



# MAFL Funds : Season 2007

Where Statistics Meets Leather and Grass

30 August 2007

Season 2007, Number 22

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- What Wins Games?
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## Seven Games Will Affect the Final 8

 <p><b>Collingwood v Adelaide</b> Telstra Dome 31<sup>st</sup> August, 7:40pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> Col \$2.00 / Ade \$1.75 (Adelaide 50-57%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Collingwood +6½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Adelaide by 9</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Adelaide by 12</p>	 <p><b>Richmond v St Kilda</b> MCG 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> Ric \$3.00 / StK \$1.35 (St Kilda 67-74%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Richmond +15½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> 11.24% (7.08%) on Richmond</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> 5.00% (4.40%) on Richmond</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> 7.78% (8.59%) on Richmond</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> St Kilda by 1</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Richmond by 2</p>	 <p><b>West Coast v Essendon</b> Subiaco 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> WC \$1.09 / Ess \$6.50 (West Coast 85-92%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> West Coast -41½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> 7.78% (8.59%) on Essendon</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> West Coast by 19</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> West Coast by 22</p>	 <p><b>Brisbane Lions v Geelong</b> Gabba 1<sup>st</sup> September, 7:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> Bri \$3.00 / Gee \$1.35 (Geelong 67-74%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Brisbane Lions +17½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> 7.94% (5.00%) on Brisbane</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Geelong by 11</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Geelong by 12</p>
 <p><b>Port Adelaide v Fremantle</b> Football Park 1<sup>st</sup> September, 7:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> PA \$1.27 / Fre \$3.55 (Port Adelaide 72-79%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Port Adelaide -21½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> 7.78% (8.59%) on Fremantle</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Port Adelaide by 15</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Port Adelaide by 19</p>	 <p><b>Sydney v Hawthorn</b> SCG 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> Syd \$2.45 / Haw \$1.51 (Hawthorn 59-66%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Sydney +12½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> 5.97% (3.76%) on Sydney</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> 13.24% (16.89%) on Sydney</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Hawthorn by 9</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Hawthorn by 6</p>	 <p><b>Bulldogs v Kangaroos</b> Telstra Dome 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> WB \$3.60 / Kan \$1.26 (Kangaroos 72-79%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> Bulldogs +22½ pts</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> 10.89% (6.87%) on Bulldogs</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Kangaroos by 34</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Kangaroos by 37</p>	 <p><b>Melbourne v Carlton</b> MCG 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 5:10pm</p> <p><b>Head-to-Head</b> Mel \$1.33 / Car \$3.00 (Melbourne 67-75%)</p> <p><b>Line Betting</b> No market</p> <p><b>Heritage Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Alpha Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Beta Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Line Fund Bet</b> -</p> <p><b>Chi's Tip</b> Melbourne by 12</p> <p><b>Quila's Tip</b> Melbourne by 10</p>

- Nine bets on 6 teams across 6 games with around 36% of (Notional Initial) Heritage Funds, 5% of Alpha Funds, 13¼% of Beta, and 23¼% of Line Funds at risk

## And You Thought Last Week Was Big

Okay. Last week, the Tigers and the Pies did enough to net most Investors a small profit. This week, surely, it'll be quieter, and we can all watch the round comforted that we've locked in a result for the season proper. Well ... no.

For only the fifth time this season, all Funds are active. The Heritage Fund, as usual, leads the way, with 4 bets all of them above 5% and totaling over one-third of Notional Initial Funds (NIF). Meantime, the Alpha Fund is leaping onto the Tiger's tail, entrusting them with its second-largest bet of the season, the Beta Fund is backing the Swans with its largest wager of the season, and the Line Fund is giving itself the chance to move back into profitability with three bets of its own. Mercifully, there's no bet this week on Team Armoured Vehicle (might be a tank, might not be).

