

Carlton vs. Hawthorn

Head to Head – Carlton vs. Hawthorn

Round	Venue	Carl Score	Haw Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Carlton StatRating™	Hawthorn StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2000									
2	Optus	154	112	42	8.7	13.4	848	352	496
17	MCG	120	63	57	11.1	15.3	548	241	307
2001									
2	Optus	81	107	-26	12.2	12.0	485	482	4
17	MCG	93	96	-3	11.6	15.8	491	266	225
2002									
8	MCG	80	89	-9	14.5	11.0	290	483	-194
2003									
6	Optus	63	74	-11	15.7	14.4	305	368	-62
21	MCG	64	138	-74	17.9	8.8	240	740	-500
2004									
12	TD	100	88	12	9.7	14.7	422	320	101
Average		94	96	-2	12.7	13.2	454	406	48

The Hawks have had the better of Carlton in recent times, maintaining an unbroken run of 5 wins between 2001 and 2003, before the Blues broke clear with a 12 point win last year. Part of the reason the Blues couldn't get up in those years was their inability to kick over 100 points, and the fact they were a team that was rebuilding. The tables are now turned, and it's the Hawks turn to rebuild their side. The Blues are coming off successive interstate trips into this game, something they haven't done since 1999. They are evenly poised on the ladder, with 1 win apiece, so the odds going into this game should be quite even.

Carlton – Current Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Carl Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Carlton StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2005										
1	MCG	Kang	85	105	-20	10.2	12.6	459	411	48
2	MCG	Ess	110	106	4	9.4	14.5	587	290	297
3	MCG	Coll	108	128	-20	9.5	11.8	600	450	150
4	AAMI	Port	109	109	0	8.9	9.2	551	585	-34
5	SUB	Freo	84	103	-19	10.6	12.5	480	424	56
Average			99	110	-11	9.7	12.1	535	432	103

While the Blues may have only a win and a draw to their name, their stats sheet suggests they should probably have a few more wins. They have been rating well in their games, and their average possession per score of 9.7 is usually associated with Top 8 sides. They currently average 273 disposals per game, which sits them 15th in the league, yet average 28 shots at goal, which is 6th in the league. This is a result of their style of play, which is long direct football. It's the best indicator to what score they will kick in a game, and with direct ratio of 10:1, they just need to get enough of the ball. Considering they have travelled for 2 weeks in a row, their form still reads well. They haven't suffered in the 2nd week as many sides do, but instead played better than their opposition and but for some wayward kicking, may have even pinched the game. A loss on the scoreboard and higher StatRating™ figures is a good indicator for any side, and the table below highlights these games for Carlton over the past 2 years.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Carl Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Carlton StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
2	MCG	Coll	91	107	-16	10.3	11.3	555	344	211
3	MCG	Ess	105	94	11	8.9	10.8	674	480	194
4	Optus	Port	84	114	-30	10.0	11.5	532	392	140
5	TD	Kang	122	113	9	9.2	9.6	716	510	206
16	Optus	Syd	84	115	-31	9.4	12.1	510	348	162
17	MCG	Coll	62	135	-73	10.6	8.9	482	628	-147
2004										
14	Optus	Syd	84	95	-11	9.3	12.9	506	350	156
15	AAMI	Port	40	123	-83	15.9	10.1	188	616	-428
2005										
1	MCG	Kang	85	105	-20	10.2	12.6	459	411	48
2	MCG	Ess	110	106	4	9.4	14.5	587	290	297
3	MCG	Coll	108	128	-20	9.5	11.8	600	450	150
4	AAMI	Port	109	109	0	8.9	9.2	551	585	-34
5	SUB	Freo	84	103	-19	10.6	12.5	480	424	56

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 Carlton's StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show Carlton's latest form. They have been able to capture a few good scalps in the past few years when they've been at these levels, with the 2 losses coming to eventual Grand Finalists in 2003 and 2004. Aside from those games, their StatRating™ figures have been over 500 in the following week, and this year they have recorded a 4 point win against Essendon, as well as a creditable Draw against Port Adelaide at AAMI Stadium. They've also kicked over 100 in the games they have won. Unless the Hawks prove to be Grand Finalists this year, they are in with a good show.

