

Adelaide vs. Stkilda

Head to Head – Adelaide vs. Stkilda

| Round | Venue | Adel Score | STK Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | Adelaide StatRating™ | St Kilda StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|----------------|-------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | TD | 108 | 68 | 40 | 7.6 | 14.8 | 878 | 324 | 554 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | TD | 156 | 59 | 97 | 8.3 | 18.6 | 786 | 231 | 555 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | AAMI | 99 | 81 | 18 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 352 | 354 | -2 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | TD | 91 | 99 | -8 | 10.8 | 12.4 | 472 | 411 | 61 |
| 17 | AAMI | 143 | 86 | 57 | 9.4 | 13.1 | 596 | 321 | 275 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | AAMI | 98 | 113 | -15 | 13.6 | 13.8 | 428 | 325 | 102 |
| 19 | YP | 68 | 91 | -23 | 13.0 | 14.2 | 308 | 281 | 27 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | TD | 103 | 57 | 46 | 13.1 | 17.9 | 467 | 223 | 244 |
| Average | | 108 | 82 | 26 | 11.0 | 14.6 | 536 | 309 | 227 |

Finals football hits Saturday night, in what should be the game of the round, with Adelaide having won 10 straight up against Stkilda, which has won 8 of their last 10. The Saints have managed to win 3 of their last 5 against Adelaide, and even though the game is being played at AAMI Stadium, they are very close in the betting this week. Their 139 point win against Brisbane last week may still be at the forefront of most peoples mind, and with the inclusion of some major "ins" for the Saints, they are given a real chance. Even though they have been a very good side in the past 2 years, their StatRating™ against Adelaide hasn't changed in that time to reflect it. They have remained at the 300's against Adelaide, regardless of the venue, round, or form line. They would want to improve on that StatRating™ this week, as unless they are able to restrict Adelaide's scoring, it's nigh on impossible to win a game with that StatRating™ this week.

Adelaide – Current Form

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | Adel Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | Adelaide StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|----------------|-------|----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | AAMI | Syd | 54 | 47 | 7 | 19.3 | 17.6 | 181 | 262 | -80 |
| 19 | AAMI | Melb | 100 | 46 | 54 | 9.0 | 25.6 | 764 | 129 | 636 |
| 20 | AAMI | Port | 88 | 81 | 7 | 14.6 | 16.4 | 350 | 280 | 70 |
| 21 | AAMI | Coll | 151 | 41 | 110 | 9.0 | 20.0 | 729 | 160 | 569 |
| 22 | SUB | WCE | 82 | 74 | 8 | 14.0 | 13.3 | 300 | 360 | -60 |
| Average | | | 95 | 58 | 37 | 13.2 | 18.6 | 465 | 238 | 227 |

Well, we predicted Adelaide would come down last week, and they obliged. The “swing” pattern of the StatRating™ Margin followed suit, and they did come down to a 300 StatRating™, but still managed to win the game! A 5.1 1st quarter against West Coast was the best possible start they could have hoped for, considering the Eagles kicked 3.7. With the Eagles having 10 shots at goal, and still behind the 8 ball at quarter time meant it was going to be tough to get back in front. Adelaide held sway for the rest of the game, and held off an Eagles challenge in the last quarter. We’ve been caught off guard by this side so far this year, as most punters have, as we’ve been waiting for the form slump to kick in. Looking back through the season, rounds 5-8 is as close as you’ll get, as the Crows dropped 3 out of 4 games in that period. So will their form swing continue this week? The Table blow highlights the Crows form this year at these current levels, as well as their form in the following week.

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | Adel Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | Adelaide StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|-------------|-------|----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | TD | Coll | 81 | 75 | 6 | 15.0 | 14.0 | 352 | 406 | -54 |
| 3 | AAMI | Port | 124 | 56 | 68 | 10.4 | 17.3 | 644 | 219 | 424 |
| 18 | AAMI | Syd | 54 | 47 | 7 | 19.3 | 17.6 | 181 | 262 | -80 |
| 19 | AAMI | Melb | 100 | 46 | 54 | 9.0 | 25.6 | 764 | 129 | 636 |
| 20 | AAMI | Port | 88 | 81 | 7 | 14.6 | 16.4 | 350 | 280 | 70 |
| 21 | AAMI | Coll | 151 | 41 | 110 | 9.0 | 20.0 | 729 | 160 | 569 |
| 22 | SUB | WCE | 82 | 74 | 8 | 14.0 | 13.3 | 300 | 360 | -60 |

