

# Sydney vs. Collingwood

## Head to Head – Sydney vs. Collingwood

Round	Venue	Syd Score	Coll Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney StatRating™	Collingwood StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2000</b>									
4	SCG	101	106	-5	10.7	9.9	486	584	-97
19	MCG	104	84	20	10.8	12.6	453	421	31
<b>2001</b>									
10	TD	73	55	18	16.0	13.3	269	347	-78
<b>2002</b>									
10	TD	84	95	-11	11.0	10.9	418	495	-76
<b>2003</b>									
6	TD	109	89	20	12.1	11.9	339	429	-90
21	TS	81	99	-18	15.3	9.7	287	627	-340
<b>Average</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>-109</b>

These 2 sides have been evenly matched over the past 4 years, with 3 wins apiece. The biggest winning margin by either side in this time has been 20 points, and as the averages suggest, there's not that much between them. Interestingly, Sydney has only posted higher StatRating™ figures on one occasion only, round 19 2000, yet has still managed to win 3 games against the Pies. This week they venture back to Telstra Stadium, and given their current form, the Swans should start firm favourites in this game.

## Sydney – Current Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2004</b>										
8	SUB	WCE	97	124	-27	12.3	8.4	334	654	-320
9	SCG	Haw	80	79	1	10.9	12.6	394	374	20
10	SCG	WB	93	67	26	10.1	14.8	543	317	226
11	SCG	Stk	112	76	36	11.0	10.2	401	461	-60
12	AAMI	Port	60	132	-72	14.0	10.3	329	468	-140
<b>Average</b>			<b>88</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>-55</b>

The wheels fell off in a big way against Port Adelaide in round 12, as a rising injury list took its toll on the Swans. It could have also been the emotional fall they had after setting themselves for the game against Stkilda a week earlier. What ever the case, they didn't play well and lacked drive all day. It equaled their worst conversion rate inside forward 50, with only 20 shots at goal from 46 Inside 50's, compared to Ports 32 shots from 48 inside 50 attempts. When you consider that the Swans had 11 shots at goal in the last quarter alone, it doesn't say much for their first 3 quarters. The table below is a summary of the Swans current playing levels over the last 2 seasons.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2003</b>										
2	SUB	Freo	60	86	-26	14.5	13.0	353	409	-56
3	SCG	Adel	76	103	-27	11.9	9.3	395	592	-198
9	MO	Kang	59	84	-25	13.7	10.9	277	432	-156
10	MCG	Rich	104	72	32	11.7	11.7	446	350	96
13	AAMI	Port	60	99	-39	12.8	10.0	314	502	-188
14	SCG	WCE	92	84	8	11.6	10.9	476	432	44
<b>2004</b>										
8	SUB	WCE	97	124	-27	12.3	8.4	334	654	-320
9	SCG	Haw	80	79	1	10.9	12.6	394	374	20

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 the Swans StatRating™ in the following week. They have been at these current playing levels 4 times in the past year, with mixed results. Yes, they have registered 3 wins from 4 games at these current playing levels, but their scoreboard figures have not been too high. Scores of 76, 92 and 80 are not the kind of scores that win a lot of games, and this could be a worry this week. These scores were all registered at the SCG on home turf, with their biggest score of 104 recorded against the Tigers at the MCG. Their StatRating™ in the following week has fluctuated between 390 and 470, and should continue in this range again this week.

## Collingwood – Current form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Coll Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Collingwood StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2004</b>										
8	TD	Stk	91	138	-47	9.9	8.3	413	662	-249
9	TD	Adel	68	65	3	12.2	15.1	409	286	124
10	TD	Kang	92	65	27	10.7	14.0	447	287	160
11	TD	WCE	93	75	18	12.3	14.5	366	304	61
12	MCG	Melb	73	82	-9	13.9	12.4	344	395	-51
<b>Average</b>			<b>83</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>9</b>

It's no surprise that Collingwood's improved form over the last 4 weeks has coincided with the return from injury of key personnel. They have been able to win 3 of their last 4 games, with the major factor being the restriction of opposition teams scoring options. Aside from Stkilda, the average opposition score in this period has been 72 points. This has been crucial to the Magpies, as they have not kicked too many winning scores this year. In fact, the round 2 win against the Bulldogs is the only time they have kicked over 100 points the season! The last 4 games also saw them contain the opposition inside 50 count, which dropped from an average of 53 for the first 8 rounds, down to 44 over the last 4 rounds. It's hard to imagine how the Magpies let a 5 goal lead against one of the inform sides in Melbourne slip away. Even harder to explain how they got there in the first place, given Melbourne's performance against Essendon last week! The Magpies StatRating™ has hovered around the 350 – 400 mark this season, a big drop from last years 500 averages. Below are similar games that Magpies have played this year at current playing levels.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Coll Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Collingwood StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2004</b>										
4	TD	Freo	54	88	-34	14.5	11.5	372	485	-114
5	MCG	Ess	79	112	-33	12.3	11.5	381	444	-63
6	AAMI	Port	84	101	-17	13.8	10.8	377	520	-143
7	MCG	Carl	80	89	-9	10.0	11.0	408	408	0

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 the Magpies StatRating™ in the following week. There's not much data to go on here, as the Magpies have not had StatRating™ figures in this band often in years gone by. It does back up the argument that they are dependant on some key players, which have missed through injury this year. Of the 2 games that match these current playing levels, the Magpies recorded losses in both. Even though they did lose both games, the scoreboard score of 79 and 80 is not too far removed from the kind of scores the Sydney Swans were registering with their current playing levels. With this is mind, although the Swans have better form on current playing levels, its not standout stuff!