Here's what we have:

### Round 22 Wagers

	Team Wagered On	Bet Size (Init) <sup>1</sup>	Bet Size (Cur) <sup>2</sup>	Price Obtained	Points Start	Opponent
<b>Heritage</b>	Richmond	11.24%	7.08%	\$3.00	-	St Kilda
	Brisbane	7.94%	5.00%	\$3.00	-	Geelong
	Sydney	5.97%	3.76%	\$2.45	-	Hawthorn
	Bulldogs	10.89%	6.87%	\$3.60	-	Kangaroos
<b>Alpha</b>	Richmond	5.00%	4.40%	\$3.00	-	St Kilda
<b>Beta</b>	Sydney	13.24%	16.89%	\$2.45	-	Hawthorn
<b>Line</b>	Richmond	7.78%	8.59%	\$1.90	15½	St Kilda
	Essendon	7.78%	8.59%	\$1.90	41½	West Coast
	Fremantle	7.78%	8.59%	\$1.90	21½	Port Adelaide

<sup>1</sup> Bets as a proportion of initial (notional) funds

<sup>2</sup> Bets as a proportion of current funds

(Unfortunately, we'd locked in our Freo bet before they dropped 6 players for 'disciplinary reasons'. Let's hope the subs rally and keep Freo within the 21½ points. Also, as I type this, no-one is fielding a Line betting market for the Melbourne v Carlton game, though they're all fielding Head-to-Head markets for the same game. If they're concerned about some shenanigans taking place in the game as both sides try to protect their draft picks - some pundits have joked that it might finish as a nil-all draw - why field a head-to-head market?)

To put the numbers in the table above into context, they represent about:

- 16% of NIF for Strategy A Investors
- 19½% of NIF for Strategy B Investors
- 18½% of NIF for Strategy C Investors
- 28% of NIF for Strategy C+ Investors
- 23¼% of NIF for Strategy D Investors
- 17¼% of NIF for Strategy E Investors

The average round this year has seen about 6% of Strategy A Investor's NIF at risk, so we're at a level almost three times that. No-one could ever accuse our Funds of lacking in courage.

The late season flurry of Fund support for the Tigers means has made them, with 17 bets, the second most backed team by number of bets and the most backed team in terms of dollars wagered for Strategy A Investors.

- Swans or Tigers plus one other head-to-head victory enough for most Investors.

So, yet another Ready Reckoner to look at with one eye closed and one open.

### Round 22 Ready Reckoner (all returns are as a % of Total National Initial Funds)

		Win	Lose by less than the Spread	Lose by more than the Spread
Strategy A	Richmond	+8.69%	-3.30%	-4.77%
	Essendon	+0.70%		-0.78%
	Brisbane	+3.17%		-1.59%
	Fremantle	+0.70%		-0.78%
	Sydney	+8.45%		-5.83%
	Bulldogs	+5.67%		-2.18%
Strategy B	Richmond	+9.87%	-2.31%	-6.00%
	Essendon	+1.75%		-1.94%
	Brisbane	+3.97%		-1.98%
	Fremantle	+1.75%		-1.94%
	Sydney	+6.96%		-4.80%
	Bulldogs	+7.08%		-2.72%
Strategy C+	Richmond	+15.88%	-5.84%	-8.80%
	Essendon	+1.40%		-1.56%
	Brisbane	+9.52%		-4.76%
	Fremantle	+1.40%		-1.56%
	Sydney	+7.11%		-4.90%
	Bulldogs	+17.00%		-6.54%
Strategy D	Richmond	+7.00%	+7.00%	-7.78%
	Essendon	+7.00%		-7.78%
	Brisbane	+0.00%		+0.00%
	Fremantle	+7.00%		-7.78%
	Sydney	+0.00%		+0.00%
	Bulldogs	+0.00%		+0.00%
Strategy E	Richmond	+8.89%	-2.35%	-5.30%
	Essendon	+1.40%		-1.56%
	Brisbane	+3.17%		-1.59%
	Fremantle	+1.40%		-1.56%
	Sydney	+7.49%		-5.17%
	Bulldogs	+5.67%		-2.18%

A brief analysis shows that Strategy A Investors will be profitable if:

- Richmond or Sydney wins and one other bet is successful, excluding the Essendon and Freo Line bets, or
- The bets on Essendon, Brisbane Lions, Fremantle and the Bulldogs are all successful

## Collingwood the Popular Upset Tip

There's broad agreement across all 28 tipsters in all of this weekend's games. We have unanimity in four games - West Coast over Essendon, Geelong over Brisbane, Kangaroos over the Western Bulldogs, and Melbourne over Carlton - and near unanimity in the remaining games, with Collingwood supported 21-7 over the favourites, Adelaide; Hawthorn supported 22-6 over Sydney; St Kilda supported 24-4 over Richmond; and Port Adelaide supported 26-2 over Fremantle.

