



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

AFL 2023 1ST PRELIMINARY FINAL COLLINGWOOD V GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

VALE – KEVIN “COWBOY” NEALE

Described in *Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers* (Sixth Edition) as: “A burly, tough character from South Warrnambool, who was one of the most popular players in St Kilda’s history”, “Cowboy” Neale played 256 games (301 goals) for St Kilda from 1965 to 1977. Early in his career he played in defence but he was switched to full forward in 1966 and was the Saints’ leading goalkicker in their sole premiership year to date. He won St Kilda’s best and fairest award in 1973 and was named in the back pocket in St Kilda’s Team of the Century. Apart from an occasional foray into attack, he returned to being a defender in the latter part of his career.

THE GIANTS AND PIES FIRST MCG CLASH

The first encounter between the Magpies and Giants at the MCG took place in Round 18, 2013, before a crowd of 32,691. The Giants led by five points at quarter-time and extended their margin to 16 points at half-time. Collingwood kicked 5.6 to three straight goals in the third quarter to hold a slender two-point lead at the final change. The Magpies then dominated the final quarter totally, kicking 6.4 to 0.2 to win by 40 points. The final scores were Collingwood 15.16 (106) to Greater Western Sydney 10.6 (66). Steele Sidebottom, Travis Cloke and Dane Swan all kicked three goals for the Magpies while Jeremy Cameron kicked seven goals for the Giants.

LAST TIME THEY MET IN A FINAL

Collingwood met Greater Western Sydney in the first preliminary final at the MCG on Saturday, September 21, 2019, before a crowd of 77,828. Collingwood was captained by Scott Pendlebury and coached by Nathan Buckley, and GWS were captained by Phil Davis and coached by Leon Cameron. In a close tussle in the first half, the Magpies led by three points at both quarter time and half time. In the third quarter GWS dominated, kicking 5.2 to Collingwood’s three behinds to lead by 26 points at the final change. Jeremy Cameron’s third goal for the game put GWS 32 points ahead early in the final quarter but, after this, the Magpies rallied strongly kicking 4.5 to be only four points down with a few minutes remaining. Nevertheless, GWS held on to run out victors. The final scores were GWS 8.8 (56) defeated Collingwood 7.10 (52). Collingwood ruckman Brodie Grundy had a remarkable game with 73 hit outs. Other good players for the Magpies were Jack Crisp, Scott Pendlebury, Brayden Maynard, Rupert Wills, Jeremy Howe and Adam Treloar. For GWS the best were Zac Williams, Tim Taranto, Nick Haynes, Harry Perryman, Jeremy Cameron, Josh Kelly and Jeremy Finlayson. The leading goalkickers for Collingwood were Jaidyn Stephenson and Josh Thomas with two each, and for GWS Jeremy Cameron (3) and Jeremy Finlayson (2). Greater Western Sydney met Richmond in the grand final the following week, going down by a massive 89 points. The final scores were Richmond 17.12 (114) defeated GWS 3.7 (25).

PLAYED FOR BOTH

Will Hoskin-Elliott played junior football for North Sunshine and later joined the Western Jets in the TAC Cup competition. A midfielder, he was drafted by Greater Western Sydney in the 2011 AFL National Draft. He made his debut in the Giants’ inaugural AFL game against the Sydney Swans at Stadium Australia in 2012. He had 16 disposals and kicked one goal. From 2012 to 2016 he made 52 senior appearances for GWS and kicked 42 goals. At the conclusion of the 2016 season, Hoskin-Elliott was traded to Collingwood. He played his 100th AFL game in the 2018 grand final, in which Collingwood went down to the West Coast. His great-great-grandfather was Charlie Norris, who played in three VFL premiership teams – in 1910 for Collingwood and in 1913 and 1916 for Fitzroy.

OVER TO YOU

Who am I? I played 173 games and kicked 37 goals with the Magpies from 2005 to 2013. I was traded to Greater Western Sydney in October 2013, and made my debut for the Giants in Round 1, 2014, against Sydney. I played 152 games and kicked five goals for GWS from 2014 to 2019. I won the Kevin Sheedy Medal as GWS’s best and fairest player in 2015, and was selected in the 2015 and 2016 All Australian teams.

