



MAFL Funds : Season 2007

Where Statistics Meets Leather and Grass

10 May 2007

Season 2007, Number 7

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- Wagers and tips for Round 7
- Update on Sportsbet Markets

Since When Do Favourites Get Points Start?

 Kangaroos v Essendon Telstra Dome 11 th May, 7:40pm	 Collingwood v Carlton MCG 12 th May, 2:10pm	 Port Adelaide v Richmond Football Park 12 th May, 2:40pm	 Brisbane Lions v Adelaide Gabba 12 th May, 7:10pm
Head-to-Head Kan \$1.82 / Ess \$1.92	Head-to-Head Col \$1.40 / Car \$2.80	Head-to-Head PA \$1.10 / Ric \$6.25	Head-to-Head Bri \$1.68 / Adel \$2.10
Line Betting Kangaroos -6.5 pts	Line Betting Collingwood -15.5 pts	Line Betting Port Adelaide -39.5 pts	Line Betting Brisbane -6.5 pts
Heritage Fund Bet Kangaroos 1.95% (1.76%)	Heritage Fund Bet -	Heritage Fund Bet -	Heritage Fund Bet -
Alpha Fund Bet -	Alpha Fund Bet Collingwood 2.50% (2.45%)	Alpha Fund Bet -	Alpha Fund Bet -
Beta Fund Bet -	Beta Fund Bet Collingwood 2.50% (2.64%)	Beta Fund Bet -	Beta Fund Bet -
Line Fund Bet Essendon 5.00% (5.45%)+	Line Fund Bet -	Line Fund Bet -	Line Fund Bet -
 Chi's Tip Kangaroos by 9	 Chi's Tip Collingwood by 22	 Chi's Tip Port Adelaide by 11	 Chi's Tip Brisbane by 9
 Quila's Tip Kangaroos by 4	 Quila's Tip Collingwood by 22	 Quila's Tip Port Adelaide by 17	 Quila's Tip Brisbane by 10
 St Kilda v Sydney Telstra Dome 12 th May, 7:10pm	 Geelong v West Coast Kardinia 13 th May, 1:10pm	 Bulldogs v Melbourne Telstra Dome 13 th May, 2:10pm	 Fremantle v Hawthorn Subiaco 13 th May, 2:40pm
Head-to-Head StK \$1.83 / Syd \$1.90	Head-to-Head Gee \$1.90 / WC \$1.83	Head-to-Head WB \$1.36 / Mel \$3.00	Head-to-Head Fre \$1.40 / Haw \$2.80
Line Betting St Kilda +6.5 pts*	Line Betting Geelong -6.5 pts*	Line Betting Bulldogs -15.5 pts	Line Betting Fremantle -15.5 pts
Heritage Fund Bet -	Heritage Fund Bet -	Heritage Fund Bet -	Heritage Fund Bet -
Alpha Fund Bet -	Alpha Fund Bet -	Alpha Fund Bet -	Alpha Fund Bet -
Beta Fund Bet -	Beta Fund Bet -	Beta Fund Bet -	Beta Fund Bet -
Line Fund Bet -	Line Fund Bet West Coast 5.62% (6.13%)+	Line Fund Bet -	Line Fund Bet -
 Chi's Tip St Kilda by 10	 Chi's Tip West Coast by 7	 Chi's Tip Bulldogs by 11	 Chi's Tip Fremantle by 11
 Quila's Tip St Kilda by 12	 Quila's Tip West Coast by 10	 Quila's Tip Bulldogs by 9	 Quila's Tip Hawthorn by 1

* favouritism changed mid-week (see commentary below)

+ placed at \$1.80

++ placed at \$1.82

Five bets in Round 7

Something's afoot. Over the past few years I can recall maybe be 2 or 3 games a season where the favourite would change between the opening of the book on Monday lunchtime and the end of the week. This week it's happened in 3 games.