Chi and BKB have identical tips this weekend, and differ from MM16 only in their selection of Adelaide over Collingwood. So, Chi won't be able to catch MM16 and MM15 this weekend and so will need to settle for 4<sup>th</sup> spot, a position that he'll secure only if Adelaide defeat Collingwood.

- BKB and Chi have identical tips; BKB and MM16 differ on just 1.

Here's the detail:

**Tips from all the Tipping Models**  
(see Appendix for each Model's strategy)

Matchup	Head to Head				Line		A	B	C
	Chi	Quila	BKB	CTL	Chi	Quila			
Col Ade	9	12	6%						
Ric StK	1	2	15%						
WC Ess	19	22	41%						
Bri Gee	11	12	17%						
PA Fre	15	19	21%						
Syd Haw	9	6	12%						
WB Kan	34	37	22%						
Mel Car	12	10	-		No market				
Score	105.5	94.5	111.5	96.5	75	70	111.5	113.5	115.5

  

MM	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Col Ade																						
Ric StK																						
WC Ess																						
Bri Gee																						
PA Fre																						
Syd Haw																						
WB Kan																						
Mel Car																						
Score	86.5	94.5	98.5	95.5	94.5	99.5	96.5	98.5	98.5	95.5	99.5	100.5	105.5	107.5	107.5	100.5	102.5	100.5	101.5	104.5	99.5	
Rank	21	19	13	17	19	10	16	13	13	17	10	7	3	1	1	7	5	7	6	4	10	

So, we can now declare BKB the winner of the MAFL Tipping League. Now you know why bookies make all that money (though hopefully not from us). Second place will be shared by MM15 and MM16 who, remarkably, differed on only 2 tips all season.

You might also recall that I stated earlier in the year that I'd be happy if Chi could maintain an average absolute prediction error below 30 points. Well, his current average is 29.81 so there's a good chance that he'll achieve that goal. A West Coast annihilation of the Dons looks to be the only significant threat to such an outcome. The Sportsbet bookie's average absolute prediction error of just 28.11 points is, I'd have to admit, a spectacular achievement.



Here's the current table:

### Cumulative Tipping Results

	Cum	% Correct	Av Pred Err
BKB	111.5	66.4%	28.11
MM15	107.5	64.0%	-
MM16	107.5	64.0%	-
CTM	105.5	62.8%	29.81
MM14	105.5	62.8%	-
MM21	104.5	62.2%	-
MM18	102.5	61.0%	-
MM20	101.5	60.4%	-
MM13	100.5	59.8%	-
MM17	100.5	59.8%	-
MM19	100.5	59.8%	-
MM22	99.5	59.2%	-
MM7	99.5	59.2%	-
MM12	99.5	59.2%	-
MM4	98.5	58.6%	-
MM9	98.5	58.6%	-
MM10	98.5	58.6%	-
CTL	96.5	57.4%	-
MM8	96.5	57.4%	-
NIT	96.5	57.4%	-
MM5	95.5	56.8%	-
MM11	95.5	56.8%	-
QTM	94.5	56.3%	31.38
MM6	94.5	56.3%	-
MM3	94.5	56.3%	-
MM2	86.5	51.5%	-

## Update on Chiras

Earlier in the year I introduced the Chi Ranking System (Chiras), which works in the following way:

Consider some team - call them A.

1. For every team that Team A has beaten, credit them with the number of competition points accumulated across the whole season by the team that they beat. So, for example, Richmond's win over Essendon last week was worth 40 points to Richmond as that's the number of competition points that Essendon has racked up this season.
2. For every team that Team A has been beaten by, deduct the number of competition points dropped across the whole season by that team. So, using the same example, Essendon would record a -70 score for their loss to Richmond since Richmond have dropped 17½ games (70 points) so far this season.
3. If Team A has drawn with another team, average the results of 1. and 2. to determine the value of that draw.