The figures highlighted in blue represent current playing criteria, while the figures in red show the game result in the following week, and the cells highlighted in Green indicate Adelaide’s StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show Adelaide’s latest form. The Crows have been at these levels 3 times this season, and the following weeks have produced devastating results for the opposition. Their StatRating™ has risen to the 600-700’s, while keeping the opposition to paltry StatRating™ figures. The opposition score has been just 56, 46 and 41 in those games, and they are almost identical in StatRating™ terms. All have been at AAMI Stadium, the venue they’ll play at on Saturday night. Will the fact that it’s a Finals game come into consideration here? Even if it does, and they don’t reach these levels, they would need to come down a hefty amount in order to play poorly this week. It can be said that all the teams they beat at these levels were not at full strength when they played them, but they are convincing wins. Not sure that the Saints will be at their best or be able to field their best 22 this week either.

StKilda – Current form

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | STK Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | St Kilda StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|----------------|-------|----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | MCG | Melb | 176 | 88 | 88 | 8.8 | 11.9 | 759 | 413 | 346 |
| 19 | TD | Geel | 96 | 55 | 41 | 10.5 | 19.4 | 561 | 222 | 339 |
| 20 | TD | Kang | 108 | 85 | 23 | 10.0 | 12.5 | 500 | 289 | 211 |
| 21 | SUB | Freo | 75 | 80 | -5 | 14.9 | 14.3 | 302 | 288 | 14 |
| 22 | TD | Bris | 186 | 47 | 139 | 8.1 | 19.8 | 707 | 156 | 550 |
| Average | | | 128 | 71 | 57 | 10.5 | 15.6 | 566 | 274 | 292 |

The Saints have now won 8 of their last 10 games to secure a double chance in this finals series, and are certainly one of the form sides of the competition. After a disappointing outcome against Fremantle in round 21, they turned the tables on Brisbane last week in a game that ended up having to be almost classified for an M rating; such was the destruction and carnage that followed. The Lions seemed to be a shell of their former glory, and it was them on the receiving end of intimidation tactics for once. The Saints StatRating™ of 707, along with a StatRating™ Margin of 550 signals peak levels for the Saints, and a possible let down this week. They have been able to hold these levels before as can be seen by their last 5 weeks, but was the trip to Subiaco an anomaly, or a disturbing trend that the Saints have managed to slip into on the road this year? The table below highlights these levels for the Saints in the past 2 years, followed by their form in the next week.

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | STK Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | St Kilda StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|-------------|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | TD | Rich | 114 | 69 | 45 | 8.3 | 13.5 | 665 | 238 | 428 |
| 4 | AAMI | Adel | 113 | 98 | 15 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 325 | 428 | -102 |
| 8 | TD | Coll | 138 | 91 | 47 | 8.3 | 9.9 | 662 | 413 | 249 |
| 9 | TD | WCE | 169 | 68 | 101 | 7.6 | 10.9 | 827 | 348 | 479 |
| 9 | TD | WCE | 169 | 68 | 101 | 7.6 | 10.9 | 827 | 348 | 479 |
| 10 | TD | Carl | 196 | 88 | 108 | 8.9 | 11.1 | 818 | 406 | 412 |
| 13 | TD | Haw | 127 | 61 | 66 | 9.9 | 16.0 | 644 | 219 | 425 |
| 14 | YP | Port | 47 | 93 | -46 | 21.2 | 14.7 | 208 | 313 | -105 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | TD | Melb | 151 | 104 | 47 | 8.9 | 8.8 | 688 | 566 | 122 |
| 5 | TD | Rich | 147 | 79 | 68 | 9.2 | 11.8 | 555 | 416 | 139 |
| 15 | TD | Carl | 153 | 73 | 80 | 8.6 | 15.9 | 755 | 233 | 522 |
| 16 | MCG | Rich | 106 | 37 | 69 | 12.2 | 23.1 | 461 | 186 | 274 |
| 17 | TD | Coll | 143 | 70 | 73 | 8.3 | 15.2 | 722 | 303 | 419 |
| 18 | MCG | Melb | 176 | 88 | 88 | 8.8 | 11.9 | 759 | 413 | 346 |
| 18 | MCG | Melb | 176 | 88 | 88 | 8.8 | 11.9 | 759 | 413 | 346 |
| 19 | TD | Geel | 96 | 55 | 41 | 10.5 | 19.4 | 561 | 222 | 339 |
| 22 | TD | Bris | 186 | 47 | 139 | 8.1 | 19.8 | 707 | 156 | 550 |

