



NEWSLETTER

Monday 12 October 2020

For the first time since 2004, the Brisbane Lions head into Preliminary Final week as part of the Final Four!

The achievement comes on the back of a stirring Qualifying Final win over reigning Premiers Richmond.

But the job isn't done yet...

For any past player-related queries or questions, please email us at pastplayers@lions.com.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

NB: All scheduled Past Player & Official events and reunions have been postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus precautions.

The Club is committed to resuming these events/gatherings once it is deemed safe to do so. We welcome any feedback in the meantime surrounding future functions.



Lions and Cats

The Brisbane Lions will face Geelong this Saturday night at the Gabba with the winner advancing to the 2020 Toyota AFL Grand Final.

The Lions have only beaten Geelong once in their past 10 attempts, with that sole victory coming last year following a spectacular mark and goal from ex-Cat Lincoln McCarthy in the dying stages of the match.

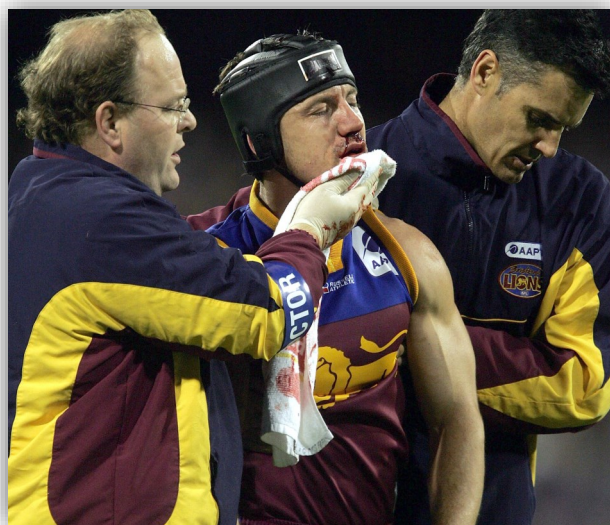
Geelong won the clash between the two sides earlier this year by 27 points at Metricon Stadium.

Preliminary Flashback

Coincidentally, the Brisbane Lions' last Preliminary Final (16 years ago) was also against Geelong.

On that occasion, the **Daniel Bradshaw** booted a game-high four goals and **Nigel Lappin** collected 30 disposals to help the Lions prevail at the MCG by 9 points - and set a Grand Final date with Port Adelaide.

It would also prove to be **Shaun Hart's** final AFL game, after he sustained a serious facial injury that forced him to miss the 2004 Grand Final.



AFL Players' Alumni members get access to a range of benefits, services and support surrounding:

• Health and Wellbeing • Financial Prosperity • Continued Education • Social Connections

Find out how you can join by contacting AFLPA Alumni Manager **Brad Fisher**:

T: 03 8651 4300 **E:** bfisher@aflplayers.com.au **W:** www.aflplayers.com.au/alumni



Cup Ambassador

Former Brisbane Lions champion **Simon Black** has just completed a 10-day tour of Queensland as the AFL's official Premiership Cup Ambassador for 2020.

Black is no stranger to premierships, having won three with the Lions and also claiming the Norm Smith Medal as best afield against Collingwood in the 2003 Grand Final.

"Having the biggest sporting event in our backyard...is something all Queenslanders can celebrate," he said.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story



Ticketing Information

Brisbane Lions member priority group 1 pre-sale of tickets for Saturday's Preliminary Final go on sale via Ticketmaster tomorrow (Tuesday) from 9am.

There are also very limited AFL corporate packages available for both the Preliminary Final and Grand Final at the Gabba, which can be purchased through the Club.

If you wish to discuss options/costings, please contact the Club's corporate hospitality executive (and former Lions defender) **Daniel Merrett** on 0400 913 352.

Ex-Lions in Finals

While the Brisbane Lions prepare for their premiership tilt, a number of ex-Lions will be wearing opposition colours and plotting the Club's downfall over the next week or two.

Hall of Famers **Chris Scott** and **Nigel Lappin**, along with former players **Lachie Henderson** and **Shane O'Bree** will be in the Cats' corner this Saturday night.

Ken Hinkley (Fitzroy), **Michael Voss**, **Tom Rockliff** and **Sam Mayes** will be representing the Power, while **Justin Leppitsch**, **Craig McRae**, and **Xavier Clarke** are with Richmond.



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Help During COVID

Discussions and concerns around the coronavirus outbreak and practising self-isolation can be stressful and impact our mental health and wellbeing.

Any past players from Fitzroy, Bears, or the Brisbane Lions that might be suffering distress from the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to take advantage of the free, confidential, and member-based services on offer by The AFL Players' Association.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information



Vale Arnie Bench

The Brisbane Lions mourn the loss of ex-Fitzroy player **Arnie Bench**, who passed away on 1 October - just a couple weeks after celebrating his 89th birthday.

Bench played a total of 37 matches for Fitzroy from 1953-55, donning the number 24 guernsey.

The Club extends it's deepest condolences to Bench's family, friends, and teammates.

Vale Ron Bickley

The Brisbane Lions also mourn the loss of ex-Fitzroy player **Ron Bickley**, who passed away early on Sunday morning aged 93.

Ron was Fitzroy's oldest living player until his passing.

He played a total of 29 games with Fitzroy from 1949-51, donning the number 11 guernsey.

The Club extends it's deepest condolences to Bickley's family, friends, and teammates.



AFLW Draft

The Brisbane Lions welcomed three new players via the NAB AFLW Draft held online last week.

The Lions selected Academy prospect **Zimmorlei Farquharson** with Pick 8, athletic tall **Indy Tahau** with Pick 37, and 27-year-old **Ruby Svarc** (sister of current Lion Cathy) with Pick 38.

Coach **Craig Starcevich** is really excited for members and supporters to see the Club's new talent in action.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story



Lachie's Loot

Midfield star **Lachie Neale** became the first Lions player to claim the Leigh Matthews' Trophy as his peers' Most Valuable Player since **Michael Voss** won it back in 2003.

He backed up a remarkable season by being awarded the AFL Coaches' Association Champion Player of the Year.

But can he cap it off NEXT Monday night by becoming the Club's first Brownlow Medallist since **Simon Black** won the competition's highest individual honour in 2003?

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story

All-Australian Pair

Lachie Neale and **Harris Andrews** were named in the AFL's All-Australia team for the second consecutive season, highlighting their standing in the competition.

Hugh McCluggage was named in the 40-man squad, but ultimately missed on being selected in the final team.

It's the first time Brisbane Lions players have had back-to-back All-Australian selections since **Justin Leppitsch** and **Nigel Lappin** in 2003-04.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story



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