Each week, the value of previous wins and losses are recalculated depending on the most recent results. So, a previous win becomes more valuable if that team loses this week and more valuable if it wins. If you think about it, that makes a lot of sense, although I admit that this system isn't as transparent as the current 4 points for a win, 2 for a draw and 0 for a loss. (While I'm on that, why is it that the AFL seems unable to recognise the common property that those 3 numbers share - namely divisibility by 2? If we're going to be arbitrary about it, why not make it  $2\pi$  points for a win,  $\pi$  points for a draw, and 0 for a loss? And, since I'm on a roll, how come the Priority Draft pick rule requires a team to have scored fewer than  $16\frac{1}{2}$  competition points? Why not 17 ... or 18 come that? Under what circumstances might a team score or be penalized fractions of a point? *"The Swans would've picked up the four competition points, but were surprised to be docked one-tenth of a point for a poor landing on the back of Barry Hall's triple Lutz in the second term, and a further two-tenths for Roberts-Thomson's failure to complete one of the compulsory lifts."*)

Anyway, under the Chiras system, the current table would look like this:

Chi Rank	Team	Chi Ranking Points	Competition Points	Ladder Position
1	Geelong	512	68	1
2	West Coast	260	56	2 aeq
3	Port Adelaide	238	56	2 aeq
4	Hawthorn	216	52	4 aeq
5	Kangaroos	196	52	4 aeq
6	Collingwood	120	52	4 aeq
7	Adelaide	70	44	8
8	Sydney	48	46	7
9	St Kilda	-4	42	9
10	Fremantle	-26	40	10 aeq
11	Brisbane Lions	-30	40	10 aeq
12	Western Bulldogs	-54	38	13
13	Essendon	-74	40	10 aeq
14	Melbourne	-488	16	14 aeq
15	Carlton	-490	16	14 aeq
16	Richmond	-494	14	16

The major differences under Chiras then would be that Sydney and Adelaide would swap places, as would West Coast and Port Adelaide, and Essendon and the Western Bulldogs. What's remarkable is how broadly consistent the two ranking systems are. Indeed, the correlation between Chiras ranking points and Competition Points is +0.995.

## Who Wins Games?

This week, I want to tie together a number of strands of analysis, many that we've discussed at earlier points in the season.

The number-packed table below rewards careful review. It shows, working left to right: the teams (ordered by ladder position), competition points, percentage, goals for, behinds for, rushed behinds for, total points for, goals against, behinds against, total points against, accuracy (defined as goals for / {goals for + behinds for}), scoring shots for, scoring shots against, and then the points for the During the Quarter and the End of the Quarter Premierships.

The last row shows the correlation between the values in that column and the competition points scored.

Team	Pts		Points For				Points Against				Acc'y	Scoring Shots		During the Quarter				End of the Qtr	
	For	%	G	B	Rush	Total	G	B	Total	%	For	Ag	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2nd	3rd	
Geelong	68	153.6	348	237	72	2,397	225	211	1,561	59.5%	657	436	72	52	64	58	70	72	
Port Adelaide	56	112.5	320	218	59	2,197	283	255	1,953	59.5%	597	538	52	38	56	42	52	48	
West Coast	56	112.1	292	220	58	2,030	262	239	1,811	57.0%	570	501	50	56	46	50	56	60	
Hawthorn	52	118.3	295	225	33	2,028	244	250	1,714	56.7%	553	494	32	36	48	62	44	52	
Kangaroos	52	106.4	291	203	77	2,026	271	279	1,905	58.9%	571	550	62	46	50	34	56	56	
Collingwood	52	102.0	273	226	72	1,936	274	254	1,898	54.7%	571	528	36	66	36	36	46	42	
Sydney	46	116.0	275	183	57	1,890	236	213	1,629	60.0%	515	449	38	44	50	58	46	48	
Adelaide	44	109.2	256	188	63	1,787	233	239	1,637	57.7%	507	472	56	52	30	44	48	40	
St Kilda	42	95.8	253	202	52	1,772	269	235	1,849	55.6%	507	504	30	54	44	26	46	48	
Brisbane Lions	40	108.2	268	208	67	1,883	244	276	1,740	56.3%	543	520	36	46	48	48	38	40	
Fremantle	40	104.2	321	193	50	2,169	300	281	2,081	62.5%	564	581	38	48	38	50	42	40	
Essendon	40	91.1	301	190	64	2,060	330	282	2,262	61.3%	555	612	48	12	40	48	28	24	
Western Bulldogs	38	87.3	294	187	67	2,018	335	302	2,312	61.1%	548	637	26	38	28	40	32	36	
Melbourne	16	75.8	252	177	62	1,751	334	306	2,310	58.7%	491	640	26	26	36	44	16	20	
Carlton	16	74.3	297	204	73	2,059	412	300	2,772	59.3%	574	712	40	22	32	8	20	24	
Richmond	14	76.6	272	184	50	1,866	356	299	2,435	59.6%	506	655	30	36	26	24	32	22	
Correlations	-	+0.89	+0.48	+0.71	+0.06	+0.53	-0.80	-0.76	-0.81	-0.21	+0.63	-0.82	+0.63	+0.57	+0.75	+0.60	+0.90	+0.90	

