

Port Adelaide vs. Brisbane

Head to Head – Port Adelaide vs. Brisbane

Round	Venue	Port Score	Bris Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Brisbane StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2000									
4	AAMI	149	106	43	10.0	8.8	610	604	6
19	Gabba	53	120	-67	17.1	10.0	281	638	-356
2001									
1	AAMI	99	93	6	9.7	12.1	497	381	117
16	Gabba	60	94	-34	14.6	10.8	254	548	-294
QF	Gabba	56	88	-32	18.8	11.1	229	540	-311
2002									
7	Gabba	72	129	-57	16.9	9.4	219	682	-463
22	AAMI	90	84	6	11.6	15.2	397	348	48
PF	Gabba	82	136	-54	12.0	9.7	376	585	-209
2003									
2	AAMI	76	86	-10	11.6	14.1	422	332	90
17	Gabba	104	103	1	9.1	9.1	529	547	-18
2004									
11	Gabba	86	123	-37	11.7	10.0	412	590	-178
GF	MCG	113	73	40	10.5	11.3	494	417	76
	Average	87	103	-16	12.8	11.0	393	518	-125

It's Port Adelaide's time to host the Lions at home, fresh from their Grand Final Triumph. While Brisbane usually hands out a football lesson at the Gabba, the results are slightly different at AAMI Stadium. Port seems to just get home against Brisbane at AAMI, and the StatRating™ Margin is usually in the positives, although not indicative of what the winning margin should be. The averages for head to head, are heavily favoured for Brisbane here, but last years neutral venue, plus the home ground advantage should see Port Adelaide start favourite in this game.

Port Adelaide – Current Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Port Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2005										
1	SUB	Freo	53	88	-35	15.2	14.0	276	364	-88
Average			53	88	-35	15.2	14.0	276	364	-88

It was probably a case of Premiership hangover for Port last week, as they would have entered the game against Fremantle confident of a forward showing. Their record at the Subiaco had been very good in the past, and perhaps it was the awakening they needed. Their score of 53 points was the lowest since round 8 last year, when they scored 48 points against the Kangaroos at Telstra Dome. Their possession per score of 15.2 was woeful for a side that usually returns figures of 9's and 10's. With the StatRating™ figures being low for the game, it's more so the Possession per score which should provide the comparison in previous games, rather than these low Ratings. The table below highlights their most recent games which resemble their current form.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Port Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
5	AAMI	Adel	78	66	12	15.2	13.9	277	345	-68
6	AAMI	Rich	84	57	27	13.3	15.3	330	262	68
7	MCG	Melb	84	111	-27	13.7	10.6	387	567	-180
8	AAMI	Kang	103	49	54	11.0	21.1	527	223	304
12	YP	Stk	99	57	42	14.9	14.1	335	318	17
13	AAMI	Syd	99	60	39	10.0	12.8	502	314	188
14	SS	Geel	69	70	-1	14.6	14.6	328	241	88
15	TD	WB	108	93	15	9.5	13.7	677	380	297
2004										
14	YP	Stk	93	47	46	14.7	21.2	313	208	105
15	AAMI	Carl	123	40	83	10.1	15.9	616	188	428
2005										
1	SUB	Freo	53	88	-35	15.2	14.0	276	364	-88

The figures highlighted in light 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 Port's StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show Port's latest form. They didn't play at these levels very often last year, with the best comparison being the Stkilda game, in which they won. The Kangaroos debacle has not been listed, as their possession per score was 21.0 that day. They did hit these levels a few times in 2003, but their best asset it seems is that they can bounce straight back to winning form in the following week. 4 of the 5 games resulted in strong wins at AAMI Stadium, and the other was a comfortable win against the Western Bulldogs at Telstra Dome. Their average score in the following week is 103, with an average winning margin of 44 points. Their average StatRating™ in the following week when playing at these levels is upwards of 500.

Brisbane – Current form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Bris Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Brisbane StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2005										
1	Gabba	Stk	116	93	23	11.7	11.3	436	533	-97
Average			116	93	23	11.7	11.3	436	533	-97

The Lions silenced their doubters last week, with a hard fought win over Stkilda. They controlled the game up to half time and led comfortably. They were then in unfamiliar territory in the 3rd quarter, when the Saints hit the front and looked they were going to keep going. An unfortunate injury to their skipper seemed to quell their charge, and the Lions regained composure to record a comfortable win. A closer look at the stats reveal otherwise....They lost their inside 50 stats 51 to 60, had 2 less scoring shots, and were less efficient with the ball than the Saints. Coupled with some other important Stats, it's not hard to see why the Lions StatRating™ was lower than Stkilda's. These kinds of stats in the past usually indicate an impending loss to most sides, although in Brisbane's case, they have a rebounding stat called "The Gabba"! They don't normally return these kinds of figures too often, and the table below highlights just how infrequently they do.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Bris Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Brisbane StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2002										
13	Gabba	Carl	124	109	15	9.6	9.7	511	601	-90
14	Gabba	Melb	110	131	-21	9.2	10.4	663	521	142
2003										
2	AAMI	Port	86	76	10	14.1	11.6	332	422	-90
3	TD	Kang	109	109	0	10.2	10.0	560	522	39
15	Gabba	Haw	93	81	12	12.7	11.1	395	396	-1
16	TD	Ess	86	94	-8	10.6	13.3	490	353	137
2004										
2	AAMI	Adel	104	83	21	9.9	9.1	455	613	-158
3	Gabba	Coll	137	77	60	8.8	15.2	651	295	356
PF	MCG	Geel	84	75	9	11.9	11.4	336	519	-184
GF	MCG	Port	73	113	-40	11.3	10.5	417	494	-76
2005										
1	Gabba	Stk	116	93	23	11.7	11.3	436	533	-97

