

Looking at football  
from a different  
point of view

# MAFL 2008

7th August  
Round #19 2008

## Round 19

GEE 65-0		Melbourne v Geelong (MCG, 8th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$10.00	\$1.03	3% - 10% 90% - 97%
	Melbourne +60½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	13.84% (25.75%) on Melbourne		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Geelong by 25		
Quila	Geelong by 24		
Shadow	Geelong		
CTL	Geelong		
MARS	Geelong		
MM	Geelong (43-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Super MM	Geelong (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Geelong		
Simplified	Geelong		

CAR 40-25		Carlton v Pt Adelaide (Docklands, 9th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.22	\$4.00	75% - 82% 18% - 25%
	Carlton -24½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Carlton by 3		
Quila	Carlton by 4		
Shadow	Carlton		
CTL	Carlton		
MARS	Port Adelaide		
MM	Port Adelaide (24-19) (Dissenters: MM2-20))		
Super MM	Carlton (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Carlton		
Simplified	Carlton		

HAW 64-1		Hawthorn v Bris Lions (Aurora Stadium, 9th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.18	\$4.50	78% - 85% 15% - 22%
	Hawthorn -25½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Hawthorn by 10		
Quila	Hawthorn by 15		
Shadow	Hawthorn		
CTL	Hawthorn		
MARS	Hawthorn		
MM	Hawthorn (42-1) (Dissenter: MM3)		
Super MM	Hawthorn (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Hawthorn		
Simplified	Hawthorn		

STK 44-21		Collingwood v St Kilda (MCG, 9th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$2.25	\$1.60	38% - 44% 56% - 63%
	Collingwood +9½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)*		
Heritage	5.52% (10.27%) on Collingwood		
Alpha	2.99% (4.49%) on Collingwood		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	St Kilda by 3		
Quila	St Kilda by 11		
Shadow	St Kilda		
CTL	St Kilda		
MARS	Collingwood		
MM	St Kilda (31-12) (Dissenters: MM11,13,16,36-44)		
Super MM	St Kilda (8-6) (Dissenters: SMM3,4,5,6,23,33)		
Uber MM	Collingwood		
Simplified	Collingwood		

SYD 57-8		Sydney v Fremantle (SCG, 9th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.38	\$2.90	66% - 72% 28% - 34%
	Sydney -15½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	7.79% (7.86%) on Fremantle		
Chi	Sydney by 4		
Quila	Fremantle by 2		
Shadow	Sydney		
CTL	Sydney		
MARS	Sydney		
MM	Sydney (36-7) (Dissenters: MM2-8)		
Super MM	Sydney (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Sydney		
Simplified	Sydney		

WB 35-30		Kangaroos v W Bulldogs (Docklands, 10th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$2.30	\$1.57	36% - 43% 57% - 64%
	Kangaroos +9½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	3.94% (7.34%) on Kangaroos		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	7.79% (7.86%) on Kangaroos		
Chi	W Bulldogs by 2 (Game of the Round)		
Quila	Kangaroos by 8		
Shadow	Western Bulldogs		
CTL	Western Bulldogs		
MARS	Western Bulldogs		
MM	Western Bulldogs (28-15) (Dissenters: MM2-6, 28, 32-40)		
Super MM	Kangaroos (12-2) (Dissenters: SMM4,16)		
Uber MM	Kangaroos		
Simplified	Kangaroos		

ADE 56-9		Adelaide v Richmond (Football Park, 10th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$1.57	\$2.30	57% - 64% 36% - 43%
	Adelaide -9½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	-		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	5.21% (7.22%) on Adelaide		
Line	-		
Chi	Adelaide by 8		
Quila	Richmond by 5		
Shadow	Adelaide		
CTL	Adelaide		
MARS	Adelaide		
MM	Adelaide (35-8) (Dissenters: MM4-11)		
Super MM	Adelaide (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	Adelaide		
Simplified	Adelaide		

ESS 58-7		West Coast v Essendon (Subiaco, 10th August 2008)	
Sportsbet	\$2.45	\$1.50	33% - 41% 59% - 67%
	West Coast +11½ pts (\$1.90/\$1.90)		
Heritage	4.37% (8.14%) on West Coast		
Alpha	-		
Beta	-		
Chi	-		
Line	-		
Chi	Essendon by 8		
Quila	Essendon by 12		
Shadow	Essendon		
CTL	Essendon		
MARS	Essendon		
MM	Essendon (37-6) (Dissenters: MM38-44)		
Super MM	Essendon (14-0) (Dissenters: None)		
Uber MM	West Coast		
Simplified	Essendon		

\* NB : By the time the Col/STK Line Market was posted the head-to-head market had moved to \$2.30/\$1.57

## This Week's Round in Review

### MAFL Wagers

By now, the following three words should be enough to trigger abject fear in any savvy Heritage Fund Investor: Dees, Cats, MCG.

