



MAFL Funds : Season 2007

Where Statistics Meets Leather and Grass

22 April 2007

Season 2007, Number 4.1

In this newsletter:

- Round 4 Results
- Round 4 Wagers
- Monkey Update
- Alternative Premierships Update

D-Minus

 <p>Richmond v Bulldogs MCG 20th April, 7:40pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Ric \$2.60 / Bul \$1.46</p> <p>Line Betting Richmond +13.5 pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet Richmond -6.76%</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Bulldogs 20.12 (132) <i>def</i> Richmond 14.16 (100)</p> <p>Line Betting Bulldogs by 18.5pts</p>	 <p>St Kilda v Essendon Telstra Dome 21st April, 2:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head StK \$1.62 / Ess \$2.20</p> <p>Line Betting St Kilda -7.5 pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Essendon 15.9 (99) <i>def</i> St Kilda 9.14 (68)</p> <p>Line Betting Essendon by 38.5pts</p>	 <p>Collingwood v Port Adelaide MCG 21st April, 2:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Col \$1.88 / PA \$1.85</p> <p>Line Betting Collingwood +6.5</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet Collingwood -2.91%</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Pt Adelaide 12.12 (84) <i>def</i> Collingwood 9.12 (66)</p> <p>Line Betting Port Adelaide by 11.5pts</p>	 <p>Kangaroos v Brisbane Lions Gold Coast Stadium 21st April, 7:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Kan \$3.30 / Bri \$1.30</p> <p>Line Betting Kangaroos +19.5 pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Kangaroos 12.15 (87) <i>def</i> Brisbane Lions 8.15 (63)</p> <p>Line Betting Kangaroos by 43.5pts</p>
 <p>Adelaide v Sydney Football Park 21st April, 7:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Ade \$1.65 / Syd \$2.15</p> <p>Line Betting Adelaide -5.5pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Adelaide 9.7 (61) <i>def</i> Sydney 5.14 (44)</p> <p>Line Betting Adelaide by 11.5pts</p>	 <p>Hawthorn v Geelong Aurora Stadium 22nd April, 1:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Haw \$2.45 / Gee \$1.51</p> <p>Line Betting Hawthorn +9.5pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Hawthorn 10.16 (76) <i>def</i> Geelong 9.18 (72)</p> <p>Line Betting Hawthorn by 13.5pts</p>	 <p>Melbourne v Fremantle MCG 22nd April, 2:10pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head Mel \$2.70 / Fre \$1.43</p> <p>Line Betting Melbourne +15.5pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet Melbourne -6.98%</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet Melbourne -4.12%</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>Fremantle 21.11 (137) <i>def</i> Melbourne 13.14 (92)</p> <p>Line Betting Fremantle by 29.5pts</p>	 <p>West Coast v Carlton Subiaco 22nd April, 2:40pm</p> <p>Head-to-Head WC \$1.14 / Car \$5.15</p> <p>Line Betting West Coast -29.5pts</p> <p>Heritage Fund Bet -</p> <p>Alpha Fund Bet -</p> <p>Beta Fund Bet -</p> <p>Line Fund Bet -</p> <hr/> <p>West Coast 14.16 (100) <i>def</i> Carlton 4.15 (39)</p> <p>Line Betting West Coast by 31.5pts</p>

- A weekend best forgotten: 0 from 4 Bets

Remind Me Why I Do This Again

Well, in analyst speak, I think we just had a “negatively optimal” weekend during which “market conditions were considerably more unfavourable than anticipated”, pushing the shareprices of the Heritage and Beta Funds into “negative territory”.

Rough translation: we tanked. Four bets produced four losses as we were successively let down by the Tigers, the Pies and the Demons (again).

Amongst the rabble, only Collingwood showed any realistic promise for a substantive chunk of proceedings, leading by a point at the final change before apparently succumbing to a bout of collective amnesia about the primary purpose of the afternoon’s endeavour. The Pies kicked just 2 behinds in the final term, which is, I hope, about 20 fewer than the number of behinds kicked immediately post-game by coach Malthouse in the privacy of the dressing-room.

Richmond, perhaps, could have threatened the Bulldogs a little had they kicked straighter, and the Dees might have discomfitted the Dockers had they too found accuracy in front of goal; but, in truth, neither team deserved to get close.

