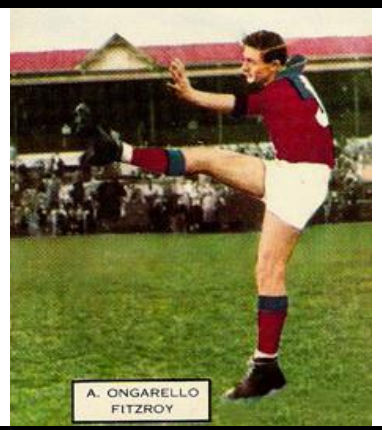# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2022 ROUND 20
RICHMOND V BRISBANE

LIBRARY FACT SHEET
JULY 31, 2022

VALE TONY ONGARELLO

Football fans were saddened to learn of the death of former Fitzroy forward Tony Ongarello on July 18, at the age of 89. Recruited from Thornbury YCW, Ongarello played a total of 131 games (247 goals) for Fitzroy between 1952 and 1960. At full forward, he led the club's goalkicking in 1952 (50 goals), 1956 (33 goals) and 1958 (53 goals). Ongarello is credited as being the last player to attempt a place kick for goal. This occurred in 1955 at the Brunswick Street Oval against Geelong. He decided to try this after several punt kicks had missed the target. Later, he appeared regularly on various ABC television football panels.

A. ONGARELLO
FITZROY

TEAM OF THE CENTURY - VIC THORP

Vic Thorp played 263 games for the Tigers between 1910 and 1925 and was named at full back in the club's Team of the Century. When he died in 1941, the following obituary appeared in *The Sporting Globe*:

Victor Thorp, who passed on this week, was a man honoured by sportsmen of his day and afterwards. To the men who played Australian football with him he was scrupulously fair and honest and among the greatest of the great. To those who came afterwards he stood out in football history as the greatest goalkeeper we have produced. Thorp was Richmond to the core. He attended the Yarra Park school and played all his football either with Beverley (later Richmond seconds), or Richmond. He came to the senior eighteen when fortunes of the senior club eighteen were mostly at the receiving end of football. He played on and joined a big band of good fellows who saw the Tigers not only premiers but perhaps the greatest football force in the State. They have never slipped from that exalted rank. Thorp began as a somewhat indifferent forward and never really found himself in football till he was shifted to fullback. With the Richmond goal to guard he was invincible—the greatest fullback among many champions. Today the name of Jack Regan (Collingwood) is the only one bracketed with that of Victor Thorp when fullbacks are discussed. Thorp played 16 years with the Tigers, and then added another five as committeeman-selector—21 years in all. This year he was in fairly regular attendance at Richmond matches. Many times I talked with Thorp, and always found him tolerant of the failures of opponents and full of praise for their success. His many friends will miss his good-natured fellowship.

THE BEARS AND THE LIONS

The Brisbane Lions came into being in 1997 as a result of the merger between Fitzroy (founded in 1883) and the Brisbane Bears. While Melbourne survived a proposed merger with Hawthorn in 1996, Fitzroy, after a defiant struggle, was forced to move north. New clubs were established in Perth and Brisbane in 1987, the West Coast Eagles having a huge advantage over the Brisbane Bears because of the home grown talent at their disposal. While actor Paul Cronin was the front man at the Bears, the money was provided by businessman Christopher Skase. To the amazement of most, because of the club's lack-lustre original list, the Bears, coached by Peter Knights, won their first two games. But this was a false dawn, and they eventually finished second last. After a number of years in the wilderness, the Bears made the finals in 1995 under Robert Walls, and again in 1996 under John Northey, however the club's financial position remained weak, and when Fitzroy could no longer continue as a separate entity, the merger took place at the end of 1996. Overall the Bears played 222 games for 72 wins, 148 losses and 2 draws. Among the former Fitzroy players who moved to Queensland in 1997 to play with the new club were Scott Bamford, John Barker, Brad Boyd, Nick Carter, Shane Clayton, Chris Johnson and Jarrod Molloy. Brisbane made the finals in its first year, but slumped to last in 1998, which resulted in the sacking of John Northey and the appointment of Leigh Matthews. In the third of its premiership wins in 2003, Brisbane became the first grand final team to field three Brownlow Medallists, Michael Voss, Jason Akermanis and Simon Black.

This Round in History – Round 20 on the MCG

The highest Round 20 score at the MCG is 32.24 (216) by Hawthorn against Essendon 8.8 (56) in 1992. This is the overall record Round 20 score. The most goals by an individual at the MCG in Round 20 is 12. This record is shared by two players. Gary Ablett kicked a dozen for Geelong against Richmond in 1990. The Cats scored 24.14 (158) and won by 64 points. Jason Dunstall also kicked 12 goals for Hawthorn against Essendon in 1992. The overall Round 20 record is 13 shared by Doug Wade for Geelong against North Melbourne at Kardinia Park in 1971 when Geelong kicked 24.7 (151) and won by 75 points, and Peter Daicos for Collingwood against Brisbane at Carrara in 1991. Collingwood kicked 26.16 (172) and won by 101 points. The highest score in a quarter is 10.3 (63) by Melbourne in the third quarter against North Melbourne in 1991. Melbourne finished with 20.20 (140) to win by 52 points. The overall Round 20 record is 11.6 (72) by Collingwood in the third quarter against Essendon at Victoria Park in 1970. Collingwood kicked 24.16 (160) to win by 81 points. The highest Round 20 attendance at the MCG was recorded at a night game on Friday August 5, 1994 when 75,565 saw Collingwood defeat Essendon by 28 points.

Statistics for Richmond v Brisbane Bears/Lions

Richmond v Brisbane Bears/Lions by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Brisbane	Drawn
Carrara	3	3	0
Docklands	3	1	1
Gabba	12	10	0
MCG	15	3	0
Princes Park	0	1	0
	33	18	1

Last Time They Met – Round 18, 2021, Carrara

	Richmond	Brisbane
Quarter time	4.2	3.1
Half time	7.4	8.4
Three-quarter time	12.6	10.7
Full time	16.10 (106)	13.8 (86)

Highest Score

Richmond	24.11 (155)	Rd 21	1998	MCG
Bris. Bears	26.13 (169)	Rd 22	1987	MCG

Lowest Score

Richmond	5.15 (45)	Rd 11	1989	MCG
Bris. Lions	2.5 (26)	Rd 4	2018	MCG

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	93 points	Rd 4	2018	MCG
Bris. Bears	77 points	Rd 20	1995	Gabba

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

Statistics for Richmond v Fitzroy (1908-1996)

Richmond v Fitzroy by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Fitzroy	Drawn
Brunswick St	29	25	0
Junction Oval	4	9	0
MCG	17	11	0
Princes Park	9	4	0
Punt Road	27	22	0
SCG	1	0	0
Victoria Park	1	0	0
Waverley Park	4	1	0
Western Oval	2	0	0
	94	72	0

Highest Score

Richmond	29.25 (199)	Rd 5	1980	MCG
Fitzroy	24.15 (161)	Rd 8	1992	MCG

Lowest Score

Richmond	3.7 (25)	Rd 12	1909	Bruns
Fitzroy	2.9 (21)	Rd 15	1964	Bruns

Greatest Winning Margin

Richmond	151 points	Rd 21	1996	MCG
Fitzroy	76 points	Rd 15	1915	Bruns

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

10	J. Freake	Fitz	Rd 15	1915	Bruns
10	B. Taylor	Rich	Rd 12	1982	MCG