

Sydney vs. Fremantle

Head to Head – Sydney vs. Fremantle

Round	Venue	Syd Score	Freo Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney Swans StatRating™	Fremantle StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2000									
15	SUB	96	123	-27	11.1	13.4	406	358	48
2001									
9	SCG	84	65	19	12.0	19.4	457	253	204
2002									
13	SCG	139	62	77	8.3	17.1	848	286	562
2003									
2	SUB	60	86	-26	14.5	13.0	353	409	-56
17	SCG	111	97	14	10.0	8.7	438	481	-42
	Average	98	87	11	11.2	14.3	500	357	143

Sydney record against Fremantle in recent years is 3-2, and with both sides holding home ground advantages, the Swans should enter this game as the favored team. Sydney's overall average of 98 and StatRating™ of 500 is largely attributable to their 2002 round 13 clash, where they scored 139 points and rated 848, in one of their most impressive games over the past 2 years. Fremantle has been well held at the SCG by Sydney, and rated above 400 for the first time in 4 years, as they had previously only managed to average 300. You have to look back to round 15 in 2000, where they played the Swans at Subiaco, to find the last time they kicked over 100 points. Their average possession per score is a very inefficient 14.3, and while they did post an 8.7 last time they met, it seems to be the exception rather than the norm.

Sydney – Current Form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney Swans StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2004										
1	Gabba	Bris	78	80	-2	13.7	10.4	386	441	-55
Average			78	80	-2	13.7	10.4	386	441	-55

The Swans maintained control for most of the game last week against Brisbane, before some injuries and misfortune took hold, as they went down by 2 points. Although they were the only side to beat the Lions twice last year, they were not given much of a chance last Saturday night, and in the end, a misguided kick from 35 m out from goal proved to be the difference. One can't help but think that the outcome may have been reversed if Nick Davis had taken the field in the second half. His 4 goal performance in the first half was outstanding, as the Swans answered every challenge that Brisbane threw at them. Looking at the stats, it probably panned out as it should have, with the Swans possession per score of 13.7 nowhere near Brisbane's consistently efficient 10.4. This figure of 13.7 is directly linked to their possession game, where they slow down and look for an uncontested pass, no matter how short the kick is. In any case it almost worked for them on the night, and their performance was seen by many as the best of the losers in round 1. Their current figures were hard to compare, but one game was found, as can be seen in the table below.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney Swans StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2003										
18	AAMI	Adel	93	97	-4	11.2	10.0	376	432	-56
19	SCG	Haw	93	110	-17	11.7	10.5	446	496	-50
2004										
1	Gabba	Bris	78	80	-2	13.7	10.4	386	441	-55

The cells highlighted in Light Blue represent current playing levels, while the cells highlighted in red show the game result in the following week. The cells in Green highlight Sydney's StatRating™ in the following week. Their most current form is at the bottom of the table. As mentioned earlier, only one game last year reflected the current playing levels for Sydney. Although the data is limited, there are many similarities between the games, as the score, StatRating™, opposition StatRating™, and StatRating™margin are all very similar. Add to this the fact that they are also coming back from an interstate assignment at the Gabba this week, and it should suffice as a good form reference. The fact they lost is not the best sign here, but more importantly, they were able to post a StatRating™ of 446, and unlike most their games last year, the Hawks were able to score with a season high accuracy of 68% in kicking 17.8.110. Considering the Swans average accuracy for opposition teams last year was 53%, the result could easily have been reversed.

Fremantle – Current form

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Freo Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Fremantle StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2004										
1	SUB	Carl	107	60	47	10.5	13.6	535	287	248
	Average		107	60	47	10.5	13.6	535	287	248

Fremantle continued on from their good form of 2003 to open up their season with a solid 47 point win against the Blues. They never really seemed to be in too much trouble, and given the changes that Carlton has gone through with personnel, it's hard to gauge how good the win really was. Certainly their efficiency was right on track at 10.5 but a StatRating™ of 535 is nearing a peak, and the StatRating™ margin of 248, which is almost the same as Carlton's team total of 287, suggests they need to be very careful not to slide down the ratings this week. History shows that these figures are usually a precursor to an average game, and the table highlights similar games where Fremantle has registered current playing levels.

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Freo Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Fremantle StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2002										
4	SUB	Rich	138	72	66	10.7	19.1	533	246	287
5	SS	Geel	49	111	-62	15.8	11.2	291	463	-172
12	SUB	Coll	90	79	11	10.1	15.9	487	245	241
13	SCG	Syd	62	139	-77	17.1	8.3	286	848	-562
20	SUB	Geel	117	72	45	10.5	16.6	514	222	292
21	TD	Ess	72	93	-21	14.1	11.4	277	597	-320
2003										
8	SUB	Stk	123	82	41	9.8	11.7	533	487	46
9	MCG	Melb	101	71	30	14.4	16.0	326	368	-42
18	SUB	Rich	104	81	23	10.2	11.3	508	414	94
19	MCG	Kang	99	98	1	12.1	13.0	397	455	-58
2004										
1	SUB	Carl	107	60	47	10.5	13.6	535	287	248

The figures highlighted in light blue represent current playing levels, while the figures in red show the game result in the following week. The cells highlighted in Green indicate Fremantle's StatRating™ in the following week. Their most current form is at the bottom of the table. Round 4 and round 12 of 2002 represent the best data as a model for predictive analysis in this game. Their subsequent StatRating™ of 291 and 286 is consistent with the game result of 62 and 77 point losses. Round 20, 2002 is the next best fit, and another loss resulted, with their StatRating™ again matching their most recent postings of 277. Although 2003 produced better results for Fremantle, the major difference was in the StatRating™ Margin, as it was nowhere near the 200 plus required for this game, even though possession per score and their team StatRating™ was similar. Taking these figures into account, their 2003 form still saw them drop to StatRating™ figures of 326 and 397, which does not inspire confidence here.