The figures highlighted in blue represent current playing criteria, while the figures in red show the game result in the following week, and the cells highlighted in Green indicate StKilda's StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show StKilda's latest form. The Saints have been at these levels 8 times in the past 2 years, and have managed 7 wins and 1 loss. Significantly, their 2 worst games have been at away venues back in rounds 4 and 14 last season. They have had no trouble backing up with these figures at either Telstra Dome or the MCG, but have rated 325 and 208 at AAMI Stadium and York Park. They haven't had to travel off these figures this season, but we saw their StatRating™ against Fremantle in round 21 after a 500 StatRating™ the week before. Again the question of finals pressure needs to be asked of this team. Can they lift a notch off these levels against the number 1 team in the competition at their home ground? Only time will tell.

Adelaide – Form at AAMI Stadium

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | Adel Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | Adelaide StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|----------------|-------|----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | AAMI | Freo | 145 | 89 | 56 | 9.6 | 11.0 | 690 | 364 | 326 |
| 4 | AAMI | WCE | 106 | 73 | 33 | 11.0 | 12.9 | 602 | 348 | 253 |
| 5 | AAMI | Port | 66 | 78 | -12 | 13.9 | 15.2 | 345 | 277 | 68 |
| 7 | AAMI | Coll | 109 | 114 | -5 | 10.4 | 10.3 | 479 | 428 | 51 |
| 9 | AAMI | WB | 109 | 93 | 16 | 11.7 | 13.7 | 571 | 352 | 220 |
| 12 | AAMI | Melb | 138 | 65 | 73 | 10.5 | 18.6 | 505 | 220 | 285 |
| 14 | AAMI | Rich | 72 | 44 | 28 | 14.1 | 21.4 | 334 | 196 | 138 |
| 15 | AAMI | Ess | 90 | 49 | 41 | 12.2 | 17.1 | 433 | 210 | 223 |
| 17 | AAMI | Stk | 143 | 86 | 57 | 9.4 | 13.1 | 596 | 321 | 275 |
| 18 | AAMI | Syd | 97 | 93 | 4 | 10.0 | 11.2 | 432 | 376 | 56 |
| 21 | AAMI | Kang | 64 | 74 | -10 | 18.9 | 10.0 | 191 | 440 | -249 |
| 22 | AAMI | Port | 78 | 94 | -16 | 15.3 | 12.1 | 313 | 397 | -84 |
| EF | AAMI | WCE | 113 | 57 | 56 | 10.2 | 16.3 | 635 | 221 | 414 |
| Average | | | 102 | 78 | 24 | 12.1 | 14.1 | 471 | 319 | 152 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | AAMI | Bris | 83 | 104 | -21 | 9.1 | 9.9 | 613 | 455 | 158 |
| 4 | AAMI | StK | 98 | 113 | -15 | 13.6 | 13.8 | 428 | 325 | 102 |
| 7 | AAMI | Port | 119 | 87 | 32 | 8.3 | 12.4 | 685 | 315 | 369 |
| 8 | AAMI | Ess | 84 | 135 | -51 | 10.0 | 7.1 | 440 | 784 | -344 |
| 11 | AAMI | Carl | 87 | 91 | -4 | 10.5 | 11.2 | 532 | 384 | 148 |
| 13 | AAMI | WB | 133 | 101 | 32 | 8.7 | 11.3 | 669 | 432 | 237 |
| 14 | AAMI | Melb | 145 | 73 | 72 | 9.7 | 11.6 | 661 | 355 | 306 |
| 16 | AAMI | Freo | 80 | 92 | -12 | 14.6 | 14.3 | 357 | 294 | 63 |
| 18 | AAMI | Kang | 49 | 42 | 7 | 13.3 | 15.9 | 428 | 226 | 202 |
| 20 | AAMI | Rich | 138 | 86 | 52 | 9.6 | 13.2 | 635 | 311 | 324 |
| 21 | AAMI | Geel | 109 | 87 | 22 | 8.1 | 10.2 | 628 | 558 | 71 |
| 22 | AAMI | Port | 60 | 85 | -25 | 15.1 | 11.0 | 238 | 382 | -144 |
| Average | | | 99 | 91 | 8 | 10.9 | 11.8 | 526 | 402 | 124 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | AAMI | WCE | 53 | 64 | -11 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 265 | 339 | -74 |
| 3 | AAMI | Port | 124 | 56 | 68 | 10.4 | 17.3 | 644 | 219 | 424 |
| 6 | AAMI | Kang | 74 | 64 | 10 | 12.6 | 21.7 | 421 | 189 | 232 |
| 8 | AAMI | Bris | 63 | 72 | -9 | 15.9 | 17.6 | 364 | 227 | 138 |
| 10 | AAMI | Carl | 71 | 57 | 14 | 11.9 | 17.2 | 386 | 198 | 188 |
| 11 | AAMI | Ess | 151 | 63 | 88 | 12.1 | 16.1 | 519 | 249 | 270 |
| 14 | AAMI | Freo | 94 | 88 | 6 | 13.8 | 18.7 | 422 | 208 | 214 |
| 16 | AAMI | WB | 109 | 35 | 74 | 11.5 | 31.7 | 549 | 110 | 438 |
| 18 | AAMI | Syd | 54 | 47 | 7 | 19.3 | 17.6 | 181 | 262 | -80 |
| 19 | AAMI | Melb | 100 | 46 | 54 | 9.0 | 25.6 | 764 | 129 | 636 |
| 20 | AAMI | Port | 88 | 81 | 7 | 14.6 | 16.4 | 350 | 280 | 70 |
| 21 | AAMI | Coll | 151 | 41 | 110 | 9.0 | 20.0 | 729 | 160 | 569 |
| Average | | | 94 | 60 | 34 | 13.0 | 19.7 | 466 | 214 | 252 |