On Monday:

- Essendon opened at \$1.80 favourites over the Roos at \$1.90
- St Kilda opened at \$1.80 favourites over Sydney at \$1.90
- West Coast opened at \$1.75 favourites over Geelong at \$1.95

Checking the market just now:

- The Roos are \$1.82 favourites over Essendon at \$1.92
- Sydney are \$1.85 favourites over St Kilda at \$1.88
- Geelong are \$1.83 favourites over West Coast at \$1.90

That's pretty dramatic. What it led to was a long delay in the framing of the week's Handicap markets. Then, when they did go up, the market went berserk. Within 2 hours of posting (bearing in mind that the initial prices are all \$1.90):

- Essendon was at \$1.80 with 6½ points start
- St Kilda was at \$1.78 with 6½ points start
- West Coast was at \$1.82 with 6½ points start

Unfortunately, I missed the posting of the handicap markets, so I only got us on the Dons and the Eagles at the prices I've shown here, not at \$1.90 as would have been ideal. But at least we can consider ourselves part of the betting 'plunge', albeit at the late adopter, move-along-please-nothing-to-see-here phase of it all. As a consequence our Line bets are not the usual 7.78% of Notional Initial Funds but are, instead, smaller in keeping with the smaller prices we obtained.

Here's the full set of bets:

Round 7 Wagers

Fund	Team Wagered On	Bet Size (Init) ¹	Bet Size (Cur) ²	Price Obtained	Points Start	Opponent
Heritage	Kangaroos	1.95%	1.76%	\$1.82	-	Essendon
Alpha	Collingwood	2.50%	2.45%	\$1.40	-	Carlton
Beta	Collingwood	2.50%	2.64%	\$1.40	-	Carlton
Line	Essendon	5.00%	5.45%	\$1.80	+6.5	Kangaroos
	West Coast	5.62%	6.13%	\$1.82	+6.5	Geelong

1 Bets as a proportion of initial (notional) funds

2 Bets as a proportion of current funds

This is the third week in a row and the fourth time this season that the Heritage Fund has bet against the Dons. It's beginning to look a little personal. Last season the Heritage Model went 0 and 5 on Essendon, destroying 28½% of Notional Initial Funds in the process, so I guess you could say there's motive.

Once again this weekend we have the curiosity of a game where we've backed both sides, one Head to Head and the other on Line betting so we can't lose both bets, no matter what happens. If the Roos win by 7 points or more, the Head-to-Head bet wins; if they win by fewer than 7 points, both bets win; if Essendon wins, the Line bet wins.

- Bets in four games this weekend, with just 1½ % of (Notional Initial) Heritage Funds, 2½ % of Alpha and 2½% of Beta Funds and 10½ % of Line Funds at risk (which, this year, makes it a quiet week)

- We need Collingwood to win plus one other favourable result (other than the Roos winning by 7 points or more)

Here's the weekend's Ready Reckoner:

Round 7 Ready Reckoner (all returns are as a % of Notional Initial Funds)

