



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2021 ROUND 19 GEELONG V RICHMOND

LIBRARY FACT SHEET JULY 25, 2021

PLAYED FOR BOTH

Brad Ottens was picked up by Richmond in the 1997 AFL Draft. Playing as a forward who was occasionally used in the ruck, he played a total of 129 games (152 goals) for the Tigers from 1998 to 2004. Traded to Geelong, he debuted for the Cats in Round 1, 2005 becoming their one thousandth player. Initially he struggled to make an impact and only played 15 games for the season. However, after facing criticism by the press at the end of the season, Ottens went on to become the club's number one ruckman, playing in their three premiership sides in 2007, 2009 and 2011. He played a total of 116 games (109 goals) for the Cats, retiring at the end of the 2011 season. In 2001 he was named an All-Australian and represented Australia in the International Rules series.

Paul Sarah came to the Cats from East Geelong in the Geelong District Football League. A rover/forward he played a total of 128 games (204 goals) for the club from 1972 to 1980. He was the club's leading goalkicker in 1974 and won the Reserves best and fairest award in 1975. Joining the Tigers in 1980 he played 37 games (51 goals) for the club, retiring at the end of 1983. He played with several clubs in the Geelong area after this and then went on to play in the Super Rules competition, playing for Victoria and being named in the All-Australian side.



William "Billy" Mahoney (pictured) was recruited from Barwon Juniors by Geelong in 1902. In his only season roving for Geelong, Mahoney played 17 games and kicked 11 goals. He returned to Barwon Juniors in 1903 as he was thought to be too light for VFL football. Mahoney was then recruited by St Kilda, where he played 17 VFL games and kicked nine goals in 1904 and 1905. In 1906 and 1907 Mahoney played 18 games and kicked seven goals for Richmond in the VFA. In 1908 Richmond joined the VFL and Mahoney transitioned with the club, playing in its first VFL match. He played 111 League games for Richmond from 1908 to 1915, albeit interrupted by a 10 game stint for the South Australian club Port Adelaide in 1912, and he has the distinction of being the first footballer to play 100 league games for Richmond. Small and pacy, but tough, he broke a rib against Collingwood in 1914 but finished the match, and then after one week off, he starred in Richmond's games against Geelong and University despite the untreated and unprotected rib. In June 1915 Mahoney confided in the *Richmond Guardian* that of all venues he had "a mortal dread" of playing at Geelong. "I never seem to do any good on that big ground... and I play with the knowledge that - so many of the old folk I know are looking on at me—it used to be my home town." Work commitments forced his retirement from football soon after. However, after a five-year hiatus Mahoney played three more games with Richmond in 1920, taking his VFL/AFL career tally to 148 games, and 73 goals.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Some of our readers will recall the days when the only way of knowing how games were going at other venues was by the quarter by quarter scores being posted on the scoreboard at the ground you were attending. The *Football Record* for Round One, 1921 gave us the following information regarding the position at various grounds: "The boards on which the half-time scores will be posted can be easily picked out on the different grounds. At Richmond, East Melbourne, St Kilda, Collingwood, Carlton and Fitzroy they have been erected close to the ordinary scoring boards. At South Melbourne, however, the "Record" board has been placed at the lake end, not far from the press box. The M.C.C have kindly made provision for the scores being posted on their big cricket scoring board. As the Geelong ground is not at present connected by telephone, the half-time scores will not be posted there. However, as soon as telephone facilities have been arranged the "Record" will extend the same privilege to its Geelong readers." A later 1921 edition of the *Record* commented on an issue that may still exist: "When are the umpires going to spot the throw and penalise it? Deliberate throwing, which is supposed to be smart hand-passing, is to be seen in nearly every match."

OVER TO YOU

Geelong have had seven Brownlow Medallists. Can you name them?