A few things to note:

- In order, the things most correlated with winning are:
  - Leading at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (correlation +0.90)
  - Leading at half time (+0.90)
  - Having a high percentage (+0.89)
  - Not allowing opponents many scoring shots (-0.82), points (-0.81), goals (-0.80) or behinds (-0.76)
  - Winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (+0.75)
  - Scoring lots of behinds (+0.71), and having lots of scoring shots (+0.63)
  - Winning (and so leading after) the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (+0.63)
  - Winning the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (+0.60)
  - Winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (+0.57)
  - Scoring points (+0.53) and scoring goals (+0.48)
- Somewhat remarkably, rushed behinds are pretty much uncorrelated with winning (+0.06) and accuracy on goal is negatively correlated (-0.21).
- As we've noted before, success this year has been more about defence than offence.

That conclusion is highlighted by the following table, which is the same as the table above, but shows rankings rather than raw data:

Team	Pts	%	Points For				Points Against			Acc'y	Scoring Shots		During the Quarter				End of the Qtr	
			G	B	Rush	Total	G	B	Total		For	Ag	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2nd	3rd
Geelong	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	4	1	2	1	1
Port Adelaide	2	4	3	5	10	2	10	8	10	7	2	9	4	10	2	10	4	5
West Coast	2	5	8	4	11	6	6	4	6	12	6	5	5	2	7	4	2	2
Hawthorn	4	2	6	3	16	7	4	6	4	13	9	4	12	12	5	1	9	4
Kangaroos	4	8	9	8	1	8	8	10	9	9	4	10	2	7	3	13	2	3
Collingwood	4	10	11	2	3	10	9	7	8	16	4	8	10	1	11	12	6	8
Sydney	7	3	10	15	12	11	3	2	2	4	12	2	8	9	3	2	6	5
Adelaide	8	6	14	12	8	14	2	4	3	11	13	3	3	4	14	8	5	9
St Kilda	9	11	15	9	13	15	7	3	7	15	13	6	13	3	8	14	6	5
Brisbane Lions	10	7	13	6	5	12	4	9	5	14	11	7	10	7	5	6	11	9
Fremantle	10	9	2	10	14	3	11	11	11	1	7	11	8	6	10	4	10	9
Essendon	10	12	4	11	7	4	12	12	12	2	8	12	6	16	9	6	14	13
Western Bulldogs	13	13	7	13	5	9	14	15	14	3	10	13	15	10	15	11	12	12
Melbourne	14	15	16	16	9	16	13	16	13	10	16	14	15	14	11	8	16	16
Carlton	14	16	5	7	2	5	16	14	16	8	3	16	7	15	13	16	15	13
Richmond	16	14	12	14	14	13	15	13	15	5	15	15	13	12	16	15	12	15

From this table, note that 4 of the top 7 goal scorers are amongst the bottom 6 teams on the ladder, as are 3 of the top 5 point scorers and 4 of the 5 most accurate teams.

(Before we move on I want to point out one other remarkable stat that you could easily miss in the earlier table: in 21 games this season the Hawks have recorded only 33 rushed behinds. That's almost 35% fewer than the next highest team.)