Here’s how the carnage looks numerically:

Round 4 Heritage and Beta Fund Results

Bets - Heritage Fund			
Team	Bet	Price	Net Return
Richmond	6.76%	\$2.60	(6.8%)
Melbourne	6.98%	\$2.70	(7.0%)
Total	13.74%		(13.7%)
			ROI -100.0%

Bets - Beta Fund			
Team	Bet	Price	Net Return
Collingwood	2.91%	\$1.88	(2.9%)
Melbourne	4.12%	\$2.70	(4.1%)
Total	7.03%		(7.0%)
			ROI -100.0%

- We’re now narrowly behind on the season

And here’s what that means in terms of the season as a whole:

Investor Returns after Round 4

Overall Fund Performance					
	Heritage	Alpha	Beta	Line	
Fund Return	+6.30%	+0.00%	(-7.04%)	+0.00%	
Strategy	Heritage	Alpha	Beta	Line	Overall Return
(Percentage in each Fund)					
A*	20%	35%	35%	10%	(-1.20%)
B	25%	25%	25%	25%	(-0.18%)
C	30%	30%	30%	10%	(-0.22%)
D	0%	0%	0%	100%	+0.00%
E	20%	30%	30%	20%	(-0.85%)

* Recommended portfolio weightings

For any of you contemplating a pre-emptive rescue effort to save your remaining funds, please be reminded that you may cash out at any time between Monday 9am and Wednesday noon.

If you’re looking for good news, just be thankful that the Line Fund wasn’t trading live this weekend: its notional six bets would have provided just one winner, resulting in a net loss of almost 32% of initial funds. When I say a Fund is speculative, I mean it’s spectacularly *speculative*.

Sportsbet 5 – Chi 4

Not a great weekend for the Propheying Pooches either, with Chi tipping 4 from 8, and Quila just 2. (A quick correction: in Thursday's newsletter I suggested that Chi had tipped 8 favourites, including Collingwood. In fact, Sportsbet were narrowly favouring Port Adelaide over Collingwood.)

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

Tipping								
	Ric v WB	StK v Ess	Col v PA	Kan v Bri	Ade v Syd	Haw v Gee	Mel v Fre	WC v Car
CTM	WB by 2	StK by 13	Col by 7	Bri by 4	Ade by 4	Gee by 3	Fre by 1	WC by 16
QTM	Ric by 4	StK by 4	Col by 2	Bri by 7	Syd by 7	Gee by 9	Fre by 5	WC by 8
BKB	WB by 13.5	StK by 7.5	PA by 6.5	Bri by 19.5	Ade by 5.5	Gee by 9.5	Fre by 15.5	WC by 29.5
CTL	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Sydney	Geelong	Fremantle	West Coast
MM2	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	West Coast
MM4	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Kangaroos	Adelaide	Geelong	Fremantle	West Coast
MM6	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Sydney	Geelong	Fremantle	West Coast
MM8	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Sydney	Hawthorn	Fremantle	West Coast
MM11	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Sydney	Hawthorn	Fremantle	West Coast
MM16	W Bulldogs	St Kilda	Collingwood	Brisbane	Sydney	Hawthorn	Fremantle	West Coast
MM22	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Brisbane	Adelaide	Geelong	Fremantle	West Coast
NIT	W Bulldogs (9-2)	St Kilda (10-1)	Collingwood (10-1)	Brisbane (10-1)	Sydney (6-5)	Geelong (8-3)	Fremantle (10-1)	West Coast (11-0)

Line Betting								
	Richmond	St Kilda	Collingwood	Kangaroos	Sydney	Hawthorn	Melbourne	Carlton
Chi	Richmond	St Kilda	Collingwood	Kangaroos	Sydney	Hawthorn	Melbourne	Carlton
Quila	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Kangaroos	Sydney	Hawthorn	Melbourne	Carlton

As you can see from the table above, it was a poor weekend's tipping for almost all of the strategies. Leading strategy, MM16, managed only 4, as did MM8, MM11 and MM22. The weekend's best results belonged to MM4 and Sportsbet, each of which tipped 5.

The average margin of victory this weekend was just 29 points, the second-lowest round average for the season. This average would have been smaller still but for the thumpings in two of the three Sunday games. Generally small victory margins meant that tipping the wrong teams had a relatively small impact on Chi's and Quila's season Average Prediction Error, as the Cumulative Tipping Performance table below shows:

Cumulative Tipping Performance

	Cum	Av Pred Err
MM16	20	-
BKB	19	27.9
CTM	18	28.0
MM4	18	-
MM6	18	-
NIT	18	-
MM8	17	-
MM22	17	-
MM2	16	-
MM11	16	-
QTM	15	29.1
CTL	15	-

A particularly striking feature of the weekend's results was the chronic inaccuracy of losing teams. Combined, losers managed only 71.118 (38%) this weekend, with Sydney's 5.14 and Carlton's 4.15 the most egregious transgressors.