To commemorate the life of Ron Barassi, who died on September 16, a special MCC Library Fact Sheet has also been prepared for this weekend. Vale Ronald Dale Barassi AM (1936-2023).

PRELIMINARY FINALS 1931-2022

1931	PF	MCG	Geelong	11.17 (83)	Carlton	11.11 (77)	36,653
1932	PF	MCG	Carlton	23.19 (157)	Collingwood	11.16 (82)	46,447
1933	PF	MCG	Richmond	13.5 (83)	Geelong	10.14 (74)	48,125
1934	PF	MCG	South Melbourne	15.18 (108)	Geelong	7.6 (48)	30,400
1935	PF	MCG	Collingwood	14.10 (94)	Richmond	9.12 (66)	46,191
1936	PF	MCG	South Melbourne	13.11 (89)	Melbourne	8.15 (63)	49,758
1937	PF	MCG	Collingwood	16.11 (107)	Melbourne	7.10 (52)	55,616
1938	PF	MCG	Collingwood	21.9 (135)	Geelong	14.14 (98)	60,956
1939	PF	MCG	Collingwood	20.14 (134)	St Kilda	15.15 (105)	66,848
1940	PF	MCG	Melbourne	12.18 (90)	Essendon	12.13 (85)	47,348
1941	PF	MCG	Essendon	13.15 (93)	Carlton	9.14 (68)	65,105
1942	PF	Princes Park	Essendon	19.10 (124)	South Melbourne	14.12 (96)	26,000
1943	PF	Princes Park	Richmond	12.14 (86)	Fitzroy	8.13 (61)	27,335
1944	PF	Junction Oval	Richmond	16.12 (108)	Essendon	12.15 (87)	38,000
1945	PF	Princes Park	Carlton	13.12 (90)	Collingwood	12.8 (80)	41,305
1946	PF	MCG	Melbourne	16.17 (113)	Collingwood	14.16 (100)	59,444
1947	PF	MCG	Essendon	16.13 (109)	Fitzroy	14.12 (96)	55,648
1948	PF	MCG	Melbourne	25.16 (166)	Collingwood	15.11 (101)	63,501
1949	PF	MCG	Essendon	11.12 (78)	North Melbourne	9.7 (61)	69,281
1950	PF	MCG	North Melbourne	14.16 (100)	Geelong	12.11 (83)	73,539
1951	PF	MCG	Essendon	10.10 (70)	Collingwood	10.8 (68)	50,414
1952	PF	MCG	Collingwood	11.15 (81)	Fitzroy	9.8 (62)	54,046
1953	PF	MCG	Geelong	8.15 (63)	Footscray	5.7 (37)	58,615
1954	PF	MCG	Melbourne	10.7 (67)	Geelong	7.8 (50)	50,985
1955	PF	MCG	Collingwood	14.12 (96)	Geelong	13.6 (84)	70,430
1956	PF	MCG	Collingwood	15.6 (96)	Footscray	7.15 (57)	94,104
1957	PF	MCG	Melbourne	22.12 (144)	Hawthorn	11.10 (76)	74,090
1958	PF	MCG	Collingwood	14.12 (96)	North Melbourne	10.16 (76)	77,656
1959	PF	MCG	Essendon	8.9 (57)	Carlton	7.8 (50)	65,896
1960	PF	MCG	Collingwood	9.11 (65)	Fitzroy	8.12 (60)	65,301
1961	PF	MCG	Footscray	13.7 (85)	Melbourne	8.10 (58)	86,118
1962	PF	MCG	Geelong	13.7 (85)	Carlton	12.13 (85)	87,824
1962	PF Replay	MCG	Carlton	10.18 (78)	Geelong	10.13 (73)	99,203
1963	PF	MCG	Hawthorn	11.11 (77)	Melbourne	10.8 (68)	86,546
1964	PF	MCG	Collingwood	7.6 (48)	Geelong	5.14 (44)	87,091
1965	PF	MCG	Essendon	14.13 (97)	Collingwood	6.6 (42)	95,386
1966	PF	MCG	St Kilda	15.4 (94)	Essendon	7.10 (52)	93,453
1967	PF	MCG	Geelong	17.6 (108)	Carlton	11.13 (79)	95,542
1968	PF	MCG	Essendon	11.25 (91)	Geelong	9.13 (67)	103,649
1969	PF	MCG	Richmond	15.17 (107)	Collingwood	12.9 (81)	107,279
1970	PF	MCG	Carlton	17.21 (123)	St Kilda	7.19 (61)	108,215
1971	PF	MCG	St Kilda	16.12 (108)	Richmond	12.6 (78)	102,494
1972	PF	MCG	Carlton	16.13 (109)	St Kilda	13.15 (93)	96,272
1973	PF	MCG	Richmond	15.15 (105)	Collingwood	14.14 (98)	98,652
1974	PF	MCG	North Melbourne	8.8 (56)	Hawthorn	7.9 (51)	88,262
1975	PF	Waverley	North Melbourne	10.16 (76)	Richmond	8.11 (59)	71,130
1976	PF	Waverley	North Melbourne	10.7 (67)	Carlton	9.12 (66)	69,234
1977	PF	Waverley	North Melbourne	16.16 (112)	Hawthorn	5.15 (45)	61,242
1978	PF	Waverley	North Melbourne	14.12 (96)	Collingwood	12.12 (84)	73,354
1979	PF	Waverley	Collingwood	18.14 (122)	North Melbourne	13.17 (95)	73,380
1980	PF	Waverley	Collingwood	13.15 (93)	Geelong	13.11 (89)	75,526
1981	PF	Waverley	Collingwood	12.10 (82)	Geelong	11.9 (75)	69,536
1982	PF	Waverley	Carlton	13.16 (94)	Hawthorn	8.15 (63)	61,307
1983	PF	Waverley	Essendon	25.14 (164)	North Melbourne	12.6 (78)	63,785
1984	PF	Waverley	Essendon	28.6 (174)	Collingwood	5.11 (41)	73,550
1985	PF	Waverley	Hawthorn	16.13 (109)	Footscray	15.9 (99)	55,246
1986	PF	Waverley	Hawthorn	16.14 (110)	Fitzroy	7.12 (54)	68,339
1987	PF	Waverley	Hawthorn	11.14 (80)	Melbourne	10.18 (78)	71,298
1988	PF	Waverley	Melbourne	19.6 (120)	Carlton	14.14 (98)	68,516
1989	PF	Waverley	Geelong	24.20 (164)	Essendon	10.10 (70)	67,892