The Crows have only dropped 2 games at AAMI Stadium this season, with both being under 2 goals. The opposition StatRating™ confirms their claim as the number 1 defense in the league, with an average of 214. They have restricted opposition sides to an average of just 60 points here this season, with Fremantle and Port Adelaide being the only sides to enter into the 80's. The highest scoring Victorian team against Adelaide at AAMI Stadium this year has been the Kangaroos with 64 points, followed closely by Essendon with 63. When you consider Stkilda's record against Adelaide in the head to head contests over the years, plus their current form followed by a road trip, a StatRating™ of 300 this week would not be out of the question.

Stkilda – Form at AMMI Stadium

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | STK Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | St Kilda StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|-------------|-------|----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | AAMI | Adel | 86 | 143 | -57 | 13.1 | 9.4 | 321 | 596 | -275 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | AAMI | Adel | 113 | 98 | 15 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 325 | 428 | -102 |
| PF | AAMI | Port | 88 | 94 | -6 | 12.5 | 9.8 | 345 | 482 | -137 |
| | | Average | 96 | 112 | 6 | 13.1 | 10.9 | 330 | 502 | -172 |

The Saints have managed to score in the 80's against Adelaide in the past, and even top the 100 mark last year. Their score of 18.5.113 was an accurate result, and they have averaged 22 shots at goal at AAMI Stadium over the past 3 games. This year, the Crows have allowed the opposition to average just 16 shots at goal against them at AAMI Stadium. Their StatRating™ at the venue comes up at an average of 330, which is in line with every other table we have looked at. At the moment, it's very hard to find positives for the Saints in this game this week.

Stkilda – Form on the road 2004 & 2005

| Round | Venue | Opp Team | STK Score | Opp Score | Game Result | Possession Per Score | OPossession Per Score | St Kilda StatRating™ | Opposition StatRating™ | StatRating™ Margin |
|-------------|-------|----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | AAMI | Adel | 113 | 98 | 15 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 325 | 428 | -102 |
| 7 | SUB | Freo | 95 | 72 | 23 | 11.4 | 18.1 | 449 | 271 | 178 |
| 11 | SCG | Syd | 76 | 112 | -36 | 10.2 | 11.0 | 461 | 401 | 60 |
| 14 | YP | Port | 47 | 93 | -46 | 21.2 | 14.7 | 208 | 313 | -105 |
| 19 | YP | Adel | 91 | 68 | 23 | 14.2 | 13.0 | 281 | 308 | -27 |
| 21 | Gabba | Bris | 85 | 130 | -45 | 15.5 | 10.4 | 310 | 604 | -294 |
| QF | Gabba | Bris | 69 | 149 | -80 | 12.6 | 9.8 | 293 | 631 | -338 |
| PF | AAMI | Port | 88 | 94 | -6 | 12.5 | 9.8 | 345 | 482 | -137 |
| | | Average | 83 | 102 | -19 | 13.9 | 12.5 | 334 | 430 | -96 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Gabba | Bris | 93 | 116 | -23 | 11.3 | 11.7 | 533 | 436 | 97 |
| 2 | YP | Freo | 59 | 58 | 1 | 16.6 | 15.0 | 314 | 273 | 40 |
| 8 | SUB | WCE | 52 | 88 | -36 | 16.8 | 13.3 | 232 | 331 | -99 |
| 11 | YP | Port | 81 | 104 | -23 | 11.0 | 12.8 | 474 | 327 | 147 |
| 21 | SUB | Freo | 75 | 80 | -5 | 14.9 | 14.3 | 302 | 288 | 14 |
| | | Average | 72 | 89 | -17 | 14.1 | 13.4 | 371 | 331 | 40 |