It's also interesting to look at the attacking and defensive records of each team in terms of the number of points they've scored and conceded across the 21 rounds this season. Here's what we find:

#### Points Scored

Team	Points						Average	Rank
	<75	75<100	100<125	125<150	150<175	175<200		
Adelaide	9	4	8				85.1	14
Brisbane Lions	10	4	3	3	1		89.7	12
Carlton	2	9	6	4			98.0	5
Collingwood	3	10	8				92.2	10
Essendon	2	12	5	2			98.1	4
Fremantle	5	5	6	4	1		103.3	3
Geelong	2	5	7	5	1		114.1	1
Hawthorn	5	8	4	2	1	1	96.6	7
Kangaroos	4	6	8	2	1		96.5	8
Melbourne	9	8	3	1			83.4	16
Port Adelaide	3	6	8	1	3		104.6	2
Richmond	5	9	7				88.9	13
St Kilda	8	8	3	2			84.4	15
Sydney	7	7	5	1	1		90.0	11
West Coast	5	7	7	1	1		96.7	6
Western Bulldogs	8	4	3	6			96.1	9
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>94.8</b>	

#### Points Conceded

Opponent	Points						Average	Rank
	<75	75<100	100<125	125<150	150<175	175<200		
Adelaide	11	6	3	1			78.0	3
Brisbane Lions	8	7	5	1			82.9	5
Carlton		1	10	4	5	1	132.0	16
Collingwood	3	15	1	2			90.4	8
Essendon	4	3	8	6			107.7	12
Fremantle	2	9	7	3			99.1	11
Geelong	14	4	3				74.3	1
Hawthorn	7	11	3				81.6	4
Kangaroos	4	10	6	1			90.7	9
Melbourne	1	6	7	6	1		110.0	13
Port Adelaide	6	5	8	2			93.0	10
Richmond	1	7	7	4	1		116.0	15
St Kilda	4	11	5	1			88.0	7
Sydney	13	4	4				77.6	2
West Coast	8	8	4		1		86.2	6
Western Bulldogs	1	5	10	3	2		110.1	14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>95.2</b>	

Let me point out a couple of things that I find interesting in these tables:

- Brisbane Lions have scored fewer than 75 points in 10 of the 21 games - the most of any team
- Adelaide, Collingwood and Richmond are the only teams not to have scored 125 points or more in any game this season
- Geelong have scored 125 points or more 7 times, the most of any team, though surprisingly just once more often than the Bulldogs
- Carlton are the only team not to have conceded fewer than 75 points in any game this season, and have conceded 125 points or more in 10 games, 3 more games than any other team
- Sydney, Geelong and Hawthorn are the only teams not to have conceded 125 points or more in any game this season (though Adelaide, Brisbane, the Roos, West Coast and St Kilda have done so only once each).



## Update on TAB Sportsbet Prices

Sportsbet now feel that the Final eight is determined but for one spot, a spot that will be fought out amongst Adelaide, St Kilda and Brisbane. Whilst mathematically Fremantle could still make the 8 were they to defeat Port by a sizeable margin (say 50 points) and were Collingwood to do likewise to Adelaide (and were both St Kilda and Brisbane to lose), it seems a reasonably remote enough possibility that Sportsbet can safely ignore it, especially now that Freo have left out the dirty half-dozen.

In Flag betting, the Cats, despite losing to the team running second, have shortened again, and are now into \$2.10. Frankly, I give up on trying to fathom their price. The next line of betting sees West Coast out to \$4.10, then Port Adelaide, who have come in sharply to \$8.00. Sydney's loss to the Pies has seen them blow out to \$18 - in my records, their highest price all season.

### TAB Sportsbet Prices : 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007

	Bookmaker's Prices (28th August)		Bookmaker's Prices (21st August)	
	Final 8	Flag	Final 8	Flag
Geelong	No quote	2.10 S	No quote	2.15
West Coast	No quote	4.10 L	No quote	3.75
Port Adelaide	No quote	8.00 S	No quote	11.00
Hawthorn	No quote	11.00 S	No quote	15.00
Collingwood	No quote S	14.00 S	1.10	23.00
Kangaroos	No quote	18.00 S	No quote	23.00
Sydney	No quote S	18.00 L	1.07	8.50
Adelaide	1.60 S	23.00 S	1.90	26.00
St Kilda	2.45 L	41.00 L	1.70	26.00
Brisbane	12.00 L	151.00 L	5.00	51.00
Essendon	No quote L	No quote L	8.00	151.00
Western Bulldogs	No quote L	No quote L	21.00	601.00
Fremantle	No quote	No quote	No quote	No quote
Carlton	No quote	No quote	No quote	No quote
Melbourne	No quote	No quote	No quote	No quote
Richmond	No quote	No quote	No quote	No quote