1990	PF	Waverley	Essendon	18.13 (121)	West Coast	8.10 (58)	55,813
1991	PF	Waverley	West Coast	11.13 (79)	Geelong	8.16 (64)	46,638
1992	PF	MCG	Geelong	22.17 (149)	Footscray	12.13 (85)	71,841
1993	PF	MCG	Essendon	17.9 (111)	Adelaide	14.16 (100)	76,380
1994	1PF	MCG	Geelong	16.13 (109)	North Melbourne	14.19 (103)	80,121
1994	2PF	WACA	West Coast	16.21 (117)	Melbourne	8.4 (52)	34,317
1995	1PF	MCG	Carlton	18.10 (118)	North Melbourne	8.8 (56)	72,552
1995	2PF	Waverley	Geelong	20.9 (129)	Richmond	6.4 (40)	70,321
1996	1PF	MCG	North Melbourne	17.12 (114)	Brisbane Bears	11.10 (76)	66,719
1996	2PF	SCG	Sydney	10.10 (70)	Essendon	10.9 (69)	41,731
1997	1PF	MCG	Adelaide	12.21 (93)	Western Bulldogs	13.13 (91)	70,088
1997	2PF	MCG	St Kilda	15.14 (104)	North Melbourne	11.7 (73)	77,531
1998	1PF	MCG	Adelaide	24.17 (161)	Western Bulldogs	13.15 (93)	67,557
1998	2PF	MCG	North Melbourne	17.12 (114)	Melbourne	12.12 (84)	73,719
1999	1PF	MCG	Kangaroos	19.9 (123)	Brisbane Lions	11.12 (78)	61,031
1999	2PF	MCG	Essendon	14.19 (103)	Carlton	16.8 (104)	80,519
2000	1PF	MCG	Essendon	18.17 (125)	Carlton	12.8 (80)	84,778
2000	2PF	MCG	Melbourne	23.18 (156)	Kangaroos	17.4 (106)	63,937
2001	1PF	MCG	Essendon	11.10 (76)	Hawthorn	9.13 (67)	86,468
2001	2PF	Gabba	Brisbane Lions	20.16 (136)	Richmond	10.8 (68)	37,032
2002	1PF	MCG	Collingwood	13.13 (91)	Adelaide	9.9 (63)	88,960
2002	2PF	Gabba	Brisbane Lions	21.12 (138)	Port Adelaide	12.10 (82)	33,047
2003	1PF	Stadium Australia	Brisbane Lions	14.16 (100)	Sydney	8.8 (56)	71,019
2003	2PF	MCG	Collingwood	17.10 (112)	Port Adelaide	9.14 (68)	77,405
2004	1PF	Football Park	Port Adelaide	14.10 (94)	St Kilda	13.10 (88)	46,978
2004	2PF	MCG	Brisbane Lions	12.12 (84)	Geelong	10.15 (75)	55,768
2005	1PF	MCG	Sydney	15.6 (96)	St Kilda	9.11 (65)	73,344
2005	2PF	Subiaco Oval	West Coast	14.9 (93)	Adelaide	11.11 (77)	43,009
2006	1PF	Stadium Australia	Sydney	19.13 (127)	Fremantle	14.8 (92)	61,373
2006	2PF	Football Park	West Coast	11.19 (85)	Adelaide	11.9 (75)	50,514
2007	1PF	MCG	Geelong	13.14 (92)	Collingwood	13.9 (87)	98,002
