

# ESSENDON BOMBERS

## What Is The Essendon Football Club?

The Essendon Football Club is a team in the Australian Football League (AFL) who were established in 1872. They began as a Victorian Football League team (VFL), but have since moved to the AFL. They currently have the fourth biggest fan base across the league. Essendons home ground is the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Marvel stadium, their training ground is at Windy Hill and the Hanger in the north-west Melbourne suburbs. Tied with Collingwood Magpies and Carlton Blues, Essendon have the greatest number of premierships wins of sixteen.

Even though Essendon haven't won a premiership in twenty five years and haven't won a final in seven thousand six hundred and sixty five days and counting, they're still an excellent football side.

## The History Of Essendon Football Club

In the beginning of the Essendon Football Club they were based in Essendon, Melbourne, Victoria. They started playing in the VFL, before the AFL came into existence. They had a good start to their career, making it to the first grand final in 1898, losing to Fitzroy by 15 points. They are the only team to win all but one game in a season, in 2000. It was the most dominant season by a club ever.

In 2013, Essendon had a drug scandal. 34 Senior listed players were suspended, including James Hird who was an ex-Essendon player and the senior coach at the time. Jobe Watson, won the Brownlow winner for 2012, was then stripped of his medal following the scandal. Essendon were also kicked out of the AFL finals in 2013. They lost a great number of players, due to suspension, retiring or wanting to leave the club. This meant they had to find many new players, to fill the team.

## Essendon's Best Players

Essendon have had many talented players over the years. Below are the best ten players, according to the Essendon Football Club Website. This information is based on the amount of games, goals, disposals and sportsmanship during their time playing for the club.

- 10 Zach Merrett
- 9 Mark (Bomber) Thompson
- 8 Mark Harvey
- 7 Terry Daniher

- 6 Simon Madden
- 5 Tim Watson
- 4 Matthew Llyod
- 3 James Hird
- 2 John Coleman
- 1 Dick Reynolds

### **Record Number Of Games For Essendon**

Many players have stayed at Essendon for a long time, due to their strong fan base. Currently, there has been a lot more movement of players.

The players that have the most number of games for Essendon are as follows:

- 1 Dustin Fletcher 400 games 1993-2015
- 2 Simon Maden 378 games 1974-1992
- 3 Dick Reynolds 320 games 1933-1951

### **Brownlow Medalist**

The Brownlow is a medal given to the best player on field, as decided by the umpires. Every game the umpires vote for who they believe was the best player on field. Who they believe played the best gets three votes. The player who gets second best on field gets two votes, and third best on field gets one vote. Whoever has the most votes at the end of the season wins the brownlow. The players that have won the Brownlow medal playing for Essendon include:

- Dick Reynolds x3 1934,1937,1938
- Bill Hutchison x2 1953,1952
- James Hird 1996, Gavin Wangang 1993, and Graham Moss 1976 1
- Jobe Watson won in 2012, but was later stripped of the medal due to his involvement with performance-enhancing drugs.

### **Leading Goal Kickers**

Kicking a goal is one of the most important things in footy because you need goals to win. For Essendon these players have the most goals:

- 1 Matthew Llyod 926 goals
- 2 Simon Madden 575 goals
- 3 John Coleman 537 goals in 98 games

## Conclusion

I love Essendon because they're a great football team and all the fans go to the games and they're very passionate. Also, Essendon have won the most premierships and a long history. **Go Bombers.**

## Fun Facts

- The longest captain ever for Essendon was James Hird, who coached for 8 seasons and 141 games.
- The longest Essendon coach of all seasons was Kevin Sheedy, who coached for 635 games and 26 seasons.
- The player with the most best and fairest awards was Dick Reynolds, who won 8 times.
- Essendon's top 3 players currently:
  - 3 Sam Durham
  - 2 Nic Martin
  - 1 Zach Merrett

