

Sydney 1st Grade Finals Trivia

66 1st Grade finals have been held. 44 Finals have started in March, 20 in April and 2 Finals have started in May. The earliest starting Final was the 1955/56 Final which started on 17 March while the latest was the 1905/06 Final which started on 5 May. The first regular final was held in 1952/53, previously finals had only been held in 1901/02, 1905/06, 1909/10 and 1911/12.

The first Sydney 1st Grade Final was in 1901/02 between Sydney and Leichhardt-Balmain. Sydney won on the first innings scoring 9-247 in reply to Leichhardt-Balmain's 132. Jack Marsh was the stand out performer in the match taking 6-47, all bowled.

14 Venues have hosted the 1st Grade final. The Sydney Cricket Ground has hosted 18 finals, Bankstown Memorial Oval 22, and Hurstville Oval 7. Other grounds to host the final are Chatswood Oval (1), Coogee Oval (2), Howell Oval, Penrith (2), Manly Oval (3), North Sydney No.1 Oval (1), Petersham Oval (3), Pratten Park, Ashfield (1), Sydney Cricket Ground No.2 (2), University No.1 Oval, Camperdown (1), Village Green, Kensington (1), and Waitara Oval (2).

St George has won the most finals with 12, Sydney University 7, with Western Suburbs and Bankstown on 6 next on the list. Balmain/Sydney (2), Parramatta (2), Eastern Suburbs (1), Fairfield-Liverpool (2), Gordon (1), Manly-Warringah (3), Northern District (4), Paddington (1), Penrith (1), Petersham-Marrickville (2), Randwick (2), Sutherland (2), Sydney (1900-1925) (1), and University of NSW (2) have been the other winners of the final. Ten matches have been drawn. The last drawn match was last season (2016/17) between Bankstown and Sydney University.

St George has played in the most finals with 17 appearances, followed by Bankstown with 12, Western Suburbs on 11, Sydney University 10, Parramatta 9 and then Manly-Warringah and Northern District both on 8.

Of the teams to contest a final, Mosman (4), Glebe (3), Redfern (1), Randwick Petersham (2) and Campbelltown-Camden (1) are yet to win a final.

16 finals have been decided by an outright result. Of those outright victories only two have been won by an innings. Northern District defeated Sutherland by an innings and 62 runs in 1966/67 and Fairfield-Liverpool defeated Manly-Warringah by an innings and 93 runs in 2005/06. The closest outright result was by 1 wicket when Sydney University defeated University of NSW in 2004/05.

Warren Saunders holds the record for the most first grade finals appearances with 8 followed by Ken Hall and Philip Wells with 7. Ken Hall's seven matches were played over a 22 year span between his first and last finals appearance.

Only three players have represented more than two clubs in Sydney 1st Grade finals. Stuart MacGill has played for 4 clubs in a Final – St George, North Sydney, Sydney University and Sutherland. Peter O'Reilly has played for three clubs in a Final – Northern District, Campbelltown and Western Suburbs as well as Ray Flockton who played for Paddington, Glebe-South Sydney and St George.

883 players in total have played in a First Grade Final. St George have had the most players play in a First Grade Final with 100, followed by Parramatta with 73.

The highest score in a final was by Grant Lambert with 232 for Fairfield-Liverpool against Manly-Warringah in 2005/06. The top ten highest individual innings are below.

	Player	Team/Opponent	Ground	Season
232	GM Lambert	Fairfield-Liverpool v Manly-Warringah	Manly Oval	2005/06
230*	A Turner	Randwick v Penrith	Howell Oval, Penrith	1979/80
174	HJG Dalton	Sydney v Bankstown	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2015/16
172	BP van Deinsen	St George v Eastern Suburbs	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2000/01
164	GC Rummans	St George v Gordon	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2007/08
159*	JP Bray	St George v Mosman	Hurstville Oval	1996/97
152	BJ Rohrer	Fairfield-Liverpool v Manly-Warringah	Manly Oval	2005/06
150	JW Wilson	St George v Western Suburbs	Hurstville Oval	1970/71
139	RG Flockton	St George v Mosman-Middle Harbour	Sydney Cricket Ground	1960/61
139	KJ Roberts	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1993/94

31 centuries have been scored in First Grade Finals but no player has scored two centuries in First Grade Finals.

St George has scored the most centuries in First Grade Finals with 8. Bankstown is next on the list with 7. No other club has scored more than two centuries.

