



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

AFL 2023 ROUND 9 RICHMOND V GEELONG

LIBRARY FACT SHEET MAY 12, 2023

FAMILY TIES

In the very early days of the Victorian Football Association and subsequently the Victorian and Australian Football Leagues, one Geelong family had the remarkable record of six brothers all representing one club, the Geelong Football Club. Joseph, James and Henry McShane all played VFL football in its early era, the other three brothers, Philip, John and Tom ending their careers before 1897, the initial year of the Victorian Football League. At one stage five of the brothers played together in Geelong's senior side. Below is a Geelong side that we have put together comprising of some of the brothers that have played together since 1897. There have been a number of others who, no doubt, deserve a place but could not be fitted in. We have endeavoured to select players in, or as close to, the position in which they played for the club (note: there are two generations of Abletts in the team).

Backs:	Scott Selwood (2016-2019)	Ted Rankin (1897-1910)	Steven Hocking (1984-1994)
Half backs:	Zac Guthrie (2017 -)	Stewart Lord (1960-1964)	Kevin Ablett (1985)
Centreline:	Cam Guthrie (2011-)	Joel Selwood (2007-2022)	Alistair Lord (1955-1966)
Half forwards:	Nathan Ablett (2005-2007)	Garry Hocking (1987-2001)	Matthew Goggin (1955-1961)
Forwards:	Jim McShane (1897-1901)	Gary Ablett Snr (1984-1996)	Gary Ablett Jnr (2002-2010,2018-2020)
Followers:	Tom Rankin (1904-1906)	Joe McShane (1897-1901)	Billy Goggin (1958-1971)

Reserves: Ian and Bruce Nankervis, Damian and Tim Bourke, Damien and Martin Christensen, Bernard and Gerard Toohey, Bert and Cliff Rankin, Graeme and Peter Linke, Michael and Nigel Kol, Tim and Anthony Darcy.

Continuing the Geelong family theme, below is a father and son team that again we think would be more than competitive:

Backs:	Jed Bews (2014-)	Matthew Scarlett (1998-2012)	Terry Callan (1960-1964)
Half backs:	Tim Callan (2003-2006)	John Scarlett (1967-1977)	Andrew Bews (1982- 1993)
Centreline:	Leo Turner (1947-1954)	David Clarke (1971-1981)	Michael Turner (1974-1988)
Half forwards:	David A. Clarke (1999-2003)	Sean Simpson (1991-1998)	Jack Hawkins (1973-1981)
Forwards:	Tom Hawkins (2007-)	Gary Ablett Snr (1984-1996)	Sam Simpson (2017-)
Followers:	Cliff Rankin (1915-1928)	Teddy Rankin (1897-1910)	Gary Ablett Jnr (2002-2010,2018-2020)

Premiership Brothers Last year, Cam and Zac Guthrie joined a group of Geelong brothers who played together in Grand Final winning sides. The Hardiman brothers played in both the 1931 and 1937 victories, joined by Alistair and Stewart Lord in 1963 and Gary and Nathan Ablett in 2007.

A SILLY KICK?

The 1948 edition of the *Sporting Globe Football Book* offered its opinion of Jack Dyer's kicking style: "Jack Dyer gets goals with the silliest looking kick in football history. He says he has kicked as many as 12 goals without a miss with it. Certain it is that, given a kick anywhere up to 40 yards out from goal, it's long odds against a miss. Dyer watches the ball closely as he drops it vertically onto his toe. Still vertical, the ball is kicked off the toe and instep and back-spins as it flies. Most kicks spin forward-wise".

WHO AM I?

I was the coach of the Brisbane Bears side against which Geelong kicked the AFL record score of 37.17 (239) in 1992, who was also a member of the Fitzroy side that had previously held the record of 36.22 (238).

OVER TO YOU

1. Can you name the Geelong players selected in the 2022 AFL Team of the Year?
2. Can you name Geelong's five Norm Smith Medallists?
3. Richmond won the 2017 AFL premiership. Where had they finished on the ladder at the end of the 2016 season?
4. Richmond and Geelong have played in three grand finals. What were the years and who won the respective matches?

This Round in History – Round 9 on the MCG

The highest score is 32.19 [211] by Geelong against Richmond 10.17 [77] in 1989. This is also the highest score on all grounds. The most goals kicked in this round is 14 kicked by Gary Ablett Snr. in the same game. This is the highest overall. The greatest winning margin is 141 points by Melbourne over Hawthorn in 1926 – 21.28 [154] to 1.7 [13]. There has been one drawn game in Round 9 on the MCG. Melbourne and Collingwood each scored 10.5 [65] in 1909. Four drawn games have occurred on other grounds in Round 9. The highest Round 9 attendance was at the MCG in 1964 when 86,664 saw Melbourne 10.13 [73] defeat Collingwood 8.15 [63].

Statistics for Richmond v Geelong

Richmond v Geelong by venue

	Won by Richmond	Won by Geelong	Drawn
Carrara	1	0	0
Corio Oval	10	19	1
Docklands	1	5	0
Gabba	1	0	0
Kardinia Park	15	36	0
MCG	22	27	0
Princes Park	0	1	0
Punt Road	33	15	2
Waverley Park	8	4	0
	91	107	3

Highest Score

Richmond	25.23 [173]	Rd 7	1944	Punt Road
Geelong	35.12 [222]	Rd 6	2007	Docklands

Lowest Score

Richmond	4.5 [29]	Rd 5	1910	Corio
Geelong	4.10 [34]	Rd 4	1915	Corio

Greatest Winning Margin

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

Last Time They Met – Round 15 2022, MCG

	Geelong	Richmond
Quarter Time	5.2	2.0
Half Time	8.5	5.3
Three-quarter Time	9.8	10.7
Full Time	13.11 [89]	13.8 [86]

Most Goals in a Match (10 goals or more)

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	Rd 4	1988	MCG

EARLY DAYS

We suspect that many of today's football followers would agree with the sentiments of a columnist for the *Football Record* in 1921:

“South's handball, or, rather, attempted handball, calls for the severest criticism. They invariably made the mistake of indulging in silly, finicky, handball when the best means of averting danger and getting nearer the opposing goal was by the best method of all – a good kick. There is just now a tendency to overdo the handball business. It really looks as though, instead of being called football, our game should really be termed handball. It was not so ten and twenty years ago, and no one will claim that the present methods have been an improvement.”

WHO AM I? ANSWER: Robert Walls

OVER TO YOU ANSWERS:

Q1 Tom Stewart, Jeremy Cameron, Tom Hawkins, Tyson Stengle, Mark Blicavs. **Q2** Gary Ablett snr 1989, Steve Johnson 2007, Paul Chapman 2009, Jimmy Bartel 2011 and Isaac Smith 2022. **Q3** 13th. **Q4** The clubs met in the 1931, 1967 and 2020 grand finals, with Geelong winning in 1931 and Richmond winning the other two.

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>

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