Kangaroos v Essendon	Collingwood v Carlton	Geelong v West Coast	Total Heritage Return	Total Alpha Return	Total Beta Return	Total Line Return	Total Return Strategy A	Total Return Strategy B	Total Return Strategy C	Total Return Strategy D	Total Return Strategy E
Roos by <7	Collingwood	WC or Gee by <7	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	8.6%	1.9%	3.1%	1.9%	8.6%	2.6%
Roos by <7	Collingwood	Geelong by >=7	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	(1.6%)	0.9%	0.5%	0.9%	(1.6%)	0.6%
Roos by <7	Carlton	WC or Gee by <7	1.6%	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	8.6%	(0.6%)	1.3%	(0.2%)	8.6%	0.5%
Roos by <7	Carlton	Geelong by >=7	1.6%	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	(1.6%)	(1.6%)	(1.3%)	(1.2%)	(1.6%)	(1.5%)
Roos by >=7	Collingwood	WC or Gee by <7	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	(0.4%)	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	(0.4%)	0.8%
Roos by >=7	Collingwood	Geelong by >=7	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	(10.6%)	(0.0%)	(1.8%)	0.0%	(10.6%)	(1.2%)
Roos by >=7	Carlton	WC or Gee by <7	1.6%	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	(0.4%)	(1.5%)	(0.9%)	(1.1%)	(0.4%)	(1.3%)
Roos by >=7	Carlton	Geelong by >=7	1.6%	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	(10.6%)	(2.5%)	(3.5%)	(2.1%)	(10.6%)	(3.3%)
Essendon	Collingwood	WC or Gee by <7	(2.0%)	1.0%	1.0%	8.6%	1.2%	2.2%	0.9%	8.6%	1.9%
Essendon	Collingwood	Geelong by >=7	(2.0%)	1.0%	1.0%	(1.6%)	0.1%	(0.4%)	(0.1%)	(1.6%)	(0.1%)
Essendon	Carlton	WC or Gee by <7	(2.0%)	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	8.6%	(1.3%)	0.4%	(1.2%)	8.6%	(0.2%)
Essendon	Carlton	Geelong by >=7	(2.0%)	(2.5%)	(2.5%)	(1.6%)	(2.3%)	(2.1%)	(2.2%)	(1.6%)	(2.2%)

This week it tells us that profitability for those with the Recommended Portfolio weightings requires a Collingwood win coupled with:

- an Essendon win, or a Roos win by fewer than 7 points, or
- a West Coast win, or a Geelong win by fewer than 7 points

- Chi and MM16 wind up with two underdogs; Quila has three

Fickle Favouritism

All the market shenanigans have forced me to change slightly my normal approach to determining BKB tips. Usually, I set them based on the prices as at Wednesday afternoon and then fill in the margins as they come to hand. This week, however, Flipping Favouritism has meant that the points start in three of the games are to teams that were underdogs on Wednesday. So, I've set the BKB tips to be consistent with the handicapping points start.

This change means that Chi and MM16 are now tipping two underdogs (St Kilda and West Coast), and Quila is tipping three (St Kilda, West Coast and Hawthorn). It also means that the favourites in four of the weekend's games are lower on the ladder than their opponents, leaving CTL with this week's most underdog-laden tips, a characteristic shared with MM6.

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

Tipping	Kan v Ess	Col v Car	PA v Ric	Bri v Ade	StK v Syd	Gee v WC	WB v Mel	Fre v Haw
CTM	Kan by 9	Col by 22	PA by 11	Bri by 9	StK by 10	WC by 7	WB by 11	Fre by 11
QTM	Kan by 4	Col by 22	PA by 17	Bri by 10	StK by 12	WC by 10	WB by 9	Haw by 1
BKB	Kan by 6.5	Col by 15.5	PA by 39.5	Bri by 6.5	Syd by 6.5	Gee by 6.5	WB by 15.5	Fre by 15.5
CTL	Essendon	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Carlton	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM2	Kangaroos	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Carlton	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM4	Kangaroos	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Brisbane Lions	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM6	Essendon	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Carlton	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM8	Essendon	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Brisbane Lions	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM11	Essendon	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Brisbane Lions	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Hawthorn
MM16	Kangaroos	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Brisbane Lions	St Kilda	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Fremantle
MM22	Kangaroos	Collingwood	Port Adelaide	Brisbane Lions	Sydney	West Coast	Western Bulldogs	Fremantle
NIT	Kangaroos (7-4)	Collingwood (11-0)	Port Adelaide (11-0)	Brisbane Lions (8-3)	Sydney (8-3)	West Coast (10-1)	Western Bulldogs (11-0)	Hawthorn (7-4)

Line Betting

Chi	Kangaroos	Collingwood	Richmond	Brisbane	St Kilda	West Coast	Melbourne	Hawthorn
Quila	Essendon	Collingwood	Richmond	Brisbane	St Kilda	West Coast	Melbourne	Hawthorn

The Tipsters' Agreement Index for the week stands at 80.3%, which is roughly the season-long average. In three of the games, the tipsters are unanimous (Collingwood over Carlton, Port over Richmond, and the Bulldogs over Melbourne), and only BKB's recent support for Geelong prevented there from being a fourth.

