

# ROUND 23

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30	VENUE	EST	LOCAL TIME	HOST TV NETWORK
Sydney Swans vs. Hawthorn	ANZ Stadium	7.50pm	7.50pm	Seven
SATURDAY, AUGUST 31				
St Kilda vs. Fremantle	Etihad Stadium	1.45pm	1.45pm	Seven
Geelong Cats vs. Brisbane Lions	Simonds Stadium	2.10pm	2.10pm	Foxtel
Port Adelaide vs. Carlton	AAMI Stadium	4.40pm	4.10pm	Foxtel
Essendon vs. Richmond	MCG	7.40pm	7.40pm	Seven
West Coast Eagles vs. Adelaide Crows	Patersons Stadium	8.10pm	6.10pm	Foxtel
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1				
Gold Coast SUNS vs. GWS GIANTS	Metricon Stadium	1.10pm	1.10pm	Foxtel
Collingwood vs. North Melbourne	MCG	3.20pm	3.20pm	Seven
Western Bulldogs vs. Melbourne	Etihad Stadium	4.40pm	4.40pm	Foxtel

## THE ROUND EXPLAINED

- › The AFL has sought to maximise fixture options for week one of the 2013 Toyota AFL Finals Series by ensuring that a majority of sides in the top eight after round 18 of the home and away season will have played by Saturday, August 31.
- › It was determined that the Sydney Swans and Hawthorn match should be scheduled on Friday night, given that Hawthorn is a travelling side and currently positioned on top of the ladder after round 18 of the home and away season. This will maximise the number of days' break for the club before week one of the finals.
- › As ANZ Stadium is hosting Friday night's Sydney Swans vs. Hawthorn match, the two matches allocated to the MCG must be scheduled across Saturday and Sunday. It was determined that Essendon and Richmond, as the sides ranked higher on the ladder after round 18, should be scheduled first, with Collingwood and North Melbourne to then play on Sunday.
- › Although it must travel interstate for the final round, being scheduled to play on Saturday afternoon ensures that Fremantle will be able to return home by Saturday night, maximising its preparation period leading into week one of the finals should it qualify.
- › While Carlton was not in the top eight after round 18 of the home and away season, it was determined that given both it and opponent Port Adelaide are currently in contention, both should be granted the opportunity to play on Saturday, maximising the break for both clubs before week one of the finals should either qualify.