The figures highlighted in Yellow represent games where the Lions have won on the scoreboard but returned a negative StatRating™ Margin, while the figures in red show the game result in the following week, and the cells highlighted in Green indicate the Lions StatRating™ in the following week. Only 5 games in the last 4 years show they don't normally play at these levels often. They did have a big win against Collingwood last year at the Gabba rebounding from these figures, but the most damning Stat on this table is last year's Grand Final. Essentially, they enter into a game against Port Adelaide with the same Stats sheet as they did in last years Grand Final. And while they had some saving grace of a neutral venue last year, they'll have to do it on Ports home turf this week.

Port Adelaide – Form at AAMI

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Port Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
2	AAMI	Bris	76	86	-10	11.6	14.1	422	332	90
3	AAMI	Haw	128	71	57	8.8	17.4	599	206	393
5	AAMI	Adel	78	66	12	15.2	13.9	277	345	-68
6	AAMI	Rich	84	57	27	13.3	15.3	330	262	68
8	AAMI	Kang	103	49	54	11.0	21.1	527	223	304
10	AAMI	Coll	98	73	25	10.8	11.2	408	412	-4
11	AAMI	Freo	112	63	49	10.4	14.9	586	262	324
13	AAMI	Syd	99	60	39	10.0	12.8	502	314	188
16	AAMI	WCE	114	50	64	9.9	16.0	477	250	227
19	AAMI	Carl	125	81	44	9.2	11.2	693	409	284
20	AAMI	Melb	112	98	14	11.5	13.8	409	363	47
22	AAMI	Adel	94	78	16	12.1	15.3	397	313	84
QF	AAMI	Syd	88	100	-12	11.0	10.8	456	398	58
SF	AAMI	Ess	83	44	39	13.1	20.3	382	246	136
		Average	100	70	30	11.3	14.9	462	310	152
2004										
1	AAMI	Ess	158	62	96	8.5	12.5	740	391	350
3	AAMI	Haw	171	90	81	8.2	10.0	732	562	170
5	AAMI	WB	119	64	55	9.1	10.6	605	445	160
6	AAMI	Coll	101	84	17	10.8	13.8	520	377	143
7	AAMI	Adel	87	119	-32	12.4	8.3	315	685	-369
9	AAMI	Rich	128	50	78	11.4	20.2	491	203	289
10	AAMI	Geel	116	112	4	12.0	10.1	376	504	-128
12	AAMI	Syd	132	60	72	10.3	14.0	468	329	140
15	AAMI	Carl	123	40	83	10.1	15.9	616	188	428
17	AAMI	WCE	102	76	26	13.1	10.0	304	498	-194
19	AAMI	Melb	125	52	73	9.2	12.0	652	392	261
22	AAMI	Adel	85	60	25	11.0	15.1	382	238	144
QF	AAMI	Geel	117	62	55	10.8	16.5	509	267	241
PF	AAMI	Stk	94	88	6	9.8	12.5	482	345	137
		Average	118	73	45	10.5	13.0	514	387	127

Port's form at the AAMI Stadium is very good, and is fast becoming what The Gabba is to the Lions. It's rare for this side to drop a game at home, with only 3 in the past 28 falling. One was against Co tenants Adelaide, the other was against Sydney in a finals match, and the last against Brisbane back in round 2, 2003. On that occasion, they out pointed them on the Stats sheet, but not on the scoreboard. With these kinds of performances at home, it would seem probable that their StatRating™ this week would be upwards of 450.

Brisbane – Form at AAMI

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Bris Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Brisbane StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2002										
10	AAMI	Adel	94	101	-7	10.9	11.7	359	445	-86
22	AAMI	Port	84	90	-6	15.2	11.6	348	397	-48
		Average	89	96	-7	13.0	11.6	354	421	-67
2003										
2	AAMI	Port	86	76	10	14.1	11.6	332	422	-90
		Average	86	76	10	14.1	11.6	332	422	-90
2004										
2	AAMI	Adel	104	83	21	9.9	9.1	455	613	-158
		Average	104	83	21	9.9	9.1	455	613	-158

The Lions have played 4 games at AAMI Stadium over the past 3 years, and have 2 wins and 2 losses. They have always managed a decent score at this venue, but alarmingly, they have never posted higher a StatRating™ than their opposition in that time. Their average StatRating™ over the past 3 years here has been 374, while their opposition's is 469. Surely their luck must run out soon, as they can't keep playing at these levels here and still keep winning!