In fact, five of the weekend's eight losers would have been winners had they converted just one-half of their behinds into goals. (Only Richmond, Melbourne and Carlton were beyond help even from such a behinds-into-goals fairy godmother).

Winning teams were not exactly laser-like in their accuracy either, with 4 of them kicking at no better than 50% and their overall performance coming in at 113.98 (54%).

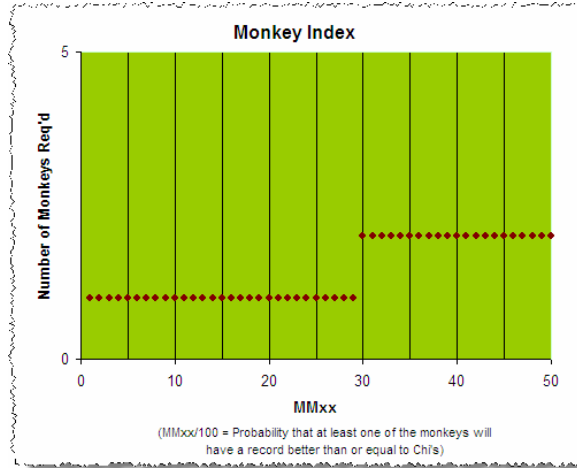
- MM16 leads outright. Chi continues to trail by 2.

Monkey Update

Chi's four from eight has done little to improve his claims for ascending the evolutionary ladder.

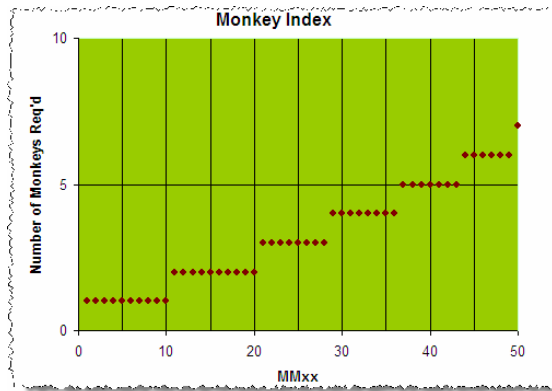
This week, I thought it might be more useful to show how the Chi-Equivalent Monkey Number (CEMN) varies depending on how likely you want it to be that at least one of them equals or beats his tipping performance.

Chi-Equivalent Monkey Numbers



So, if you require the probability of an equal or superior monkey to be only, at most, 30%, the CEMN is 1. If, instead, you require a probability of 30% to 50%, the CEMN rockets to 2.

Here's the equivalent chart based on MM16's performance:



In a similar fashion then, if you require the probability of an equal or superior monkey to be 50%, the MM16EMN is 7.

- Melbourne can't win a game, but they're demons in the 4th quarter

The Alternative Premierships

Six different teams lead the various Alternative Premierships at the end of the weekend.

Geelong remains unbeaten at the head of the *End of 1st Quarter Premiership*, tipping out the also undefeated Kangaroos on percentages. Port Adelaide and Hawthorn prop up the table and are both yet to record a point in this Premiership.

Essendon sits atop the *End of 2nd Quarter Premiership*, having led at half-time in all 4 of its games. In contrast, Carlton and Melbourne are yet to lead at the main break.

West Coast leads the *End of 3rd Quarter Premiership* and the *End of 4th Quarter Premiership*, with 4 from 4 wins in each. Melbourne is yet to lead at 3QT or at the final siren.