S Odds have shortened

L Odds have lengthened

Spoon betting ... is open again! Richmond are still the firmest of favourites at \$1.35, but Carlton are now back in the reckoning for what had seemed an impossible three-peat - they're at \$3.40. Melbourne, the only other team with a chance of bringing home cutlery (barring a scandal involving major points deductions), are at \$10.

There are now 4 GF matchups priced under \$10 and Geelong features in all four of them. They are:

- West Coast v Geelong \$3.00 (out from \$2.50)
- Geelong v Port Adelaide \$4.80 (in from \$7.00).
- Geelong v Hawthorn \$6.50
- Geelong v Collingwood \$8.50

Our 'value' quinellas are now at these prices:

- Collingwood v Kangaroos \$92 (in from \$210)
- Hawthorn v Kangaroos \$70 (in from \$135)
- West Coast v Kangaroos \$28 (in from \$30)
- Collingwood v Hawthorn \$50 (in from \$135)
- Geelong v Kangaroos \$12 (in from \$15)

\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

If the majority tips prove correct this week, we'll finish up with a Final 8 that looks like this:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Team</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Geelong
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Port Adelaide and West Coast <i>(Port Adelaide have a slender lead on percentage equivalent to about 6-8 points. So, for example, if Port win 100-70 and West Coast win 106-70, West Coast will take second)</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Hawthorn
5 <sup>th</sup>	Kangaroos
6 <sup>th</sup>	Collingwood
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sydney
8 <sup>th</sup>	St Kilda

This would see Geelong meet Hawthorn and Port Adelaide meet West Coast in the Qualifying Finals of week 1, and the Kangaroos meet St Kilda and Collingwood meet Sydney in the Elimination Finals.

"Win as if you were used to it, lose as if you enjoyed it for a change."

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

Tony

**30 August 2007**

# Appendix

## Tipping Model Strategies

Strategy Name	Basis for Tips
Chi Tipping Model (CTM)	Complex statistical model incorporating a range of factors.
Quila Tipping Model (QTM)	Uses an approach similar to that used for the CTM.
Bookies Know Best (BKB)	For each game, tips the TAB Sportsbet favourite. In the case of equal favourites, it tips the true home team or, if there's no true home team, tips the team with the higher ladder position (ties are broken using percentage then for-and-against margin).
Consult The Ladder (CTL)	Tips the team with the higher ladder position (ties are broken using percentage then for-and-against margin). For the first round of the season, use the ladder position at the end of the previous regular season.
Momentum Matters (MMx)	A series of strategies that involve building competition ladders based only on the results of the most recent x rounds of regular season games (drawing on games from the previous season if required).  The MM2 strategy considers only the last 2 regular season rounds, the MM4 strategy only the last 4 rounds, and so on. Once a ladder has been built for a strategy, the selected team is that with the superior ladder position (as per CTL above).  This year we'll track the performance of MM2, MM4, MM6, MM8, MM11, MM16 and MM22.
No Independent Thought (NIT)	Tips the team that is most popular amongst all other strategies.

## Notional Initial Funds

For reasons that are somewhat technical (I'm happy to provide details to anyone who's interested but, broadly, it allows me to describe bets in terms of a common percentage for all Investors and still maintain the same share price for all Investors), I need to calculate what I call "Notional Initial Funds". It's calculated separately for each Fund.

For original Investors, the definition is straightforward:

$$\text{Notional Initial Funds} = \text{Actual Funds Invested}$$

For Investors who join the Fund post Round 1:

$$\text{Notional Initial Funds} = \text{Actual Funds Invested} / \text{Share Price at the time of investing}$$

(in other words, it's the notional amount that would need to have been invested at the start of the season in order to have returned an amount equal to the amount actually invested).

30 August 2007