Hawthorn – Current form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Haw Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Hawthorn StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2005										
1	SCG	Syd	55	118	-63	16.5	9.9	224	473	-250
2	MCG	Rich	89	103	-14	10.3	12.4	526	379	146
3	MCG	Ess	75	77	-2	15.8	11.3	297	496	-198
4	MCG	Bris	115	69	46	15.5	12.1	304	324	-20
5	MCG	Kang	89	108	-19	13.4	9.8	307	451	-145
Average			85	95	-10	14.3	11.1	331	425	-94

The Hawks seemed to have turned their season around after an inspiring second half against the Bombers in round 3. Since then, they have beaten Brisbane, and also gone down fighting against the Kangaroos. They totally turned their playing style upside down against the Bombers, but what choice did they have being 5 goals down and only 1 goal on the scoreboard to half time? The second half produced a running, keep the ball moving at all costs approach, which saw them amass 173 possessions for the half. Before that, their average was 138 for a half. They carried this on into the Brisbane game, with 210 in the 1st half, then 177 in the 2nd half! Would they be able to keep it up? They fell back a rung to 163 and 158 in the Kangaroos game, and given their possession per score is around the 14 mark, their score dropped as well. Not sure why they need to persist with this game plan, as they proved in the Tigers game they can play direct football, and kick a decent score. It was only inaccuracy that day that robbed them of a win, as the 12.17 to 16.7 shows. They only needed 298 disposals that day, and looked just as good! Their StatRating™ figures are not as high with this style of play, as can be seen by the table above. They have an average just above 300, which makes it hard to convert into wins. The table below shows recent form lines at these current levels.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Haw Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Hawthorn StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
9	TD	Geel	75	109	-34	13.1	9.6	345	534	-189
10	MCG	Stk	90	118	-28	13.5	9.5	305	631	-326
2004										
2	MCG	Kang	74	103	-29	15.7	11.2	325	501	-176
3	AAMI	Port	90	171	-81	10.0	8.2	562	732	-170
6	TD	Rich	83	84	-1	15.4	12.5	305	399	-93
7	TD	Geel	52	108	-56	18.8	8.5	196	615	-419
12	TD	Carl	88	100	-12	14.7	9.7	320	422	-101
13	TD	Stk	61	127	-66	16.0	9.9	219	644	-425
16	MCG	Port	53	105	-52	15.2	9.8	284	502	-218
17	MCG	Kang	63	143	-80	16.0	8.6	306	625	-319
19	TD	WB	120	109	11	12.2	11.1	370	539	-169
20	MCG	Bris	43	66	-23	21.3	12.2	169	466	-297
2005										
3	MCG	Ess	75	77	-2	15.8	11.3	297	496	-198
4	MCG	Bris	115	69	46	15.5	12.1	304	324	-20
5	MCG	Kang	89	108	-19	13.4	9.8	307	451	-145

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 Hawthorn's StatRating™ in the following week. The bottom figures show Hawthorn's latest form. As mentioned, it's not a good indicator of form for the Hawks, simply because it's hard for a team that is in a rebuilding phase to keep this style of play going. Once established, it OK, and they did manage to keep it up against Brisbane, but time will tell if they can keep it going, week in, week out.