Here's the detail:

**1. *Heritage Fund: Melbourne 13.84% @ \$10.00 against Geelong***

If you were looking for a wager to encapsulate the Heritage Fund this season, surely this would be it. Prior to this weekend the Heritage Fund has wagered 8 times on the Dees for a 2 and 6 record and a narrow net loss. Also, and more tellingly, it's wagered against the Cats 11 times for 1 win and 10 losses and for a far more substantial net loss. Ten dollars is almost certainly not enough, but victory would still be such sweet, sweet vindication.

**2. *Heritage Fund: Collingwood, 5.52% @ \$2.25 against St Kilda*  
*Alpha Fund: Collingwood, 2.99% @ \$2.25 against St Kilda***

The movements on this market and the consequent changes in tipping and wagering behaviours provide an interesting insight into the various Funds and tipsters.

On Monday the market opened at Pies \$1.80 / Saints \$1.90 and Chi was tipping the Pies by 8 points and was contemplating a near 10% bet on them. Quila too was tipping the Pies, though in her case by just 1 point. No Fund apart from Chi was interested in a wager on either side.

Then came the Shaw & Didak show (co-starring McGuire and a few others), leading to a temporary suspension of the market for the game and shortly thereafter to a suspension of the Driver and the Passenger. When the market re-opened at Pies \$2.20 / Saints \$1.60 Chi's tip switched immediately to Saints by 3, Quila switched to Saints by 11, Chi had no interest in a wager but now the Heritage and Alpha Funds were keen to lob some cash at the beleaguered Pies.

Last week we found no luck with the Pies; let's hope this week is very different.

**3. *Line Fund: Fremantle, 7.79% @ \$1.90 + 15½ points against Sydney***

The Line Fund this week wagers on Fremantle for the first time this season and against the Swans for only the second time. The previous anti-Swans wager was a successful one in Round 17 (on Adelaide).

**4. *Heritage Fund: Kangaroos, 3.94% @ \$2.30 against Western Bulldogs*  
*Line Fund: Kangaroos, 7.79% @ \$1.90 + 9½ points against Western Bulldogs***

The Heritage Fund bet is the fourth this season on the Roos, for which its record is 1 and 2, these wagers producing a narrow net loss. The wager is also, however, the Fund's eighth bet against the Dogs, for which its aggregate result is 0 and 7.

The Line Fund is 2 and 1 this season when wagering on the Roos, and 2 and 3 when wagering against the Dogs.

**5. *Chi Fund: Adelaide, 5.21% @ \$1.57 against Richmond***

This is a very conservative wager by the Canine Clairvoyant, his second this season on the Crows and his second this season against the Tigers. Both previous bets were successful. It'd be nice if he were tipping them by more than 8 points though.

**6. *Heritage Fund: West Coast, 4.37% @ \$2.45 against Essendon***

The Heritage Fund has a 2 and 4 record on the Eagles this season, a record that's been good enough to generate a small profit. It is the first time that this Fund has ventured a wager against the occasionally-conquering Dons.

The following table is based on 100,000 simulations of the weekend's matchups. Generally, Investors have a relatively low probability of enjoying a profitable weekend as this outcome depends either on a Dees victory or a welter or other favourable results priced in aggregate roughly on the same line as the opening of Hell's first ice-skating rink. Only MIN#015, who has no Heritage Fund exposure, has a reasonable chance of profitability (albeit only a small profit).

MIN #001					MIN #002					MIN #005				
	Mean	SD	Best	Worst		Mean	SD	Best	Worst		Mean	SD	Best	Worst
<b>RONF</b>	(0.87%)	16.81%	59.83%	(14.49%)	<b>RONF</b>	(1.69%)	41.57%	142.92%	(27.67%)	<b>RONF</b>	(0.90%)	13.27%	48.82%	(15.58%)
<b>ROI</b>	(6.03%)	116.03%			<b>ROI</b>	(6.09%)	150.22%			<b>ROI</b>	(5.77%)	85.16%		
<b>Prob. of Profit:</b>	18%				<b>Prob. of Profit:</b>	15%				<b>Prob. of Profit:</b>	29%			
MIN #015					MIN ALL OTHERS					The Mean RONF represents the expected increase in the value of the portfolio of the relevant Investor.  The Mean ROI represents the expected return on the week's wagers.				
	Mean	SD	Best	Worst		Mean	SD	Best	Worst					
<b>RONF</b>	(0.10%)	1.66%	1.87%	(1.49%)	<b>RONF</b>	(0.71%)	12.78%	46.17%	(12.02%)					
<b>ROI</b>	(6.48%)	110.89%			<b>ROI</b>	(5.93%)	106.38%							
<b>Prob. of Profit:</b>	42%				<b>Prob. of Profit:</b>	21%								