## Sydney – Form at Telstra Stadium

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2002</b>										
9	TS	Ess	83	85	-2	10.7	10.5	532	494	38
17	TS	Carl	92	69	23	11.3	14.3	441	300	141
22	TS	Rich	116	76	40	10.4	14.5	550	311	240
		<b>Average</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>2003</b>										
1	TS	Carl	146	72	74	8.7	10.1	773	406	367
11	TS	Ess	133	79	54	8.8	12.8	615	343	272
21	TS	Coll	81	99	-18	15.3	9.7	287	627	-340
PF	TS	Bris	56	100	-44	15.3	9.7	255	503	-249
		<b>Average</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2004</b>										
5	TS	Melb	99	111	-12	11.2	9.2	403	437	-34
		<b>Average</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>-34</b>

The Swans have lost their last 3 games at Telstra Stadium, and over the past 3 years have a 4-4 win loss ratio from 8 games. That's quite surprising, as most would have thought that their record at this ground was much better than 50% in this time. While their own scores have fluctuated over the years, their opposition scores have risen steadily from mid 70's in 2002 up closer to the 100 mark in their last 3 games. They'll certainly have some advantage here, as their form from round 9 2002, to round 11 2003 was very good. In fairness, their last 3 games here have been against the 2 grand finalists in 2003, and one of this years form sides in 2004. They won't be coming up against that quality of opposition this week.

## Collingwood – Form at Telstra Stadium

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Coll Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Collingwood StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
<b>2003</b>										
21	TS	Syd	99	81	18	9.7	15.3	627	287	340
		<b>Average</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>340</b>

The Magpies have only played one game at Telstra Stadium, and it resulted in an 18 point win against Sydney last year. Their StatRating™ of 627 in that game is well above their StatRating™ figures posted by the magpies this year. They were in scintillating form towards the end of last season, and are slowly getting back to being at least competitive this year. Their average score and StatRating™ for away games this year is 81 and 336. These figures came from an away loss to Brisbane at the Gabba, and Port Adelaide in AAMI Stadium, in rounds 3 and 6 respectively.

## Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are even at 3-3 apiece.
- The Swans current playing levels suggest they will rate somewhere between 390 and 470 this week. They have won 3 of their 4 games in the past from these levels, but have not kicked high scores in the process.
- The Magpies current StatRating™ figures have hovered around the 350 to 400 mark, and should be no different this week. They have lost 2 from 2 this year from these levels, and posted scores around the 80 mark in the following week.
- The Swans record at Telstra Stadium in the past 3 seasons is 4-4 from 8 games. They have lost their last 3 games here against very good quality sides.
- Collingwood has played once at Telstra Stadium, for a 18 point win against the Swans. Their past 2 away games this year have averaged in 38 point losses.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

**Sydney**        **\$1.50**  
**Collingwood**   **\$2.40**

At the Line

**Sydney**        **\$1.90 (-13.5 points)**  
**Collingwood**   **\$1.90 (+13.5 points)**

\* For the latest odds on offer visit [www.onthepunt.com.au](http://www.onthepunt.com.au)

At the line signifies that you will be able to get a better price on Sydney (\$1.90), but they will have to win by more than 13 points. In the Magpies case, you will be offered a lesser price, but they will have the ability to lose by up to 13 points or even win the game, for you to collect. As long as they don't lose by 14 points or more, then you collect.

While the Swans have a chance to get back in the Top 8 with a win here, both sides current form is uninspiring. They have both suffered in the past with many injuries, and their form could quite easily turn 180 degrees with the inclusion of key players. The Magpies must win this game to stay in touch with the Top 8. If they win, they remain one game out of the 8, but a loss virtually ends any finals dream, as they fall 3 games behind. The Stats indicate that the Swans should be too strong in this contest, but given the margin between these 2 sides has always been very close, you wouldn't want to be giving any points head start, let alone 13.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This is not normally a game that would have made it to the analysis sheet, but given it's the only game on this weekend, it warranted a good look. I'll let you make up your own mind on this game, as the form is not strong enough to put the hard earned on. Can go either way.

### **GOLD MEMBERSHIP:**

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

Sydney Predicted StatRating™: 390– 470  
Collingwood Predicted StatRating™: 350 – 400

Points Range: 82 – 94  
Points Range: 74 – 86

**ACTUAL SCORE: Sydney 13.7.85 (349)                      Collingwood 11.13.79 (409)**

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