Carlton – Form at Telstra Dome

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Carl Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Carlton StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
5	TD	Kang	122	113	9	9.2	9.6	716	510	206
7	TD	Stk	101	113	-12	10.0	10.2	560	629	-69
11	TD	Geel	75	115	-40	18.0	10.0	244	622	-378
22	TD	Kang	63	187	-124	15.6	7.5	288	924	-636
		Average	90	132	-42	13.2	9.3	452	671	-219
2004										
10	TD	Stk	88	196	-108	11.1	8.9	406	818	-412
12	TD	Haw	100	88	12	9.7	14.7	422	320	101
17	TD	Geel	74	131	-57	13.8	7.8	311	833	-522
		Average	87	138	-51	11.5	10.5	379	657	-278

The Blues form at Telstra Dome looks shocking, thanks largely to two 100 point thrashings by the Kangaroos, and Stkilda. Their own averages, particularly early in the season are good, while they have dropped off as the season has rolled on. They have patches of form at this venue, and don't necessarily play well against Top 8 sides here. It's certainly not a bonus for Carlton to be playing here this week.

Hawthorn – Form at Telstra Dome

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Haw Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Hawthorn StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
7	TD	Kang	89	117	-28	12.2	10.5	452	456	-4
9	TD	Geel	75	109	-34	13.1	9.6	345	534	-189
20	TD	Kang	110	96	14	11.0	10.7	480	366	114
		Average	91	107	-16	12.1	10.2	426	452	-26
2004										
6	TD	Rich	83	84	-1	15.4	12.5	305	399	-93
7	TD	Geel	52	108	-56	18.8	8.5	196	615	-419
12	TD	Carl	88	100	-12	14.7	9.7	320	422	-101
13	TD	Stk	61	127	-66	16.0	9.9	219	644	-425
19	TD	WB	120	109	11	12.2	11.1	370	539	-169
		Average	81	106	-25	15.4	10.4	282	524	-242

The Hawks form at Telstra Dome does not read any better than the Blues, with only 2 wins in the past 8 games. Again, the Top 8 sides have shown Hawthorn up here, just as they have shown Carlton up. Their highest StatRating™ last year at this venue was 370 in round 19 against the Bulldogs, but they still lost the game on the Stats sheet by 169 StatRating™ points. Accuracy played a big part in that game, with the Hawks kicking 19.6 to 16.13. and 14.5 to 13.11 after ¼ time. It seems both sides have no clear advantage at this venue.

Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are 5 - 1 since 2001 in Hawthorn's favour.
- The Blues lost the game but posted higher StatRating™ levels, in what has been a good indicator of improvement in the following week.
- The Hawks playing style has taken a turn since the 2nd half of the Essendon game, and while it seemed to work against Brisbane, only time will tell if they can keep that style up.
- Carlton's form at the Telstra Dome has been poor over the past 2 years, with 2 wins from their last 7 games.
- Hawthorn's form at the Telstra Dome is just as bad, with 2 wins from their last 8 games.
- The Blues Possession per score is far superior than the Hawks at this stage of the season.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

Carlton	\$1.90
Hawthorn	\$1.90

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

Carlton's odds at the start of the week were a lot shorter, but with the suspension of Brendan Fevola, they have drifted accordingly. There's also the travel factor that needs to be taken into account, as it's the first time they have had 2 road trips back to back. These are the unknowns we have to deal with, but if the Blues current ratio of 10 disposals per score continues, you know they will at least get 28 scoring shots for their 280 possessions. The Hawks have passed this figure only once in their 8 games here, with an average of 20 shots. It's been an ordinary start to the season to say the least for the Footy Raiders, and a change of fortune would be most welcome in this game.

RECOMMENDATION: Single stake win on Carlton 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.

Carlton Predicted StatRating™: 460– 520

Points Range: 98 – 110

Hawthorn Predicted StatRating™: 300 – 340

Points Range: 80 – 92

While the Stats suggest the score will fall in the predicted range, the loss of Fevola needs to be factored in. The spread for this game should be around 3 points, which gives enough for the predicted margin, but going to wait until the tide starts turning our way. The game is rated **2 stars** for spread betting purposes.

RESULTS: Carlton 13.11.89 (440)

Hawthorn 12.11.83 (335)

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