Port Adelaide – Top 8 Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Port Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2004										
1	AAMI	Ess	158	62	96	8.5	12.5	740	391	350
10	AAMI	Geel	116	112	4	12.0	10.1	376	504	-128
12	AAMI	Syd	132	60	72	10.3	14.0	468	329	140
17	AAMI	WCE	102	76	26	13.1	10.0	304	498	-194
19	AAMI	Melb	125	52	73	9.2	12.0	652	392	261
QF	AAMI	Geel	117	62	55	10.8	16.5	509	267	241
PF	AAMI	Stk	94	88	6	9.8	12.5	482	345	137
		Average	121	73	48	10.5	12.5	505	389	114
2	SUB	WCE	118	115	3	9.9	9.3	453	615	-162
4	MCG	Melb	71	124	-53	14.1	9.2	311	596	-284
11	Gabba	Bris	86	123	-37	11.7	10.0	412	590	-178
14	YP	Stk	93	47	46	14.7	21.2	313	208	105
18	TD	Ess	79	119	-40	12.8	10.9	408	488	-80
		Average	89	106	-17	12.6	12.1	379	499	-120

Port did not drop a game at home against a Top 8 side this year, with an average winning margin of 48 points. Their biggest score came against Geelong in round 10, when they got home by 4 points. Their away form during the season was worse than average, with 3 big losses against Melbourne, Brisbane and Essendon. Their averages at home against Top 8 sides are more than impressive, with a score over 100 looking good again this week.

Brisbane – Top 8 Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Bris Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Brisbane StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2004										
1	Gabba	Syd	80	78	2	10.4	13.7	441	386	55
10	Gabba	Melb	123	83	40	9.3	12.2	604	336	268
11	Gabba	Port	123	86	37	10.0	11.7	590	412	178
19	Gabba	WCE	73	87	-14	12.1	13.0	462	417	45
21	Gabba	StK	130	85	45	10.4	15.5	604	310	294
QF	Gabba	StK	149	69	80	9.8	12.6	631	293	338
	Average		113	81	32	10.4	13.1	555	359	196
4	SUB	WCE	76	79	-3	11.4	13.8	518	253	265
6	TD	StK	91	92	-1	14.3	10.7	349	521	-173
12	TD	Ess	162	96	66	8.7	11.5	770	435	335
13	SS	Geel	65	92	-27	12.8	11.7	369	434	-66
18	SCG	Syd	51	83	-32	15.0	11.3	260	355	-95
PF	MCG	Geel	84	75	9	11.9	11.4	336	519	-184
	Average		88	86	2	12.3	11.7	434	420	14

As good as Brisbane's record at home is, it's equally as bad on the road. Their round 12 belting of the Bombers needs to be put into perspective, as the Bombers were coming off a huge peak. Add in the Grand Final loss to Port Adelaide, and the signs aren't so good this week. It doesn't look likely that they will manage a triple score this week, which is what they'll need to beat Port at AAMI Stadium.

Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are 7- 5 in Brisbane's favour since 2000, with both sides holding home ground advantages.
- Ports current playing levels have seen them score 5 wins from as many games. 4 of these wins have been at AAMI Stadium.
- The Lions form against Stkilda last week produced a stat that is usually linked to a loss. They won the game but lost on StatRating™ Margin. They enter this game with the same style as they did in Last years Grand Final.
- Port's form at AAMI Stadium in the past 2 years has been terrific. Only 3 losses in their past 28 games. T
- The Lions form at AAMI Stadium has been OK, but they have not posted a Higher StatRating™ than their opposition in the past 4 games there.
- Port's form at home against Top 8 sides has been flawless, with only 7 wins from 7 games.
- The Lions form against Top 8 sides in away games is one of their worst stats. Last year, their record was 2 wins and 5 losses from 7 games.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

Port Adelaide \$1.70
Brisbane \$2.10

At the Line

Port Adelaide \$1.90 (- 6.5 points)
Brisbane \$1.90 (+6.5 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 the Port Adelaide (\$1.90), but they will have to win by more than 6 points. In Brisbane's case, you will be offered a lesser price, but they will have the ability to lose by up to 6 points or even win the game, for you to collect. As long as they don't lose by 7 points or more, then you collect.

This will be an important game for both clubs. We should expect a hard, tough battle with Port looking to consolidate on last year's victory, and the Lions eager to assert their dominance on Port again. Both clubs have been depleted with injuries and suspensions, but the home ground advantage must play a major factor in this contest. The Lions enter this game with out a full strength side, against last years Premier, on their home ground, with dubious form and StatRating™ figures. If they can still get up and beat Port with all this baggage, then they deserve to be Flag Favourites...

RECOMMENDATION: Single stake on the line for the Power, - 6.5 points @ \$1.90.

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.

Port Adelaide Predicted StatRating™: 450– 520

Points Range: 97 – 109

Brisbane Predicted StatRating™: 360 – 420

Points Range: 76 – 88

The spread for this game should come in around 9 points, which doesn't give much room to move given the predicted scores. With this in mind, and injuries to both sides, this game is rated **3 stars** for spread betting purposes.

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