

Port Adelaide vs. Geelong

Head to Head – Port Adelaide vs. Geelong

Round	Venue	Port Score	Geel Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Geelong StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2000									
10	AAMI	78	78	0	11.2	15.6	510	327	183
2001									
5	SS	148	102	46	10.3	10.3	534	439	95
20	AAMI	99	69	30	11.1	14.6	512	301	211
2002									
8	AAMI	129	54	75	11.4	15.0	463	307	156
2003									
14	SS	69	70	-1	14.6	14.6	328	241	88
2004									
10	AAMI	116	112	4	12.0	10.1	376	504	-128
QF	AAMI	117	62	55	10.8	16.5	509	267	241
	Average	108	78	30	11.6	13.8	462	341	121

Its hard to believe that in 7 games played between these 2 sides since 2000, only 2 have been at Skilled Stadium. Port Adelaide have had the wood on Geelong for quite a while it seems, and having the luxury of 5 games at AAMI Stadium also helps. Geelong's highest StatRating™ against Port Adelaide came in round 10 last season at 504, but other than that, it's been hovering around the 300 mark. With another assignment at AAMI Stadium, making it 6 of the last 8 here, there's no doubt that Port Adelaide will 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
2	AAMI	Bris	75	73	2	15.8	15.3	356	301	54
3	AAMI	Adel	56	124	-68	17.3	10.4	219	644	-424
4	AAMI	Carl	109	109	0	9.2	8.9	585	551	34
Average			73	99	-26	14.4	12.1	359	465	-106

Port Adelaide finally returned to some of the form we're used to last week, in an enthralling game against Carlton. Their previous 3 games had been pretty similar, with Possessions per score of 15 to 17, and StatRating™ figures in the 200's and 300's. Last week, their P/S dropped to 9.2 and their StatRating™ jumped up to 585, figures we're used to seeing Port Adelaide post at AAMI Stadium. Still a little concerned that they haven't been able to really bury a side, with a 2 point win and a draw as their only positive games. Their inaccuracy in the last quarter against Carlton almost cost them the game, with 2.10.22 to the Blues 4.2.26. Even a score of 5.7 37 would have been enough to signal a comfortable win. In any case, they have played at these levels previously, and the table below highlights these games.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Port Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Port Adelaide StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2002										
2	MCG	Melb	82	109	-27	9.4	10.9	489	422	67
3	TD	Stk	139	56	83	7.7	17.0	809	241	568
2003										
17	Gabba	Bris	104	103	1	9.1	9.1	529	547	-18
18	MCG	Haw	84	80	4	10.9	10.6	469	407	62
2004										
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
2005										
4	AAMI	Carl	109	109	0	9.2	8.9	585	551	34

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 Adelaide's latest form. There's not a lot of exposed form here, but the best reference comes from round 5 last year. It might seem strange to compare a game which ended in a draw to one that they won by 55 points, but here's why. P/S for both sides was similar to last week, as were the number of scoring shots. Scores in the round 5 game were 17.17.119 to 7.22.64 (34 shots to 29) Last weeks score was 15.19.109 to 16.13.109 (34 shots to 29!) Inside 50's for the round 5 game were 55 to 47, and last week they were 54 to 49. Amazing what accuracy in front of goal can do to a game even though playing styles are almost identical. More importantly, they did go on to win in the following week against Collingwood at AAMI Stadium, and register a StatRating™ of 520. We'll see how close they get to this figure this week.

Geelong – Current form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Geel Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Geelong StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2005										
1	MCG	Rich	160	98	62	10.1	12.3	633	382	251
2	SUB	WCE	62	84	-22	15.0	12.8	306	382	-76
3	MCG	Melb	66	114	-48	12.9	11.9	442	478	-36
4	TD	Ess	131	75	56	9.7	14.3	683	301	382
Average			105	93	12	11.9	12.8	516	386	130

The Cats bounced back to form against the Bombers last week, but not before a scare. After playing all over the Bombers in the first half, they were only 5 points up at Half time. The inevitable happened, and the Bombers skipped to a 20 point lead midway through the 3rd quarter, before Geelong unleashed a 12 goal burst. There were lots of high fives as the goals coming, but what they didn't know was that they were also on the way to registering another peak! A StatRating™ of 683, P/s of 9.7 and a StatRating™ Margin of 382 all points to another peak performance by the Cats. Just compare this form with their round 1 form, and they seemed to have stepped it up another notch. For the second time this season, the table below highlights these current playing levels in the past for Geelong.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Geel Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Geelong StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
11	TD	Carl	115	75	40	10.0	18.0	622	244	378
12	SUB	Freo	72	88	-16	12.5	13.6	367	367	-1
19	MCG	Melb	84	45	39	9.9	16.6	527	217	310
20	SS	WCE	63	63	0	15.4	16.8	291	255	36
2004										
7	TD	Haw	108	52	56	8.5	18.8	615	196	419
8	SS	Melb	101	87	14	12.5	10.4	360	617	-257
20	SS	Freo	75	25	50	10.6	26.8	536	90	446
21	AAMI	Adel	87	109	-22	10.2	8.1	558	628	-71
22	SS	Haw	123	58	65	9.6	20.3	758	177	581
QF	AAMI	Port	62	117	-55	16.5	10.8	267	509	-241
2005										
1	MCG	Rich	160	98	62	10.1	12.3	633	382	251
2	SUB	WCE	62	84	-22	15.0	12.8	306	382	-76
4	TD	Ess	131	75	56	9.7	14.3	683	301	382