TAB Sportsbet Prices : 18th April 2007

End of 1st Quarter Premiership			End of 2nd Quarter Premiership			End of 3rd Quarter Premiership			End of 4th Quarter Premiership		
Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%
Geelong	16	187.7	Essendon	16	141.8	West Coast	16	136.2	West Coast	16	140.9
Kangaroos	16	179.2	West Coast	12	158.1	Brisbane Lions	12	140.5	Essendon	12	118.2
Essendon	12	184.8	Adelaide	12	153.7	Geelong	12	140.0	Adelaide	12	116.9
West Coast	12	173.8	Geelong	12	133.9	Adelaide	12	127.6	Port Adelaide	12	107.7
Adelaide	12	139.4	Kangaroos	12	107.0	Essendon	12	119.4	Hawthorn	12	107.2
St Kilda	8	136.9	Brisbane Lions	8	137.0	Port Adelaide	8	106.4	Geelong	8	132.1
Fremantle	8	102.0	Fremantle	8	116.5	St Kilda	8	106.3	Brisbane Lions	8	109.4
Sydney	8	92.2	Western Bulldogs	8	102.1	Hawthorn	8	102.6	Sydney	8	109.1
Melbourne	8	87.6	Richmond	8	97.9	Kangaroos	8	99.6	Collingwood	8	99.4
Brisbane Lions	8	81.8	St Kilda	8	95.5	Western Bulldogs	8	89.3	St Kilda	8	99.4
Collingwood	8	79.6	Collingwood	8	87.5	Richmond	6	94.1	Western Bulldogs	8	91.4
Richmond	4	87.7	Sydney	8	70.7	Collingwood	6	90.1	Carlton	8	75.3
Western Bulldogs	4	85.0	Hawthorn	4	83.9	Fremantle	4	100.6	Fremantle	4	97.2
Carlton	4	52.4	Port Adelaide	4	82.9	Sydney	4	84.5	Kangaroos	4	95.0
Port Adelaide	0	58.6	Carlton	0	59.8	Carlton	4	69.5	Richmond	0	80.0
Hawthorn	0	41.0	Melbourne	0	57.6	Melbourne	0	56.4	Melbourne	0	67.0

During 1st Quarter Premiership			During 2nd Quarter Premiership			During 3rd Quarter Premiership			During 4th Quarter Premiership		
Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%	Team	Pts	%
Geelong	16	187.7	Brisbane Lions	16	261.5	Port Adelaide	16	170.0	Melbourne	14	121.6
Kangaroos	16	179.2	Adelaide	12	170.2	Geelong	12	153.2	Sydney	12	356.0
Essendon	12	184.8	West Coast	12	140.7	Brisbane Lions	12	150.0	West Coast	12	155.7
West Coast	12	173.8	Fremantle	12	138.2	Essendon	12	89.4	Hawthorn	12	120.8
Adelaide	12	139.4	Richmond	12	113.7	Hawthorn	8	134.1	Essendon	12	114.3
St Kilda	8	136.9	Western Bulldogs	10	134.8	St Kilda	8	127.2	Collingwood	8	137.3
Fremantle	8	102.0	Port Adelaide	10	111.0	Sydney	8	120.0	Port Adelaide	8	113.6
Sydney	8	92.2	Hawthorn	8	143.3	West Coast	8	98.6	Geelong	8	109.4
Melbourne	8	87.6	Essendon	8	113.1	Carlton	8	92.7	Western Bulldogs	8	96.6
Brisbane Lions	8	81.8	Geelong	8	100.0	Richmond	8	87.9	Kangaroos	8	85.2
Collingwood	8	79.6	Collingwood	6	95.7	Kangaroos	8	85.9	Adelaide	8	84.3
Richmond	4	87.7	St Kilda	6	66.3	Fremantle	8	83.6	Fremantle	6	86.9
Western Bulldogs	4	85.0	Kangaroos	4	70.5	Collingwood	4	96.3	Carlton	4	94.6
Carlton	4	52.4	Carlton	4	69.0	Adelaide	4	92.3	St Kilda	4	81.3
Port Adelaide	0	58.6	Sydney	0	49.5	Western Bulldogs	4	66.4	Brisbane Lions	4	57.7
Hawthorn	0	41.0	Melbourne	0	33.8	Melbourne	0	54.5	Richmond	0	51.0

Brisbane has the best 2nd Quarter performance and is the only team to have won 4 from 4. Melbourne is yet to win a 2nd (or a 3rd) quarter.

Port Adelaide has won all of its 3rd quarters and so leads this premiership by a full game.

Melbourne, despite an 0 from 4 win-loss record, has won 3 and drawn 1 of its fourth quarters, which sees it sitting incongruously atop the *During the 4th Quarter Premiership*. Richmond - also 0 from 4 in terms of overall win-loss - are 0 from 4 in the fourth quarter.

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)	<p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>This year we'll track the performance of MM2, MM4, MM6, MM8, MM11, MM16 and MM22.</p>
No Independent Thought (NIT)	Tips the team that is most popular amongst all other strategies.

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