

Looking at football  
from a different  
point of view

# MAFL 2008

26th June  
Round #14 2008

## Round 14

HAW 65-0		Hawthorn v West Coast (MCG, 27th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.05	\$8.50	
	88% - 95%	5% - 12%	
	Hawthorn -43½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Hawthorn by 15		
Quila	Hawthorn by 12		
Shadow	Hawthorn		
CTL	Hawthorn		
MARS	Hawthorn		
MM	Hawthorn (43-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Super MM	Hawthorn (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Hawthorn		
Simplified	Hawthorn		

RIC 48-17		Richmond v Carlton (MCG, 28th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.62	\$2.15	
	53% - 62%	38% - 47%	
	No market yet		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	6.47% (8.27%) on Richmond		
Line	-		
Chi	Richmond by 2		
Quila	Carlton by 4		
Shadow	Carlton		
CTL	Carlton		
MARS	Richmond		
MM	Richmond (29-14) (Dissenters: MM3-14, 35 and 36)		
Super MM	Richmond (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Richmond		
Simplified	Richmond		

KAN 58-7		Kangaroos v St Kilda (Gold Coast Stad, 28th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.55	\$2.35	
	57% - 65%	35% - 43%	
	Kangaroos -11½ pts (\$1.90 / \$1.90)		
Heritage	7.97% (n.m.) on St Kilda		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	7.79% (9.59%) on St Kilda		
Chi	Kangaroos by 15		
Quila	Kangaroos by 16		
Shadow	St Kilda		
CTL	Kangaroos		
MARS	Kangaroos		
MM	Kangaroos (37-6) (Dissenters: MM4, 5, 7 and 42-44)		
Super MM	Kangaroos (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Kangaroos		
Simplified	Kangaroos		

WB 65-0		W Bulldogs v Pt Adelaide (Marrara Oval, 28th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.14	\$5.25	
	81% - 88%	12% - 19%	
	W Bulldogs -33½ pts (\$1.90 / \$1.90)		
Heritage	15.97% (n.m.) on Port Adelaide		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Western Bulldogs by 23		
Quila	Western Bulldogs by 21		
Shadow	Western Bulldogs		
CTL	Western Bulldogs		
MARS	Western Bulldogs		
MM	Western Bulldogs (43-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Super MM	Western Bulldogs (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Western Bulldogs		
Simplified	Western Bulldogs		

BL 65-0		Melbourne v Bris Lions (MCG, 29th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$4.20	\$1.20	
	17% - 24%	76% - 83%	
	Melbourne +25½ pts (\$1.90 / \$1.90)		
Heritage	8.43% (n.m.) on Melbourne		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Brisbane Lions by 16		
Quila	Brisbane Lions by 11		
Shadow	Brisbane Lions		
CTL	Brisbane Lions		
MARS	Brisbane Lions		
MM	Brisbane Lions (43-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Super MM	Brisbane Lions (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Brisbane Lions		
Simplified	Brisbane Lions		

ESS 43-22		Fremantle v Essendon (Subiaco, 29th June 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.50	\$2.50	
	60% - 67%	33% - 40%	
	Fremantle -12½ pts (\$1.90 / \$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Fremantle by 15		
Quila	Fremantle by 10		
Shadow	Essendon		
CTL	Essendon		
MARS	Fremantle		
MM	Essendon (25-18) (Dissenters: MM18,20-25,31-33,37-44)		
Super MM	Essendon (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Essendon		
Simplified	Essendon		

NB: Round 14 is a split round, with 6 games taking place this weekend and the remaining two scheduled for next weekend.

## This Week's Round in Review

### MAFL Wagers

In truth, wagering profit rarely accrues to the timid and the circumspect as the effects of over-round on a series of bets are relentless and, like water dripping on a stone, eventually erode any bankroll, regardless of its size.

Far better then to be bold and to wager extravagantly on outrageous chances, courting ruin while at the same time prising open the door to potential good fortune.

So believeth, it seems, the Heritage Fund.

('Good money after bad' others might say).

Here's the detail:

#### 1. *Chi Fund: Richmond, 6.47% @ \$1.62 against Carlton*

This is Chi's first bet for the season on Richmond and, given their general form, you can hardly blame him for that.

It's also the first time he's wagered against the Blues, so there's absolutely no form to go on.

(Perhaps a little concerning is the fact that he's only tipping the Tigers to win by 2 points and that he originally fancied the Blues until the market reopened after a brief suspension and the Tigers moved from \$1.90 equal favourites to \$1.62 outright favourites.)