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 (105)	None (by definition)
CTL (101)	None
Shadow (101)	None
Chi (100)	None
Quila (99)	Fremantle, Kangaroos, Richmond
MM5 (98)	Fremantle, Kangaroos, Richmond
SUM (97)	Collingwood, Kangaroos
MM7 (96)	Fremantle, Richmond
SMM11 (96)	Kangaroos
SMM13 (96)	Kangaroos
SMM23 (96)	Collingwood, Kangaroos
MARS (96)	Port Adelaide, Collingwood

*Melbourne v Geelong (Geelong 65-0)*

1<sup>st</sup> plays last. 1<sup>st</sup> garners unanimous support. Nothing to see here – please move along.

*Carlton v Port Adelaide (Carlton 40-25)*

The only support for the Power amongst quality tipsters comes from MARS. What planet is it on? (There's a line that's been begging to be used all season).

(Neither Chi nor Quila are overwhelmed by the Blues' credentials though – they're tipping only 3 and 4 point victory margins respectively.)

*Hawthorn v Brisbane Lions (Hawthorn 64-1)*

Only MM3 stands between the Hawks and a clean sweep of the tipsters.

*St Kilda v Collingwood (St Kilda 44-21)*

Crashed cars and forgotten occupants aside, the Pies have found favour this week amongst a handful of top 10 tipsters, viz the Simplified Über Model, SMM23 and MARS. A sizeable slice of the remaining MAFL tipsters also support the Pies.

*Sydney v Fremantle (Sydney 57-8)*

Amongst our tipping elite, only Quila, MM5 and MM7 are predicting a Freo win away to the Swans.

Quila's support is not exactly rock solid – she's tipped Freo by just 2 points.

*Kangaroos v Western Bulldogs (Western Bulldogs 35-30)*

The MAFL tipsters are intriguingly split on this game, with a narrow majority plumping for the Dogs but with the minority Roos support including Quila, MM5, the Simplified Über Model, SMM11, SMM13 and SMM23.

Chi's on the Dogs but only by 2 points, making this his Game of the Round.

*Adelaide v Richmond (Adelaide 56-9)*

Overwhelming support for the Crows though again with some impressive support for the underdog, this time in the shape of Quila, MM5 and MM7.

*West Coast v Essendon (Essendon 58-7)*

The West Coast has only what might be politely termed "fringe support" this week. None of the tipsters carrying Eagles torches is likely to populate this newsletter's pages again next season.

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

- Geelong (Favourite)
- Carlton (Favourite)
- Hawthorn (Favourite)
- St Kilda (Favourite)
- Sydney (Favourite)
- Western Bulldogs (Favourite)
- Adelaide (Favourite)
- Essendon (Favourite)

(All of which would suggest that we've a dreaded "Very Predictable" round ahead of us.)

## Tipster's Team Tipping Index

I've been kicking around for some time the idea of an index that captures how well a given tipster has done with each team (which, now I think about it, is an odd and inhospitable way to treat an idea but I can't be responsible for all the idioms in the language). This week I think I've finally landed on something.

There are, I'd contend, two ways to tip well in the context of some team. Firstly, and most obviously, you tend to tip them when they win; equally, and more subtly, you tend not to tip them when they lose.

So, an intuitive measure of a tipster's performance with, say, team A could be written as:

*Tipping Index for Team A*

=

*(Number of Times Tipped A when they won – Number of Times Tipped A when they lost)*

+

*(Number of Times Didn't Tip A when they lost – Number of Times Didn't Tip A when they won)*

Consider, as an example, a team with a 12 and 6 record for which a particular tipster has an 8 and 2 record when tipping. Such a tipster's Tipping Index for this team would be  $(8 - 2) + (4 - 4) = +6$ . So, this tipster has performed adequately but not brilliantly with this team. Further, the tipster's performance has been more affected by the times when the team was not tipped (score of 0 arising from 4 wins and 4 losses) than by the times when the team was tipped (score of 6 arising from 12 wins and 6 losses).