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 Geelong's StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show Geelong's latest form. There are 6 games that match these levels in the past 2 years for Geelong, but the best form reference is the round 1 game against Richmond. Almost identical in scoring shots (25.10 in round 1 to 19.17 last week) as well as Possession per score. They did exactly what we thought they would against West Coast, and with any luck, they'll do the same against Port Adelaide this week.

Port Adelaide – Form at AAMI Stadium

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	46	10.5	13.0	514	387	126
2005										
2	AAMI	Bris	75	73	2	15.8	15.3	356	301	54
3	AAMI	Adel	56	124	-68	17.3	10.4	219	644	-424
4	AAMI	Carl	109	109	0	9.2	8.9	585	551	34
		Average	80	102	-22	14.1	11.5	387	498	-112

Again, these tables always look good for interstate sides, and Port is no exception. They dropped 2 games in 2003, 1 game last year, and already 1 ½ games this year. An interesting point to take note of is the Opposition StatRating™ over the years. In 2003 the average was 310 with the highest being 412. Last year the opposition average was 387, with 5 teams scoring over 400. This year, 2 of the 3 teams have scored over 500! Their ability to restrict opposition scores was fantastic with only 1 team reaching triple figures in 2003, and 2 last year. Again this year 2 of the 3 have registered scores over 100, and this is the only slight worry in this game.

Geelong – Form at AAMI Stadium

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Geel Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Geelong StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2004										
10	AAMI	Port	112	116	-4	10.1	12.0	504	376	128
21	AAMI	Adel	87	109	-22	10.2	8.1	558	628	-71
QF	AAMI	Port	62	117	-55	16.5	10.8	267	509	-241
Average			87	114	-27	12.3	10.3	443	504	-61

Geelong has certainly tried hard to overcome their poor interstate record, and it should have been broken in round 10 last year. They led for the majority of the game, only to be overrun in the last 5 minutes. Their good record in that game may come down to form going into that match. Their StatRating™ margin was only 114, which is not associated with a peak, whereas their StatRating™ margin in round 20 was 446, and in round 22 it was 581! They enter this weeks game with a StatRating™ Margin of 382.

Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are 5 -1 -1 since 2002 with Port Adelaide winning 5 of the last 6.
- Port Adelaide returned to better form last week, albeit in a drawn game. Their Possession per score and StatRating™ matched figures they were returning on a regular basis last year.
- Geelong recorded the 2nd peak performance for the year, almost matching their round 1 win against Richmond. They haven't been able to post these StatRating™ levels, and travel interstate to register a win in the past 3 years.
- Port's form at AAMI Stadium is very good, but there are a few cracks appearing this year.
- Geelong lost all 3 games at AAMI Stadium in 2003, and the closest they have got to winning here was a drawn game back in round 10 2000.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

Port Adelaide **\$1.75**
Geelong **\$2.05**

At the Line

Port Adelaide **\$1.90 (- 4.5 points)**
Geelong **\$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 Port (\$1.90), but they will have to win by more than 4 points. In Geelong's case, you will be offered a lesser price, but they will have the ability to lose by up to 4 points or even win the game, for you to collect. As long as they don't lose by 5 points or more, then you collect.

This looks like a copy book of the round 2 report we featured for the Cats. StatRating™ figures are similar, traveling interstate, against a side that has a good home record. Geelong have shown in the past that when they have recorded these high levels, they are vulnerable in the following week. They will be desperate to atone for their poor interstate record, but I don't think this is the week to break that record just yet.

RECOMMENDATION: Single stake win on Port Adelaide -4.5 points at \$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– 510

Points Range: 96 – 108

Geelong Predicted StatRating™: 340 – 400

Points Range: 73 – 85

The spread for this game should come in around 7 points while we think the margin could be around the 23 point range. Looks to be a straight forward bet, but Adelaide's form at home has not been inspiring. Its still early in the season, and the game is rated **3 stars** for spread betting purposes.

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