#### 2. *Heritage Fund: St Kilda, 7.97% @ \$2.35 against the Roos* *Line Fund: St Kilda, 7.79% @ \$1.90 +11½ points against the Roos*

It's fair to proclaim that St Kilda has not been kind to MAFL Investors this year. The Heritage Fund and the Line Fund are both 0 and 2 on Saints wagers this year.

The Heritage Fund is also 0 and 2 when wagering against the Roos (the Line Fund has not previously bet against the Roos), so the portents are hardly encouraging for this game either.

#### 3. *Heritage Fund: Port Adelaide, 15.97% @ \$5.25 against the Bulldogs*

An interesting time for the Heritage Fund to roll out its largest wager of the season.

The game's at Marrara in the Territory, so the venue is something of an unknown, but the Dogs are on the end of a four-game winning streak, while the Power have lost their last three.

It's the Heritage Fund's first bet on Port but it's also its fifth bet against the Bulldogs for which its record is 0 and 5.

#### 4. *Heritage Fund: Melbourne, 8.43% @ \$4.20 against the Lions*

Somehow, as I think I've said before, it just wouldn't be the weekend unless MAFL Investors had money riding on the Dees.

So far this season the Heritage Fund is 1 and 5 when wagering on the Dees; it's previously not wagered against the Lions.

For absolute clarity, I'm funding most of this week's Heritage Fund wagering on the condition that, in the first instance, any profit goes to repay the credit extended. Any additional profit will then flow into the Heritage Fund. In effect, those Investors in the Heritage Fund have been granted a zero-recourse, zero-rate, short-term credit facility. Try finding one of those in the marketplace.

Should the Heritage Fund prove to be unprofitable again this week, further credit might or might not be forthcoming.

Given the slightly unusual circumstances, the regular 'what does it all mean for Investors' table will not appear this week. Suffice to say that best-case outcomes are RONF increases of:

- 44.5% for MIN#001
- 105.6% for MIN#002
- 35.5% for MIN#005
- 0.0% for MIN#015
- 33.3% for MIN#REC

## Tips

Here are the underdog tips of the leading tipsters (with the current tipping score shown in brackets after the tipster name):

Tipster (Record)	Underdog Tips
BKB (80)	None (by definition)
CTM (77)	None
Quila (75)	Carlton
MARS (74)	None
CTL (74)	Carlton and Essendon
Shadow (73)	Carlton, St Kilda and Essendon
SMM23 (73)	Essendon
SMM11 (72)	Essendon
SMM13 (72)	Essendon
SMM19 (72)	Essendon

### *Hawthorn v West Coast (Hawthorn 65-0)*

Once again Hawthorn are the unanimous tip. Looks to be an easy Hawks victory although Chi and Quila only have it as a 2-2½ goal game.

### *Richmond v Carlton (Richmond 48-17)*

Blues support comes from Quila, Shadow, CTL and 14 of the MM models. This one feels like a coin toss to me.

### *Kangaroos v St Kilda (Kangaroos 58-7)*

My the pre-season seems such a long way away now doesn't it? The Saints only friends are Shadow and 6 of the MM models.

Many Investors are hoping the Saints can at least stay in touch.

### *Western Bulldogs v Port Adelaide (Western Bulldogs 65-0)*

All the support's with the Dogs and for good reason. Chi and Quila are tipping 3½-4 goal wins and the bookies are tipping a 5½ goal margin.

### *Melbourne v Brisbane Lions (Brisbane Lions 65-0)*

The Lions, it seems, in a canter (do Lions canter?) Chi and Quila are a little circumspect, however, and see only a 2-2½ goal margin.

### *Fremantle v Essendon (Essendon 43-22)*

Easily the most contentious game of this part of the round. In the end, majority support is for the underdog Dons, though Freo is well-supported amongst the MAFL tipping elite, including BKB, Chi and Quila.

So, this week's most-favoured amongst MAFL Tipsters teams are as follows:

- Hawthorn (Favourite)
- Richmond (Favourite)
- Kangaroos (Favourite)
- Western Bulldogs (Favourite)
- Brisbane Lions (Favourite)
- Essendon (Underdog)

## The Run Home

This week I thought we'd take a look at the run home for each team, using the MARS Ratings as an indicator of relative team strength.

The table below provides the detail.

