the Century and was inducted into the club’s Hall of Fame.

THEIR FIRST FINAL

St Kilda was a foundation member of the Victorian Football League in 1897. It took another 11 years before Richmond was admitted to the competition. Another 31 years elapsed before these two teams met in the First Semi Final in 1939. In front of a crowd of 51,411 at the MCG, the Saints proved to be too speedy for the Tigers, leading at every change and going into the final quarter with an unassailable lead of 35 points. The *Complete Book of AFL Finals* tells us that St Kilda’s “Fountain and Garvin unexpectedly beating Bentley and (Jack) Dyer... Richmond made some drastic changes at three-quarter time... but, although Titus kicked a couple of quick goals, the Saints had no intention of relaxing and two snap goals by Killigrew put them out of danger of defeat.”

St Kilda 10.12 (72) def. Richmond 6.6 (42) The two sides have only met in three finals since that game, the 1971 Preliminary Final, St Kilda again winning by 30 points, the 1973 First Semi Final, Richmond successful by 40 points and last year’s Semi Final when the Tigers ran out victors by 31 points.



This Round in History – Round 15 on the MCG

The highest Round 15 score on the MCG is 27.20 (182) by Essendon against Melbourne 8.12 (60) in 1986. The overall Round 15 record is 28.23 (191) by Hawthorn against Geelong 13.6 (84) at Princes Park in 1977. The most goals by an individual is 11 by Peter Sumich for West Coast against Essendon in 1992 and by Gary Ablett Snr for Geelong against Melbourne in 1993. The overall Round 15 record is 12 which has been recorded by three players – Bob Pratt for South Melbourne against Footscray at the Lakeside Oval in 1934, Peter Hudson for Hawthorn against St Kilda at Glenferrie Oval in 1971 and Simon Beasley for Footscray against Melbourne at the Western Oval in 1985. The highest score in a quarter is 10.5 (65) by Richmond in the last quarter against Hawthorn in 1997. Richmond kicked 22.13 (145) to win by 76 points. The overall Round 15 record for the highest score in a quarter is 12.6 (78) by Geelong against Brisbane at Carrara in 1989. Geelong kicked 22.19 (151) to win by 74 points after leading by only 21 points at three-quarter time. The highest Round 15 attendance at the MCG is 81,099 in 1960 when Melbourne defeated Collingwood by 46 points. This is the overall Round 15 record.

Statistics for Richmond v St Kilda

Richmond v St Kilda by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by St Kilda	Drawn
MCG	24	8	3
Toorak Park	2	0	0
Moorabbin	8	11	0
SCG	1	0	0
Punt Road	38	11	0
Waverley	10	8	0
Junction Oval	21	19	0
Princes Park	0	1	0
Docklands	9	14	0
Carrara	1	0	0
	114	72	3

Highest Score

Richmond	34.18 (222)	Rd 16	1980	SCG
St Kilda	27.12 (174)	Rd 17	2006	MCG

Lowest Score

Richmond	0.8 (8)	Rd 16	1961	JO
St Kilda	1.10 (16)	Rd 15	1910	PR

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	152 points	Rd 16	1980	SCG
St Kilda	103 points	Rd 17	2006	MCG

Last Time They Met – Round 5, 2021, Docklands

	Richmond	St Kilda
Quarter time	3.3	3.4
Half time	8.6	4.5
Three-quarter time	15.12	6.6
Full time	20.14 (134)	7.6 (48)

Most Goals in a Match

10	Michael Roach	Rich	Rd 18	1979	Wav
10	Michael Roach	Rich	Rd 16	1980	SCG
10	Fraser Gehrig	St K	Rd 17	2006	MCG

ALAN KILLIGREW

At a slight 168cm, Alan Killigrew was St Kilda's leading goalkicker in the 1939 Semi Final with three goals. He played 78 games (75 goals) for the Saints from 1938 to 1941 and 1943 to 1945. He was voted club champion in 1940. After his playing career finished he coached in Ballarat before taking up the coaching position at St Kilda in 1956. Known for his aggression on and off the field, he coached the side until 1958, expecting "guts and determination" from his players and occasionally running into trouble with opposition players and supporters. He led the club to its first night premiership in 1958 and two players Brian Gleeson (1957) and Neil Roberts (1958) won Brownlow Medals during his tenure. He left St Kilda when he felt a lack of support from officials, and went on to coach Norwood (1959-62), North Melbourne (1963-66) and Subiaco (1967).

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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.