2007	2PF	Football Park	Port Adelaide	20.13 (133)	Kangaroos	5.16 (46)	43,953
2008	1PF	MCG	Geelong	12.11 (83)	Western Bulldogs	7.12 (54)	70,140
2008	2PF	MCG	Hawthorn	18.10 (118)	St Kilda	9.10 (64)	77,002
2009	1PF	MCG	St Kilda	9.6 (60)	Western Bulldogs	7.11 (53)	78,245
2009	2PF	MCG	Geelong	17.18 (120)	Collingwood	6.11 (47)	87,258
2010	1PF	MCG	Collingwood	18.12 (120)	Geelong	11.13 (79)	95,241
2010	2PF	MCG	St Kilda	13.10 (88)	Western Bulldogs	8.16 (64)	62,694
2011	1PF	MCG	Collingwood	10.8 (68)	Hawthorn	9.11 (65)	87,112
2011	2PF	MCG	Geelong	17.15 (117)	West Coast	10.9 (69)	59,455
2012	1PF	MCG	Hawthorn	13.19 (97)	Adelaide	14.9 (92)	69,146
2012	2PF	Stadium Australia	Sydney	13.18 (96)	Collingwood	10.10 (70)	57,156
2013	1PF	MCG	Hawthorn	14.18 (102)	Geelong	15.7 (97)	85,569
2013	2PF	Subiaco Oval	Fremantle	14.15 (99)	Sydney	11.8 (74)	43,249
2014	1PF	Stad. Australia	Sydney	19.22 (136)	North Melbourne	9.11 (65)	48,029
2014	2PF	MCG	Hawthorn	15.7 (97)	Port Adelaide	13.16 (94)	74,856
2015	1PF	Subiaco Oval	Fremantle	10.7 (67)	Hawthorn	15.4 (94)	41,508
2015	2PF	Subiaco Oval	West Coast	10.20 (80)	North Melbourne	7.13 (55)	43,080
2016	1PF	MCG	Geelong	8.12 (60)	Sydney	15.7 (97)	71,772
2016	2PF	Syd. Showground	GWS	12.11 (83)	Western Bulldogs	13.11 (89)	21,790
2017	1PF	Adelaide Oval	Adelaide	21.10 (136)	Geelong	10.15 (75)	53,817
2017	2PF	MCG	Richmond	15.13 (103)	GWS	9.13 (67)	94,258
2018	1PF	MCG	Collingwood	15.7 (97)	Richmond	8.10 (58)	94,959
2018	2PF	Perth Stadium	West Coast	18.13 (121)	Melbourne	7.13 (55)	59,608
2019	1PF	MCG	Collingwood	7.10 (52)	GWS	8.8 (56)	77,828
2019	2PF	MCG	Richmond	12.13 (85)	Geelong	9.12 (66)	94,423
2020	1PF	Adelaide Oval	Port Adelaide	6.4 (40)	Richmond	6.10 (46)	24,292
2020	2PF	Gabba	Brisbane Lions	6.6 (42)	Geelong	11.16 (82)	29,121
2021	1PF	Perth Stadium	Melbourne	19.11 (125)	Geelong	6.6 (42)	58,559
2021	2PF	Adelaide Oval	Port Adelaide	6.9 (45)	Western Bulldogs	17.14 (116)	26,400
2022	1PF	MCG	Geelong	18.12 (120)	Brisbane Lions	7.7 (49)	77,677
2022	2PF	SCG	Sydney	14.11 (95)	Collingwood	14.10 (94)	45,608