By way of example, consider the first row, which describes the run home for Sydney. It tells us that the Swans meet the Pies in Round 14, that the Pies' MARS Rating is 1013.1, and that this game is being played at a Swans home venue (as the box is shaded green). Overall, the aggregated ratings points of all the Swans' opponents over rounds 14 to 22 is 9,097.7. The Swans play 5 games at home (-25), 2 away (+10), and 2 on neutral venues (0), giving a net reduction of 15 points to this total. Their adjusted total is then 9,082.7, which is the highest of all teams, meaning that the Swans, based on this method, have the hardest run to the finals.

(Given that they play the Pies twice, Hawthorn, the Bulldogs and Geelong, this seems like a reasonable assessment.)

Team	Round									Total	Adj for Net Home Games	Adj Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
<b>Sydney</b>	1013.1 C'wood	1016.2 Hawthorn	978.4 Carlton	1013.6 Adelaide	1019.1 W Bulldogs	993.9 Fremantle	1043.4 Geelong	1013.1 C'wood	1007.0 Bris Lions	9,097.7	-15	9,082.7
<b>Carlton</b>	985.3 Richmond	995.0 St Kilda	1027.8 Sydney	1019.1 W Bulldogs	1013.6 Adelaide	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	997.7 Kangaroos	1007.0 Bris Lions	1016.2 Hawthorn	9,063.7	-5	9,058.7
<b>Collingwood</b>	1027.8 Sydney	1013.6 Adelaide	997.7 Kangaroos	973.0 Essendon	1016.2 Hawthorn	995.0 St Kilda	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	1027.8 Sydney	993.9 Fremantle	9,047.1	10	9,057.1
<b>Adelaide</b>	1043.4 Geelong	1013.1 C'wood	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	1027.8 Sydney	978.4 Carlton	985.3 Richmond	973.0 Essendon	995.0 St Kilda	1019.1 W Bulldogs	9,037.1	5	9,042.1
<b>Kangaroos</b>	995.0 St Kilda	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	1013.1 C'wood	955.9 Melbourne	1007.0 Bris Lions	1019.1 W Bulldogs	978.4 Carlton	1043.4 Geelong	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	9,016.0	5	9,021.0
<b>Hawthorn</b>	978.6 West Coast	1027.8 Sydney	995.0 St Kilda	1043.4 Geelong	1013.1 C'wood	1007.0 Bris Lions	985.3 Richmond	978.6 West Coast	978.4 Carlton	9,007.1	5	9,012.1
<b>Western Bulldogs</b>	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	955.9 Melbourne	1043.4 Geelong	978.4 Carlton	1027.8 Sydney	997.7 Kangaroos	1007.0 Bris Lions	973.0 Essendon	1013.6 Adelaide	8,998.9	5	9,003.9
<b>Melbourne</b>	1007.0 Bris Lions	1019.1 W Bulldogs	993.9 Fremantle	997.7 Kangaroos	973.0 Essendon	1043.4 Geelong	978.6 West Coast	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	985.3 Richmond	9,000.0	-5	8,995.0
<b>West Coast</b>	1016.2 Hawthorn	985.3 Richmond	1007.0 Bris Lions	995.0 St Kilda	993.9 Fremantle	973.0 Essendon	955.9 Melbourne	1016.2 Hawthorn	1043.4 Geelong	8,986.0	5	8,991.0
<b>Geelong</b>	1013.6 Adelaide	993.9 Fremantle	1019.1 W Bulldogs	1016.2 Hawthorn	985.3 Richmond	955.9 Melbourne	1027.8 Sydney	997.7 Kangaroos	978.6 West Coast	8,988.1	0	8,988.1
<b>St Kilda</b>	997.7 Kangaroos	978.4 Carlton	1016.2 Hawthorn	978.6 West Coast	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	1013.1 C'wood	993.9 Fremantle	1013.6 Adelaide	973.0 Essendon	8,966.4	10	8,976.4
<b>Fremantle</b>	973.0 Essendon	1043.4 Geelong	955.9 Melbourne	1002.0 Pt Adelaide	978.6 West Coast	1027.8 Sydney	995.0 St Kilda	985.3 Richmond	1013.1 C'wood	8,974.1	-5	8,969.1
<b>Essendon</b>	993.9 Fremantle	1007.0 Bris Lions	985.3 Richmond	1013.1 C'wood	955.9 Melbourne	978.6 West Coast	1013.6 Adelaide	1019.1 W Bulldogs	995.0 St Kilda	8,961.4	-5	8,956.4
<b>Richmond</b>	978.4 Carlton	978.6 West Coast	973.0 Essendon	1007.0 Bris Lions	1043.4 Geelong	1013.6 Adelaide	1016.2 Hawthorn	993.9 Fremantle	955.9 Melbourne	8,960.0	-5	8,955.0
<b>Port Adelaide</b>	1019.1 W Bulldogs	997.7 Kangaroos	1013.6 Adelaide	993.9 Fremantle	995.0 St Kilda	978.4 Carlton	1013.1 C'wood	955.9 Melbourne	997.7 Kangaroos	8,964.4	-15	8,949.4
<b>Brisbane Lions</b>	955.9 Melbourne	973.0 Essendon	978.6 West Coast	985.3 Richmond	997.7 Kangaroos	1016.2 Hawthorn	1019.1 W Bulldogs	978.4 Carlton	1027.8 Sydney	8,932.0	10	8,942.0