Sydney – Form at SCG

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Syd Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Sydney Swans StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2002										
1	SCG	Bris	87	110	-23	10.6	11.9	583	446	137
4	SCG	Kang	103	100	3	10.9	9.4	580	530	50
6	SCG	Melb	99	71	28	11.3	12.8	415	414	1
8	SCG	WB	90	159	-69	8.3	8.1	767	837	-69
12	SCG	Geel	99	101	-2	10.6	10.9	471	450	20
13	SCG	Freo	139	62	77	8.3	17.1	848	286	562
15	SCG	Port	92	94	-2	10.9	12.1	523	437	86
18	SCG	Adel	98	116	-18	11.8	10.6	414	586	-172
19	SCG	Kang	144	97	47	9.7	11.0	701	489	212
20	SCG	Stk	87	80	7	10.9	13.6	534	360	174
		Average	104	99	5	10.3	11.8	584	484	100
2003										
3	SCG	Adel	76	103	-27	11.9	9.3	395	592	-198
5	SCG	Melb	109	85	24	12.9	13.9	441	353	89
7	SCG	Bris	98	79	19	12.5	10.3	295	507	-212
8	SCG	Geel	112	73	39	10.8	14.9	379	361	18
12	SCG	WB	127	63	64	9.6	13.4	592	357	235
14	SCG	WCE	92	84	8	11.6	10.9	476	432	44
15	SCG	Stk	112	61	51	8.3	17.6	786	228	558
17	SCG	Freo	111	97	14	10.0	8.7	438	481	-42
19	SCG	Haw	93	110	-17	11.7	10.5	446	496	-50
		Average	103	84	19	11.0	12.2	472	423	49

The Swans were able to win 7 of their 9 home games last year, and increase their average winning margin from 5 to 19 points. Remarkably, their possession per score increased by 1, their average StatRating™ decreased by over 100, yet they were still able to maintain an average of 103-104 score last year. How is this possible? By increasing their accuracy from 53% in 2002 to 59% in 2003. Their average StatRating™ of 472 is still quite high as an average, and should they reach this figure against Fremantle, it should provide a winning score.

Fremantle – Form at SCG

Round	Venue	Opp Team	Freo Score	Opp Score	Game Result	Possession Per Score	OPossession Per Score	Fremantle StatRating™	Opposition StatRating™	StatRating™ Margin
2001										
9	SCG	Syd	65	84	-19	19.4	12.0	253	457	-204
2002										
13	SCG	Syd	62	139	-77	17.1	8.3	286	848	-562
2003										
17	SCG	Syd	97	111	-14	8.7	10.0	481	438	42
		Average	75	111	-37	15.1	10.1	340	581	-241

Fremantle's record at the SCG has improved, but even with their most recent figures of 8.7 and 481, they still did not win the game. A score close to 97 here will certainly push the Swans, but it's more than likely that they will post scores and StatRating™ results closer to the average rather than their best performances to date.

Final Summary

- Head to Head Contests are 3-2 in Sydney's favour, with both teams holding home ground advantage.
- Sydney's current playing levels were difficult to assess, as only one game matched from previous years. If they hold up to that form, they should post a winning score.
- Fremantle are faced with peak StatRating™ figures, and have not rated well in the past at these current playing levels. Their average StatRating™ in the following week have not been impressive
- Sydney's record at the SCG is very good, and has proven to be a hard team to beat at home. .
- Fremantle's form at the SCG has been below par, and although they rated well against Sydney last year, their current form suggests they could drop to the low 300's this week.

Current odds on offer from Sports Bookmakers are

Sydney **\$1.52**
Fremantle **\$2.40**

At the Line

Sydney **\$1.90 (-14.5 points)**
Fremantle **\$1.90 (+14.5 points)**

* For the latest odds on offer visit 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 14 points. In Fremantle's case, you will be offered a lesser price, but they will have the ability to lose by up to 14 points or even win the game, for you to collect. As long as they don't lose by 15 points or more, then you collect.

The Swans should open up their account for 2004 with a win against Fremantle here. The Swans looked as though they did enough against Brisbane last week, and Fremantle's current form indicates they may slide down the ratings here. In what's shaping to be a hard round to find value, the Swans may offer some much needed value.

RECOMMENDATION: Sydney should win this game comfortably and are good value at the line. All stats suggest that the final margin should be over 14 points. Sydney -14.5 @\$1.90.

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™: **406**
Fremantle Predicted StatRating™: **287**

Points Range: **93 - 105**
Points Range: **62 - 69**

This game represents excellent value for Spread betting. Currently the quoted buy/sell is 14 – 20.

ACTUAL RESULT: Sydney 15.12.102 def Fremantle 10.11.71

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