

Weekly wrap up

Friday, 15 May 2009						Home	Away
7.40pm		Fremantle	vs.		Hawthorn	Subiaco Oval	\$1.85 \$1.90
Saturday, 16 May 2009							
2.10pm		Melbourne	vs.		Western Bulldogs	M.C.G.	\$5.00 \$1.15
2.10pm		Geelong	vs.		Kangaroos	Skilled Stadium	\$1.04 \$9.00
7.10pm		Brisbane Lions	vs.		Adelaide	Gabba	\$1.30 \$3.30
7.10pm		Sydney	vs.		West Coast	ANZ Stadium	\$1.25 \$3.75
Sunday, 17 May 2009							
12.40pm		Port Adelaide	vs.		Richmond	AAMI Stadium	\$1.22 \$4.00
2.10pm		Collingwood	vs.		Carlton	M.C.G.	\$2.50 \$1.50
4.40pm		St. Kilda	vs.		Essendon	Etihad Stadium	\$1.14 \$5.25

Don't you hate it when you go to a party, and someone else is wearing exactly the same outfit as you?



North Melbourne vs La Selección (Spanish name of the Argentina national football team)

What's next? North Melbourne players dropping to the ground clutching their leg if they are breathed on too hard. Pansies...

A return to normality though this round with all winners being match-day favourites. What's that you say? "But I tipped all favourites and only got 7 out of 8". That's because the odds for Fremantle v Hawthorn changed between the time I released the odds and the time the match began. But that didn't stop 2 tippers from managing our competition's first perfect-8: Melissa...and me (yay!).

Fun & Games

2009 AFL fixture

Continuing with my investigation into the fairness and equality of the 2009 AFL Home & Away fixture, we now look at the travel requirements of each club.

Team	Home ground	Ground	Longitude	Latitude
 Adelaide	AAMI Stadium	AAMI Stadium	34°52'48"S	138°29'44"E
 Brisbane Lions	Gabba	ANZ Stadium	33°50'50"S	151°3'48"E
 Carlton	Etihad Stadium	Aurora Stadium	41°25'33"S	147°08'20"E
 Collingwood	M.C.G.	Etihad Stadium	37°48'59"S	144°56'51"E
 Essendon	Etihad Stadium	Gabba	27°29'9"S	153°2'17"E
 Fremantle	Subiaco Oval	Gold Coast Stadium	28°00'23"S	153°22'1"E
 Geelong	Skilled Stadium	M.C.G.	37°49'12"S	144°59'0"E
 Hawthorn	M.C.G.	Manuka Oval	35°19'5"S	149°08'5"E
 Melbourne	M.C.G.	S.C.G.	33°53'30"S	151°13'29"E
 North Melbourne	Etihad Stadium	Skilled Stadium	38°9'29"S	144°21'16"E
 Port Adelaide	AAMI Stadium	Subiaco Oval	31°56'40"S	115°49'48"E
 Richmond	M.C.G.	TIO Stadium	12°23'57"S	130°53'14"E
 St. Kilda	Etihad Stadium			
 Sydney	S.C.G.			
 West Coast	Subiaco Oval			
 Western Bulldogs	Etihad Stadium			

Applying a little spherical trigonometry¹, and we have the following distance (in km) travelled for each club and round. All rounds of travel further than Geelong to Melbourne (67km) are highlighted:

Team	VICTORIA										NSW	QLD	S.A.		W.A.		Total	
																		
Round 1	3	0	663	67	0	0	3	0	0	2,723	714	0	666	0	0	3,610	8,450	
Round 2	0	0	0	0	704	0	3	67	663	3	16	1,375	0	2,124	2,723	0	7,678	
Round 3	3	0	3	67	3	666	0	3	0	0	733	0	2,124	0	0	2,723	6,326	
Round 4	714	1,373	0	638	0	0	0	0	0	2,723	0	0	666	2,723	0	0	8,838	
Round 5	0	0	3	0	441	0	0	3	663	0	3,295	1,436	666	0	0	2,964	9,473	
Round 6	3	3	1,375	67	0	0	0	712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,160	
Round 7	1,343	3	0	0	3	2,726	0	0	0	663	779	1,373	0	663	3,624	0	11,178	
Round 8	3	0	0	0	2,726	0	64	666	0	3	16	0	1,607	0	0	3,280	8,366	
Round 9	663	2,726	3	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,375	0	1,172	2,723	0	8,727		
Round 10	0	0	0	64	666	1,341	0	2,726	1,343	466	248	1,375	0	666	0	2,723	11,620	
Round 11	1,375	0	0	2,675	0	0	0	3	0	0	712	0	663	0	2,124	0	7,553	
Round 12	0	704	0	2,675	441	3	663	3	0	3,152	16	1,641	0	2,615	0	2,723	14,636	
Round 13	3	0	3	0	2,726	1,373	3	3	0	3	1,172	0	0	638	2,726	0	8,652	
Round 14	2,723	0	3	64	3	0	714	1,341	0	0	0	1,607	1,602	0	0	2,726	10,784	
Round 15	3	3	714	1,436	441	0	443	0	2,723	0	0	0	0	666	2,124	0	8,555	
Round 16	0	0	0	0	0	67	3	0	0	0	714	3,610	663	0	0	2,124	7,181	
Round 17	3	0	3	67	0	463	1,375	0	0	0	248	0	0	0	0	0	2,160	
Round 18	0	0	2,723	0	666	0	0	0	0	714	0	0	1,373	638	0	2,723	8,838	
Round 19	3	666	3	67	441	3	0	0	0	443	0	712	1,373	0	2,124	0	2,723	8,559
Round 20	663	0	0	770	0	0	2,723	0	0	1,375	16	0	666	0	2,726	0	8,940	
Round 21	0	0	2,723	64	0	3	0	0	0	0	712	0	0	1,607	0	2,124	7,234	
Round 22	0	3	3	0	0	0	663	2,726	3	0	0	733	663	0	2,675	0	7,471	
Total	7,507	5,482	8,224	8,785	9,264	6,647	6,659	8,255	6,554	11,112	10,103	17,269	9,960	12,943	26,893	27,722		

Some features:

- Rounds 6 and 17 (the traditional rival rounds) have the lowest total travel requirements across all teams
- Round 12 (split round) has the highest travel requirements; good planning on the AFL's behalf (for once)
- There are only 10 occasions in the entire fixture (and only 3 that are unintentional) where teams have to travel in back-to-back round. Again, unusually good planning by the AFL:
 - 3 of these occur across the split round
 - 4 of these occasions (Hawthorn, North Melbourne & Sydney x2) are due to teams electing to play a home match at a non standard stadium (Aurora Stadium, ANZ Stadium or Manuka Oval)
 - Port Adelaide have 1 pair of consecutive away games at M.C.G and S.C.G
 - Brisbane Lions have 2 pairs of consecutive away games, one at Etihad Stadium and the other at the M.C.G.
- Interstate teams have a significant disadvantage in travel requirements, especially Western Australian teams. And this is the way it ought to be, though Adelaide do have an advantage over their South Australian counterpart Port Adelaide who need to travel to the Northern Territory for 1 match

My conclusions, with regard to travel requirements:

- Collingwood clearly have the easiest travel requirements of any team as the only team with 4 away games (compared to the average of 5.7 away games for Victorian teams) and 1,071 km less than their nearest opponent
- Hawthorn and Western bulldogs have the worst travel requirements amongst Victorian teams but these is self-inflicted with Hawthorn's 4 games at Aurora Stadium (Tas) and Western Bulldogs travelling to TIO Stadium (NT)
- Naturally, Western Australian teams have the highest travel requirements due to their isolation but I am awarding the hardest travel requirements to Brisbane as they have a high total travel distance, 2 pairs of consecutive travel requirements and as they do not get the advantage of a shared home stadium like Western Australian teams do, they have to travel 11 times in the season (equal highest with Sydney).

Phooty lookalikes



Déjà vu. Michael O'Lachlan when Sydney beat West Coast in the 2006 qualifying finals

¹ The spherical law of cosines: $distance = \arccos(\sin(lat_1) \cdot \sin(lat_2) + \cos(lat_1) \cdot \cos(lat_2) \cdot \cos(long_2 - long_1)) \cdot R$ where R = Earth's radius of 6,371m