Game Venue Relative To Team Named At Left of Row

- Home Game
- Away Game
- Neutral Venue

The remainder of the table is sorted such that teams with easier draws are located closer to the foot of the table.

Brisbane Lions, the table suggests, have the easiest run to the finals. Certainly the next four or five rounds look to offer attractive points-scoring opportunities; three of the last four look somewhat more challenging, however.

Perhaps most importantly, the table suggests that, amongst the four teams the bookies have as battling for the final spot in the 8 – the Roos, Saints, Blues and Tigers – it's the Tigers who apparently have the best run home.

## Team Rating System

MARS is tipping all six favourites this weekend.

For the MARS-favoured teams to at least preserve their current Ratings Points they need to win by the following margins:

- Hawthorn by 18 points or more
- Richmond by 6 points or more
- Kangaroos by 2 points or more
- Bulldogs by 7 points or more
- Bris Lions by 19 points or more
- Fremantle by 11 points or more

The Roos or the Saints need an emphatic victory to press their claims for 8<sup>th</sup> spot and they need to hope that the Bulldogs soundly defeat Port.

A sizeable victory for Freo over the Dons might also bring them back into contention for a top 8 spot, though even a maximum margin (75 points or more) would be worth only +5.14 points.

Team	End R13
Geelong	1,043.4
Sydney	1,027.9
Western Bulldogs	1,019.1
Hawthorn	1,016.2
Adelaide	1,013.6
Collingwood	1,013.1
Brisbane Lions	1,007.0
Port Adelaide	1,002.0
Kangaroos	997.7
St Kilda	995.0
Fremantle	993.9
Richmond	985.3
West Coast	978.5
Carlton	978.4
Essendon	973.0
Melbourne	955.9

## Bookmakers' Prices

Still there are four teams priced under \$10 to win the Flag and a couple more priced around the \$15 mark. The anomaly that we noted last week has been resolved, with the Dees now "No Price" in both Flag and Final 8 markets for Centrebet and the TAB. Domebet are still fielding on the Dees in the Flag market, however, offering a price of \$5,001.

In Final 8 betting we have four teams apparently vying for the 8<sup>th</sup> spot: the Roos, the Saints, the Blues and the Tigers.

Melbourne, though lengthening a little this week, remain very firm favourites for the Spoon.

Team	Bookmakers' Prices (25th June v 18th June)							
	Premiership Winner			Final 8		Wooden Spoon		Miss 8
	TAB	Centrebet	Domebet	TAB	Centrebet	TAB	Centrebet	TAB
Geelong	2.10 S	2.20 S	2.20 S	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -
Hawthorn	5.50 L	5.00 L	5.00 L	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -
Western Bulldogs	5.50 S	5.75 S	6.00 S	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -	No Price -
Sydney	8.00 -	8.00 S	8.50 S	1.01 -	No Price S	No Price -	No Price -	No Price L
Brisbane Lions	15.00 S	15.00 S	17.00 S	1.02 S	1.02 S	No Price -	No Price -	16.00 L
Collingwood	17.00 L	17.00 L	19.00 L	1.12 L	1.16 L	No Price -	No Price -	4.25 S
Adelaide	26.00 L	26.00 L	28.00 L	1.16 L	1.16 L	No Price -	No Price -	3.50 S
Kangaroos	61.00 S	67.00 S	67.00 S	2.10 S	2.00 S	No Price -	No Price -	1.50 L
St Kilda	61.00 S	67.00 S	67.00 S	3.00 S	3.00 S	No Price L	No Price -	1.25 L
Carlton	71.00 L	67.00 L	101.00 L	2.70 L	2.75 L	No Price -	No Price -	1.35 -
Richmond	71.00 S	81.00 S	101.00 S	2.70 S	2.75 S	No Price L	No Price -	1.30 L
Port Adelaide	401.00 L	251.00 L	501.00 L	10.00 L	9.00 L	301.00 L	No Price -	1.02 S
Essendon	501.00 S	501.00 -	1001.00 S	11.00 S	12.00 S	301.00 L	No Price L	No Price -
Fremantle	1001.00 L	1001.00 L	2001.00 L	71.00 L	67.00 L	14.00 S	13.00 S	No Price S
West Coast	5001.00 L	2001.00 L	5001.00 L	501.00 L	251.00 L	5.00 S	4.00 S	No Price -
Melbourne	No Price L	No Price -	5001.00 -	No Price L	No Price L	1.18 L	1.22 L	No Price -
<b>Over-round</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