The Roos v Dons and Freo v Hawks games have generated the highest levels of tipster disagreement, with the favourites narrowly preferred in both games.

Here's the performance of each strategy so far this season:

Round by Round and Cumulative Tipping Results

Round by Round						
	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6
CTM	4	5	5	4	4	5
QTM	3	5	5	2	4	5
BKB	4	4	6	5	6	5
CTL	4	4	4	3	4	5
MM2	3	4	4	4	2	4
MM4	3	4	6	5	4	6
MM6	4	5	6	3	4	5
MM8	2	5	6	4	5	6
MM11	2	4	6	3	4	6
MM16	5	5	6	5	5	5
MM22	4	5	6	3	5	4
NIT	3	5	7	3	3	5

Line Betting						
	Chi	Quila				
	3	7	2	2	4	7
	2	7	2	3	4	7

Cumulative						
	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6
CTM	4	9	14	18	22	27
QTM	3	8	13	15	19	24
BKB	4	8	14	19	25	30
CTL	4	8	12	15	19	24
MM2	3	7	11	15	17	21
MM4	3	7	13	18	22	28
MM6	4	9	15	18	22	27
MM8	2	7	13	17	22	28
MM11	2	6	12	15	19	25
MM16	5	10	16	21	26	31
MM22	4	9	15	18	23	27
NIT	3	8	15	18	21	26

Line Betting						
	Chi	Quila				
	3	10	12	14	18	25
	2	9	11	14	18	25

Update on TAB Sportsbet Prices

West Coast, with no room left to shorten in the Final 8 market, nevertheless continue to shorten in the Flag market. They're now in to \$3.10.

Generally, the Final 8 and Flag markets are in sync, at least in terms of the rough ordering of the teams, but we now have the odd situation where the team on the 2nd line of the Final 8 betting (viz Port Adelaide) are on the 5th line of betting for the Flag. Clearly, Port's a team Sportsbet expects to make the 8 but not go much further.

Meantime, the Roos win last weekend has done wonders for its Final 8 prospects, at least as far as Sportsbet is concerned. Two weeks ago the Roos were \$2.75 for the Spoon, now they're \$3.25 to make the Final 8.

And just when you thought Melbourne had nowhere further to fall, Sportsbet ramp up the Dees' Final 8 and Flag prices yet again.

TAB Sportsbet Prices : 10th May 2007

	Bookmaker's Prices (10th May)		Bookmaker's Prices (2nd May)	
	Final 8	Flag	Final 8	Flag
West Coast	1.01	3.10 S	1.01	3.40
Port Adelaide	1.14 S	10.00 S	1.20	12.00
Sydney	1.18 L	8.50 L	1.08	6.00
Adelaide	1.18 L	9.00 L	1.08	7.50
Geelong	1.22 S	8.00 S	1.55	15.00
Fremantle	1.35 L	13.00 L	1.20	8.00
Western Bulldogs	1.38 L	13.00 L	1.22	9.00
St Kilda	1.60 S	11.00 S	1.65	12.00
Collingwood	1.65 S	15.00 S	2.20	31.00
Brisbane	1.90 S	26.00 S	2.35	51.00
Hawthorn	2.10 S	31.00 S	2.80	61.00
Essendon	2.90 L	41.00 L	1.75	23.00
Kangaroos	3.25 S	61.00 S	8.00	126.00
Carlton	10.00 L	126.00 L	3.85	81.00
Melbourne	21.00 L	301.00 L	15.00	201.00
Richmond	35.00 L	501.00 L	21.00	301.00

S Odds have shortened
L Odds have lengthened

In Spoon betting, Richmond are at \$1.47, Melbourne at \$3.80 and Carlton, still not ready to entirely surrender the dream of the three-peat, are at \$6.50. West Coast is now formally a "No Quote" for the Spoon.

Tony

10 May 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).

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