Some thought (or a basic trust in my maths skills) will reveal that the maximum score a tipster can record for a given team is the number of games that this team has played<sup>1</sup>, this maximum being achieved by always tipping the team when they win and always not tipping the team when they lose.

So, let's construct this measure for our top tipsters and see what insights it might yield.

<sup>1</sup> Actually, if you treat a draw as a half win and a half loss, it's the number of non-drawn games that the team has played

Best Poss	10 8 18			9 9 18			8 10 18			9 9 18			8 10 18			5 13 18			17 1 18			14 4 18			10 7 17		
	Adelaide			Brisbane Lions			Carlton			Collingwood			Essendon			Fremantle			Geelong			Hawthorn			Kangaroos		
	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total
BKB	6	4	10	3	3	6	0	2	2	2	2	4	3	5	8	0	8	8	16	0	16	10	0	10	3	0	3
CTL	4	2	6	3	3	6	2	4	6	0	0	0	2	4	6	0	8	8	15	-1	14	11	1	12	1	-2	-1
STM	3	1	4	2	2	4	2	4	6	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	9	10	16	0	16	11	1	12	2	-1	1
CTM	5	3	8	4	4	8	-2	0	-2	1	1	2	2	4	6	-1	7	6	15	-1	14	9	-1	8	4	1	5
QTM	5	3	8	4	4	8	0	2	2	2	2	4	2	4	6	1	9	10	14	-2	12	8	-2	6	3	0	3
MMS	3	1	4	3	3	6	1	3	4	1	1	2	2	4	6	1	7	8	16	0	16	9	-1	8	3	0	3
SUM	2	0	2	5	5	10	-3	-1	-4	2	2	4	6	8	14	-2	6	4	13	-3	10	10	0	10	2	-1	1
MM7	2	0	2	2	2	4	1	3	4	0	0	0	2	4	6	0	8	8	16	0	16	9	-1	8	4	1	5
SM11	2	0	2	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	5	8	-3	5	2	16	0	16	11	1	12	2	-1	1
SM13	2	0	2	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	5	8	-3	5	2	16	0	16	11	1	12	2	-1	1
SM23	3	1	4	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	4	2	4	6	-2	6	4	16	0	16	10	0	10	3	0	3
MARS	4	2	6	2	2	4	-1	1	0	1	1	2	2	4	6	-2	6	4	16	0	16	10	0	10	1	-2	-1
MM4	3	1	4	4	4	8	0	2	2	-1	-1	-2	4	6	10	-2	6	4	15	-1	14	9	-1	8	4	1	5
MM17	2	0	2	2	2	4	-1	1	0	0	0	0	2	4	6	-1	7	6	16	0	16	11	1	12	3	0	3
SM19	3	1	4	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	5	8	-3	5	2	16	0	16	10	0	10	2	-1	1
SM33	3	1	4	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	5	8	-2	6	4	16	0	16	10	0	10	3	0	3

Best Poss	2 16 18			5 13 18			8 9 17			10 8 18			10 7 17			3 15 18			14 3 17			142 142 284			143
	Melbourne			Port Adelaide			Richmond			St Kilda			Sydney			West Coast			Western Bulldogs			Total			
	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	Tip	Not Tip	Total	
BKB	0	14	14	-1	7	6	4	5	9	6	4	10	5	2	7	1	13	14	8	-3	5	66	66	132	105
CTL	0	14	14	-1	7	6	4	5	9	4	2	6	6	3	9	-3	9	6	10	-1	9	58	58	116	101
STM	0	14	14	0	8	8	2	3	5	4	2	6	6	3	9	-2	10	8	10	-1	9	58	58	116	101
CTM	0	14	14	-2	6	4	3	4	7	5	4	10	4	1	5	0	12	12	8	-3	5	56	56	112	100
QTM	-1	13	12	-3	5	2	4	5	9	5	3	8	4	1	5	-1	11	10	7	-4	3	54	54	108	99
MMS	-1	13	12	-2	6	4	5	6	11	4	2	6	4	1	5	-3	9	6	6	-5	1	52	52	104	98
SUM	-2	12	10	-1	7	6	3	4	7	4	2	6	5	2	7	-2	10	8	8	-3	5	50	50	100	97
MM7	-1	13	12	-2	6	4	4	5	9	3	1	4	4	1	5	-4	8	4	8	-3	5	48	48	96	96
SM11	-2	12	10	0	8	8	3	4	7	4	2	6	6	3	9	-4	8	4	8	-3	5	48	48	96	96
SM13	-2	12	10	0	8	8	3	4	7	4	2	6	6	3	9	-4	8	4	8	-3	5	48	48	96	96
SM23	-1	13	12	0	8	8	2	3	5	4	2	6	5	2	7	-5	7	2	8	-3	5	48	48	96	96
MARS	-1	13	12	-2	6	4	4	5	9	5	3	8	5	2	7	-3	9	6	7	-4	3	48	48	96	96
MM4	-1	13	12	-3	5	2	5	6	11	1	-1	0	5	2	7	-3	9	6	6	-5	1	46	46	92	95
MM17	-1	13	12	-2	6	4	4	5	9	2	0	2	5	2	7	-3	9	6	7	-4	3	46	46	92	95
SM19	-1	13	12	0	8	8	3	4	7	4	2	6	5	2	7	-5	7	2	7	-4	3	46	46	92	95
SM33	-1	13	12	-2	6	4	2	3	5	3	1	4	5	2	7	-4	8	4	8	-3	5	46	46	92	95