On the GF Quinella market, a few of the more preposterous pairings have winked out of existence this week, though it wouldn't be correct to say that they are entirely extinct. Also, for reasons unfathomable to me, a Dees v Hawks Grand Final is still considered a possibility, however remote, but a Dees v Cats Grand Final is simply out of the questions.

(Quite why there is an island of orange amongst the red denoting the St Kilda / Port Adelaide pairing at \$1300 is another shoulder shrugger.)

Anyway, there are now two equally likely GFs: Cats v Hawks and Cats v Dogs, both of which are at \$3.50.

	Haw	WB	Syd	Bri	Col	Ade	Car	Kan	StK	Ric	Ess	PA	Fre	WC	Mel
<b>Geelong</b>	3.5	3.5	4.6	9	11	17	41	41	41	48	275	275	680	1500	xx
<b>Hawthorn</b>		10	10	27	34	52	125	125	125	145	820	820	1500	1500	1500
<b>Western Bulldogs</b>			13	27	34	52	125	125	125	145	820	820	1500	1500	1500
<b>Sydney</b>				39	47	73	175	175	175	205	1145	1145	1500	1500	1500
<b>Brisbane</b>					91	140	335	335	335	400	1500	1500	1500	1500	xx
<b>Collingwood</b>						175	410	410	410	475	1500	1500	1500	1500	xx
<b>Adelaide</b>							630	630	630	730	1500	1500	1500	1500	xx
<b>Carlton</b>								1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	xx
<b>Kangaroos</b>									1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	xx
<b>St Kilda</b>										1500	1500	1300	1500	1500	1500
<b>Richmond</b>											1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
<b>Essendon</b>												1500	xx	xx	xx
<b>Port Adelaide</b>													1500	1500	1500
<b>Fremantle</b>														xx	xx
<b>West Coast</b>															xx

To finish off this week, here, for the first time ever, is information about how the MARS Predictor System sees the final table shaping up, assuming that all teams with higher ratings defeat all teams with lower ratings (after adjusting for home ground advantage). Please refer to the column headed "Finish".

Team	Pts	Wins	Losses	Final Pts	Finish	MARS Rating	MARS Rank
<b>Geelong</b>	48	9	0	84	1	1,043.4	1
<b>Western Bulldogs</b>	46	7	2	74	2	1,019.1	3
<b>Hawthorn</b>	44	6	3	68	4	1,016.2	4
<b>Sydney</b>	38	8	1	70	3	1,027.8	2
<b>Adelaide</b>	32	5	4	52	7	1,013.6	5
<b>Brisbane Lions</b>	32	6	3	56	5	1,007.0	7
<b>Collingwood</b>	28	7	2	56	5	1,013.1	6
<b>Kangaroos</b>	26	3	6	38	9	997.7	9
<b>St Kilda</b>	24	3	6	36	11	995.0	10
<b>Carlton</b>	24	0	9	24	13	978.4	14
<b>Richmond</b>	22	4	5	38	9	985.3	12
<b>Port Adelaide</b>	16	6	3	40	8	1,002.0	8
<b>Essendon</b>	16	1	8	20	14	973.0	15
<b>Fremantle</b>	8	5	4	28	12	993.9	11
<b>West Coast</b>	8	2	7	16	15	978.6	13
<b>Melbourne</b>	4	0	9	4	16	955.9	16

Perhaps the biggest surprise here is that MARS sees Port Adelaide winning 6 of its remaining games to scramble into the final 8 at the expense of the Roos.

Interestingly, though MARS ranks Sydney as the number 2 team it predicts that they will finish 3<sup>rd</sup>, partly as a result of their difficult run home about which we spoke about earlier and partly because of the competition points deficit that have relative to the teams ahead of them.

'til Monday,

Tony

26 June 2008