This table could hold the key to the Saints this week. Since they arrived on the scene in 2004 as a force to be reckoned with, their form on the road has been their Achilles heel. They have played 13 games for just 4 wins and 9 losses. Apart from an accurate score against Adelaide in round 4 of 2004, they have failed to kick over 100points. Their StatRating™ has been in the 300's on average, but they have improved on the opposition StatRating™ this year. Has that been due to an improvement in Stkilda's form, or the fact that they have played 3 games against sides that haven't made it into the Top 8 this year? Their possession per score is still far too high, which means they need to get far more possessions in the game to kick a big score, or kick extremely accurately given their limited shots on goal.

Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are 5 – 3 since 2000 in Adelaide's favour, but 3 of the last 5 games have been won by Stkilda.
- Adelaide continued with their StatRating™ Margin swing last week, and are on the bounce back of their cycle this week. If they continue at these levels, they are in for a big win.
- Stkilda decimated the Lions last week and produced peak levels in the process. They have not traveled well at these levels in the past.
- The Crows have been brilliant at home this year. Average opposition StatRating™ of 214, and score of just 60 points.
- Stkilda have lost 2 of their last 3 at AAMI Stadium, and have returned StatRating™ figures in the 300's in recent times.
- The Saints form on the road since 2004 has been terrible. Average StatRating™ of around 300, with scores less than 100 a feature of their playing style.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Adelaide | \$1.76 |
| Stkilda | \$2.10 |

At the Line

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Adelaide | \$1.90 (- 4.5 points) |
| Stkilda | \$1.90 (+ 4.5 points) |

* For the latest odds on offer visit www.sportsacumen.com

At the line signifies that you will be able to get a better price on Adelaide (\$1.90), but they will have to win by more than 5 points. In Stkilda's case, you will be offered a lesser price, but they will have the ability to lose by up to 5 points or even win the game, for you to collect. As long as they don't lose by 6 points or more, then you collect.

The Saints finally seemed to have arrived since their new found era c2004, and have won 31 of their last 47 games since then. This game carries much importance for them, as they would become the premiership favourites if they were to win. They are definitely on the march, and given the bookmakers assessment of the game, we are in for a close one. But let's just stop, and try to look beyond last weeks result. We see a side that has a 66% winning strike rate overall in the past 2 years, yet has lost 9 of their 13 games on the road by an average of 33 points. A side that is quite capable of carrying this peak performances week in week out until they hit the road. They are up against a side that has finished top of the ladder for good reason, which has the number 1 defense in the competition. With this type of record, can they beat them at home? Yes, they have quite a few players returning from injury, and Adelaide has lost Mark Ricciuto for 1 week. Will that be enough to turn these previous stats on their head, and give Stkilda a win? The bookmakers obviously think so, but I beg to differ. Adelaide easily.

RECOMMENDATION: Triple stake Adelaide at line -4.5 at \$1.95.

GOLD MEMBERSHIP:

Historical StatRating™ figures for Head to Head, current form, Top 8 form, and form at the ground suggest the following points range for these teams.

Adelaide Predicted StatRating™: 460 - 520

Points Range: 94 -106

Stkilda Predicted StatRating™: 300 – 360

Points Range: 60 -72

FINAL RESULT: Adelaide 8.9.57(244)

Stkilda 10.5.65(197)

We got caned in both games last week, even though our StatRating™ figures were spot on. Remember, the predicted score for Stkilda means they will be the highest scoring Victorian team against Adelaide this year, and even given that honor, I still see the margin having a big possibility to blow out. Will be looking closely at the weather conditions for this game, but if the rain stays away, a decent collect should be in the offering. The game is rated **5** stars for spread betting purposes.

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