PRELIMINARY FINALS EXPLAINED

The preliminary final was introduced in 1931 as part of the Page-McIntyre final four system. Previously, in most seasons from the establishment of the VFL until 1930, the winners of the two semi finals played off in a final to determine the premiers. However, the minor premier (the top-placed team at the end of the home-and-away matches) had the right to challenge for the premiership (subject to certain restrictions), if it was defeated in either the semi final or final.

Under the Page-McIntyre system, which operated from 1931 to 1971, the loser of the second semi final played the winner of the first semi final in the preliminary final. The winner went on to in the grand final against the team that won the second semi final. The same principle applied during the operation of the McIntyre final five system from 1972 to 1990 and the McIntyre final six system from 1991 to 1993.

Two preliminary finals were played for the first time in 1994 following the introduction of the McIntyre final eight system. The first preliminary final was played between the second-highest ranked winner from the qualifying finals and the winner of the second semi final. The second preliminary final was played between the highest-ranked qualifying final winner and the winner of the first semi final. The winner of each preliminary final then met in the grand final. Under the current revised final eight system introduced in 2000, the first preliminary final is played between the winners of the first qualifying final and the second semi final, while the second preliminary final is played between the winners of the second qualifying final and the first semi final.

PRELIMINARY FINALS AT THE MCG (1931-2022)

The highest score in a preliminary final is 25.16 (166) by Melbourne against Collingwood 15.11 (101) in 1948 (the overall highest score is 28.6 (174) by Essendon against Collingwood 5.11 (41) at Waverley Park in 1984. The winning margin that day of 133 points is also the record for a preliminary final). The highest score in a quarter is 10.7 (67) by Carlton in the third quarter against Collingwood in 1932. This is the overall preliminary final record. Carlton kicked 23.19 (157) against Collingwood 11.16 (72) and won by 75 points. The biggest bag of goals is 11, which has been achieved three times. Harry Vallence kicked 11 for Carlton against Collingwood in 1932, while Collingwood's Ron Todd matched this feat twice, in 1938 against Geelong and in 1939 against St Kilda. The record attendance at a preliminary final was on Saturday September 19, 1970 when 108,215 fans saw Carlton defeat St Kilda by 62 points at the MCG. Since the northern side redevelopment of the MCG, which was completed in 2006, the largest preliminary final attendance was 94,959, for the 2018 first preliminary final between Richmond and Collingwood.

STATISTICS FOR COLLINGWOOD V GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

Collingwood v Greater Western Sydney by venue

	Won by Collingwood	Won by GWS	Draw
Syd. Showground	3	3	0
MCG	5	3	0
	8	6	0

Highest Score

Collingwood	26.18 (174)	Rd 18	2012	SS
GWS	19.8 (122)	Rd 18	2019	SS

Lowest Score

Collingwood	7.10 (52)	PF	2019	MCG
GWS	7.12 (54)	Rd 18	2012	SS

Last Time They Met - Round 9, 2023, MCG

	Collingwood	GWS
Quarter time	5.1	2.4
Half time	9.4	3.8
Three-quarter time	13.8	6.9
Full time	18.12 (120)	7.13 (55)

Greatest Winning Margin

Collingwood	120 points	Rd 18	2012	SS
GWS	47 points	Rd 18	2019	SS

OVER TO YOU ANSWER

Heath Shaw

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE

The MCC Library's match day fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at: <http://tinyurl.com/mcccatalogue>

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