



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2022 ROUND 15 MELBOURNE V BRISBANE

LIBRARY FACT SHEET JUNE 23, 2022

ROUND 14, 2008 – THE DEMONS WIN A THRILLER AT THE MCG

Heading into the 14th round of the 2008 season, Melbourne was sitting on the bottom of the AFL ladder, having only recorded one win for the season. The Brisbane Lions were in sixth position on eight wins and had the opportunity to move up the ladder if they could defeat the Demons.

After Jonathan Brown opened the scoring for the Lions, and Joel Patfull added a second goal in reply to one from Brad Miller for the Demons, Melbourne had the better of the first quarter to lead by 19 points at the first change. Miller kicked three of Melbourne's five goals for the quarter and when Colin Sylvia kicked his second goal for the game early in the second term the Demons had a 23-point lead. There was little scoring from either side during most of the second quarter but three quick goals to the Lions (from Brown, Daniel Bradshaw and Michael Rischitelli) in the middle of the term brought them back into the game and they trailed by only three points at half-time.

Melbourne got on top again in the third quarter, kicking the first three goals of the term. Colin Sylvia's third goal had the Demons out by 20 points with less than ten minutes to go in the quarter but the Lions responded with goals to Rhan Hooper and Bradshaw before the siren and Melbourne was up by eight points at the final change.

Hooper kicked another goal soon after the final quarter began to bring the Lions within one point but Brad Green answered for Melbourne to restore a seven-point buffer. The game now see-sawed with Brown kicking consecutive goals to give the Lions the lead but majors to Sylvia and Austin Wonaeamirri then put the Demons back in front. A further goal to Brown, and two more to Bradshaw, seemed to have snatched the game from the Demons but Cameron Bruce and Brad Miller kicked the final two goals of the game to give Melbourne victory by a single point. The final scores were Melbourne 14.9 (93) to Brisbane 13.14 (92). Up until the end of the 2021 season this has been the only occasion when there has been a one-point victory margin in a Melbourne versus Brisbane Lions game.

THE 1987 VFL SEASON

Thirty-five years ago the Victorian Football League (which became the Australian Football League in 1990) expanded for the first time since 1925 with the addition of two interstate teams – the Brisbane Bears and the West Coast Eagles. The 1987 season also saw Melbourne make the finals for the first time since 1964.

The Demons started the season reasonably brightly with wins over Fitzroy in Round 1 and St Kilda in Round 4 but a five-point loss to the Brisbane Bears at Carrara in Round 5 left them in ninth place on the ladder, below the seventh-placed Bears, who had won their opening two games against North Melbourne and Geelong and then lost to St Kilda and Fitzroy.

When Melbourne and Brisbane faced each other at the MCG in Round 18 the Demons were still in ninth place with seven wins, while the Bears were in 12th, having won only two more games since beating Melbourne in Round 5. The Demons recorded a convincing 54-point win in Round 18 and they remained undefeated for the remainder of the home-and-away season to sneak into the final five with 12 wins. Melbourne's final round win over Footscray helped secure their place in the finals but they still needed Hawthorn to defeat Geelong to confirm this. The Hawks defeated Geelong by three points.

In the final round Brisbane beat Richmond by 56 points at the MCG to record their sixth victory for the season and move above Richmond to 13th place on the ladder.

Melbourne defeated North Melbourne comfortably in the first week of the finals and then the Sydney Swans to make their way into a preliminary final clash with Hawthorn at Waverley Park. The Demons seemed set for the grand final berth when they led the Hawks by 22 points at the final change but Hawthorn got on top in the final term and a goal after the siren to Gary Buckenara (after a 15-metre penalty against Melbourne's Jim Stynes), gave them a two-point victory. Carlton defeated Hawthorn in the grand final.

DID YOU KNOW?

The most recent match between the Demons and the Lions at the MCG was in Round 22, 2017, when Melbourne defeated Brisbane by 13 points. The final scores were Melbourne 16.8 (104) to Brisbane 14.7 (91).

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 Melbourne v Brisbane Bears/Lions

<i>Melbourne v Brisbane Bears/Lions by venue</i>			
	Won by Melbourne	Won by Brisbane	Drawn
Carrara	2	3	0
Docklands	1	1	0
Gabba	7	14	0
MCG	14	3	0
Waverley Park	1	0	0
Marrara	0	1	0
Showgrounds	1	0	0
Adelaide Oval	1	0	0
	27	22	0

Highest Score

Melbourne	22.21 (153)	Rd 18	1987	MCG
Bris. Lions	25.16 (166)	Rd 14	2005	Gabba

Lowest Score

Melbourne	6.10 (46)	Rd 12	1996	Gabba
Bris. Bears	4.6 (30)	Rd 5	1994	MCG

Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	95 points	Rd 18	1998	MCG
Bris. Lions	85 points	Rd 12	1997	MCG

Last Time They Met –

Qualifying Final 2021, Adelaide Oval

	Melbourne	Brisbane
Quarter time	5.4	4.2
Half time	9.10	5.4
Three-quarter time	9.12	7.5
Full time	13.15 (93)	9.6 (60)

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

Statistics for Melbourne v Fitzroy (1897-1996)

<i>Melbourne v Fitzroy by venue</i>			
	Won by Melbourne	Won by Fitzroy	Drawn
Brunswick St	23	38	1
East Melbourne	1	0	0
Junction Oval	5	5	0
MCG	45	30	2
North Hobart	0	1	0
Princes Park	4	5	0
Punt Road	2	4	0
Victoria Park	0	1	0
Waverley Park	5	4	0
Western Oval	3	0	0
	88	88	3

Highest Score

Melbourne	27.18 (180)	Rd 2	1991	PP
Fitzroy	36.22 (238)	Rd 17	1979	WP

Lowest Score

Melbourne	0.2 (2)	Rd 16	1899	Bruns
Fitzroy	2.11 (23)	Rd 14	1901	MCG

Greatest Winning Margin

Melbourne	131 points	Rd 2	1991	PP
Fitzroy	190 points	Rd 17	1979	WP

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

12	B. Merrick	Fitz	Rd 16	1919	Bruns
11	R. Osborne	Fitz	Rd 18	1989	PP

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.