As is now MAFL custom, allow me to explain this chart by walking you through a row. Let's look at the BKB row.

It shows that BKB has a Tipping Index for the Kangaroos of +10, this coming from a +6 score when tipping them and a +4 score when not tipping them. The green colouring of the number 10 denotes that, relative to all MAFL tipsters, BKB has a high Tipping Index for the Roos. (The overall scale ranges from deep green though yellow and into deep red.)

In a similar way we can see that BKB has a Tipping Index of +6 with the Lions, which is, again a relatively high index. BKB has, however, struggled a bit with Carlton, recording only a +2, which is relatively fairly mediocre.

The row at the very top of the block records the best possible scores that could be achieved in respect of tipping for or against each team. So, for example, the best possible Tipping Index for Adelaide would be 18 (as it is for all teams who've not recorded a draw), this result coming from tipping them for all 10 of their victories and not tipping them for all 8 of their losses.

It's interesting to note that, even amongst MAFL's best tipsters, each team has been well-tipped by some tipsters and poorly-tipped by others, as witnessed by the range of colours in each column.

Chi, for example (aka CTM), has done relatively well with the Crows, Lions, Roos, Dees, Saints and Eagles, but relatively poorly with the Blues, Dons, Cats, Hawks, Port, Tigers and Sydney.

Quila, in contrast (aka QTM), who's just one tip behind Chi, has done better with the Blues (though still not brilliantly), the Pies, Freo and Tigers and worse with all other teams except Adelaide, the Lions, the Dons and Sydney.

By looking at what score is required to deserve a dark green colouring it's also possible to see, relatively speaking, which teams have been hardest to tip and which have been easiest.

Mathematically, it's easy to show that the score for each tipster attained by adding up the Tipping Index they've registered for each team is linearly related to each tipster's total tips correctly predicted.

### Team Rating System

This week MARS is tipping two underdog winners in Port Adelaide and the Pies.

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

- Geelong by 43 points or more
- Pt Adelaide by 2 points or more
- Hawthorn by 12 points or more
- Pies by 5 points or more
- Sydney by 11 points or more
- Bulldogs by 4 points or more
- Adelaide by 12 points or more
- Essendon by 5 points or more

If the bookies rather than MARS are correct then we could see the Saints challenging for a Top 8 spot this weekend.

No other major change looks likely.

Team	End R18
Geelong	1,058.4
Hawthorn	1,024.3
Western Bulldogs	1,016.6
Sydney	1,015.6
Adelaide	1,007.8
Collingwood	1,006.5
Brisbane Lions	1,001.6
Kangaroos	1,001.0
St Kilda	1,000.2
Fremantle	996.3
Port Adelaide	994.6
Richmond	986.2
Carlton	985.0
Essendon	984.7
West Coast	967.4
Melbourne	953.8

### Bookmakers' Prices

Geelong surely did just what everyone expected of them last weekend, but it's nevertheless been enough to see their price reduced yet again on the TAB and Centrebet markets. Even after accounting for a generous over-round, a Cats premiership win is now worth less than 1 bit in terms of surprisals.

In Final 8 betting we're now seeing quite a gap forming between the eighth- and the ninth-highest prices, from \$1.50 to \$2.00 at the TAB, and from \$1.55 to \$2.10 at Centrebet. It seems we probably have our final 8.