This Round in History – Round 19 on the MCG

The highest score is 27.11 (173) by Melbourne against Sydney 15.16 (106) in 1990. The overall Round 19 highest score is 27.16 (178) by Hawthorn against Fitzroy 15.14 (104) in 1988. The most goals by an individual in Round 19 at the MCG is eight by five players: Collingwood's Brian Taylor against Brisbane in 1988, Sydney's Simon Minton-Connell against Essendon in 1993, Melbourne's Garry Lyon against Essendon in 1994, Collingwood's Saverio Rocca against Essendon in 1995 and Melbourne's David Neitz against Carlton in 1996. The overall Round 19 goalkicking record is also the overall VFL/AFL record – 18 by Fred Fanning of Melbourne against St Kilda at the Junction Oval in 1947. Melbourne kicked 27.9 (171) to win by 93 points. The highest score in a quarter is 11.1 (67) by Carlton in the third quarter against Richmond in 1985. Carlton finished with 23.15 (153) to win by 73 points. The overall Round 19 highest score in a quarter is 13.4 (82) by Essendon in the second quarter against North Melbourne at Windy Hill in 1972. Essendon kicked 21.14 (140) to win by 45 points. The highest Round 19 attendance at the MCG was recorded at a night game on Friday July 24, 1992, when 88,066 saw Collingwood defeat Essendon by 22 points.

Statistics for Geelong v Richmond

Geelong v Richmond by venue

	Won by Geelong	Won by Richmond	Drawn
Carrara	0	1	0
Corio Oval	19	10	1
Docklands	5	1	0
Gabba	0	1	0
Kardinia Park	36	15	0
MCG	25	22	0
Princes Park	1	0	0
Punt Road	15	33	2
Waverley Park	4	8	0
	105	91	3

Last Time They Met – Round 8, 2021, MCG

	Geelong	Richmond
Quarter time	1.3	4.3
Half time	6.4	7.7
Three-quarter time	14.8	8.9
Full time	19.12 (126)	9.9 (63)

Highest Score

Geelong	35.12 (222)	Rd 6	2007	Docklands
Richmond	25.23 (173)	Rd 7	1944	Punt Road

Lowest Score

Geelong	4.10 (34)	Rd 4	1915	Corio
Richmond	4.5 (29)	Rd 5	1910	Corio

Greatest Winning Margin

Geelong	157 points	Rd 6	2007	Docklands
Richmond	118 points	1SF	1969	MCG

Most Goals in a Match

14	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 9	1989	MCG
12	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 20	1990	MCG
12	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd 8	1993	KP
11	G. Goninon	Geel	Rd 5	1953	PR
11	D. Wade	Geel	Rd 13	1972	MCG
10	G. Ablett Snr	Geel	Rd4	1988	MCG

The *Geelong Advertiser* of April 21, 1859 suggests that football may have some restorative effects for those suffering from ill health and overwork:

"We notice that Mr Stitt Jenkins is going in now for the establishment of a Saturday afternoon football club. Many such clubs will no doubt be established before cold weather sets in. The game is one of the healthiest and easiest that could be adopted by persons cramped during the week by desk or counter service and standing in need of a little bracing exercise. We would far rather see the teetotallers forming themselves into rival football clubs and hacking each other's shins in good fellowship, than receive ill-natured letters from their rival factions accusing one another of "satanic influence!" There is plenty of bile just now in the Geelong Teetotal body for which a good field day at football or hockey, would be an infallible curative."

DID HE REALLY SAY THAT?

"Chad (Cornes) had done a bit of mental arithmetic with a calculator." – Mark Williams.

"I haven't seen that before for a very long time." – Lou Richards

OVER TO YOU ANSWER: Edward "Carji" Greeves 1924, Bernie Smith 1951, Alastair Lord 1962, Paul Couch 1989, Jimmy Bartel 2007, Gary Ablett jnr. 2009, Patrick Dangerfield 2016.

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.

FACTSHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

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

<http://tinyurl.com/mcclcatalogue>