Melbourne have retained Spoon favouritism, despite losing by only 16 points to the Dons last weekend. In this market too we have a most-likely outcome being associated with less than one bit of surprisal.

Team	Bookmakers' Prices (6th August v 30th July)								
	Premiership Winner			Final 8		Wooden Spoon		Miss 8	
	TAB	Centrebet	Domebet	TAB	Centrebet	TAB	Centrebet	TAB	
Geelong	1.55 S	1.60 S	1.63 -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No Price -	
Hawthorn	4.60 S	4.50 S	4.50 S	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No Price -	
Western Bulldogs	8.00 -	8.00 -	8.50 L	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No Price -	
St Kilda	21.00 -	26.00 L	29.00 L	1.10 S	1.12 S	No price -	No price -	4.25 L	
Sydney	26.00 L	26.00 L	34.00 L	1.08 S	1.14 L	No price -	No price -	6.00 S	
Kangaroos	31.00 S	34.00 S	34.00 S	1.10 S	1.08 S	No price -	No price -	5.50 L	
Collingwood	31.00 L	34.00 L	29.00 L	1.50 L	1.55 L	No price -	No price -	1.90 S	
Adelaide	41.00 L	34.00 S	51.00 -	1.20 S	1.25 S	No price -	No price -	3.30 L	
Brisbane Lions	81.00 L	81.00 L	101.00 L	2.00 L	2.10 L	No price -	No price -	1.40 S	
Richmond	126.00 L	126.00 L	201.00 L	2.70 L	2.65 L	No price -	No price -	1.28 S	
Carlton	126.00 L	126.00 L	201.00 L	5.00 L	4.50 L	No price -	No price -	1.12 -	
Essendon	101.00 S	101.00 S	201.00 L	4.50 S	4.50 S	No price -	No price -	1.12 L	
Port Adelaide	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No Price -	
Fremantle	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price L	No price L	No Price -	
West Coast	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	2.75 -	2.70 S	No Price -	
Melbourne	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	No price -	1.40 -	1.42 L	No Price -	
<b>Over-round</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	

Still, 65 pairings remain priced in the GF Quinella market, the shortest of which is the Cats v Hawks matchup, which is in 20c this week to \$2.40. Next highest price is \$3.20 for a Cats v Dogs matchup, which is 5c shorter than last week.

Six other Grand Finals are priced in the \$10 - \$14 range, with only the shortest-priced of these, a Hawks v Dogs matchup, not involving the Cats.

	Haw	WB	Col	StK	Syd	Ade	Kan	Bri	Ess	Ric	Car
Geelong	2.4	3.2	12	12	12	14	14	34	45	45	51
Hawthorn		10	45	45	52	57	52	140	175	175	215
Western Bulldogs			80	80	95	105	95	250	315	315	390
Collingwood				270	325	355	325	850	1060	1060	1320
St Kilda					325	355	325	850	1060	1060	1320
Sydney						425	385	1015	1265	1265	1500
Adelaide							425	1115	1390	1390	1500
Kangaroos								1015	1265	1265	1500
Brisbane									1500	1500	1500
Essendon										1500	xxx
Richmond											1500

### Has This Year Been Surprising?

During the week a MAFL Investor asked if, based on the surprisal measure, season 2008 could still be characterised as less surprising than average.

The table below records, for each of the seasons 1999 to 2008, the number of rounds of each of the various types (in all cases excluding draws because of their highly distortionary effect). It also records the average number of each round type per season across seasons 1999 to 2007.

Round Type	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Ave 1999-2007	2008
Very Predictable	1	6	6	4	10	8	3	5	3	5.1	8
Predictable	7	7	8	6	3	2	6	5	7	5.7	3
Somewhat Predictable	8	4	2	7	4	6	8	7	8	6.0	2
Unpredictable	6	5	6	5	5	6	5	5	4	5.2	5
Average Surprisals/Game	0.93	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.84	0.87	0.92	0.88	0.92	0.89	0.84
Rounds with Draws	1	2	0	2	3	0	1	2	3	1.6	1

Pretty clearly – especially relative to 2005, 2006 and 2007 – the current season has over-produced “Very Predictable” rounds. This season is also on track to produce the lowest average bits of surprisal per game of any of the last 10 seasons.

A little curiously, what we’ve been missing this year are “Predictable” and “Somewhat Predictable” round types. Virtually no matter what the next 4 rounds bring, the tally of both of these round types across season 2008 is going to be below the 1999 to 2007 average.

‘til Sunday,

Tony

7 August 2008