The most centuries in an innings has been three when Steve Small (113), Kevin Roberts (139) and Ken Hall (102*) for Bankstown against Parramatta in the 1993/94 Final.

The youngest player to score a century in a First Grade Final is Doug Walters who was 19 years 89 days when he scored 138 for Central Cumberland against Western Suburbs in the 1964/65 final. The five youngest century makes in a First Grade Final are below.

KD Walters	138	Central Cumberland v Western Suburbs	SCG	1964/65	19 years 89 days
MC Henriques	113	St George v Gordon	Bankstown	2007/08	21 years 62 days
NJ Maddinson	107	Sutherland v St George	Bankstown	2012/13	21 years 105 days
KJ Roberts	139	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown	1993/94	21 years 273 days
J Cormack	126	Bankstown v Sydney	Bankstown	2015/16	21 years 334 days

The oldest player to score a century in a First Grade Final is Ken Hall who was 41 years 323 days when he scored 102 not out for Bankstown against Parramatta in the 1993/94 final. The five oldest century makes in a First Grade Final are below.

KL Hall	102*	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown	1993/94	41 years 323 days
SM Small	113	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown	1993/94	39 years 23 days
RN Harvey	136	Northern District v Sutherland	Waitara	1966/67	38 years 167 days
WJ Saunders	111	St George v Manly-Warringah	SCG	1968/69	34 years 277 days
JN Burke	100*	Bankstown v Sydney University	Bankstown	2016/17	34 years 83 days

Two players have the equal record for the most ducks in Sydney 1st Grade finals – Danny Waugh and Daniel Rixon both have recorded three ducks.

12 players have scored a hundred in their first appearance in a Sydney 1st Grade final. The highest being Harry Dalton for Sydney in 2015/16 with 174.

Two players have been dismissed for 99 in a 1st Grade final. Max Benjamin for Petersham-Marrickville in 1961/62 and Doug Walters for Central Cumberland in 1965/66.

Philip Wells holds the record for the most runs in first grade finals with 369 runs at an average of 52.71 in 7 first grade finals. Bill Watson is in second place with 353 runs at an average of 44.12 in 6 first grade finals. Brian Booth is third on the list with 334 runs at 55.67 in 6 appearances and Grant Lambert is fourth with 322 runs at an average of 80.50 in 3 appearances.

	M	Runs	Avge
PJ Wells	7	369	52.71
WJ Watson	6	353	44.12
BC Booth	6	334	55.67
GM Lambert	3	322	80.50
BP van Deinsen	3	306	102.00

Centuries have been scored at all positions down to 8 in First Grade Finals. The highest Scores at each batting position in a First Grade Final are:

Opener	232	GM Lambert	Fairfield-Liverpool v Manly-Warringah	Manly Oval	2000/01
3	230*	A Turner	Randwick v Penrith	Howell Oval, Penrith	1979/80
4	139	RG Flockton	St George v Mosman-Middle Harbour	Sydney Cricket Ground	1960/61
5	150	JW Wilson	St George v Western Suburbs	Hurstville Oval	1970/71
6	100*	JN Burke	Bankstown v Sydney University	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2016/17
7	133	MG MacLennan	Eastern Suburbs v Randwick Petersham	Coogee Oval	2003/04
8	102*	KL Hall	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1993/94
9	81	DJT Magee	Fairfield-Liverpool v North Sydney	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2001/02
10	71	WJ Holdsworth	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1993/94
11	42*	K Lang	Glebe v Western Suburbs	Sydney Cricket Ground	1956/57

The highest partnership in a First Grade Final is 371 which was for the 2nd wicket for Fairfield-Liverpool against Manly-Warringah between Grant Lambert and Ben Rohrer at Manly Oval in the 2005/06 Final.

The best bowling in a final was by Alan Davidson who took 8-35 for Western Suburbs v St George at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1963/64. The top ten best bowling in an innings are listed below.

8-35	AK Davidson	Western Suburbs v St George	Sydney Cricket Ground	1963/64
8-58	TA Copeland	St George v Sutherland	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2009/10
7-36	R Collins	Balmain v Northern District	Sydney Cricket Ground	1967/68
7-42	SA Abbott	Sydney University v Bankstown	Hurstville Oval	2013/14
7-43	TA Copeland	St George v Sutherland	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2012/13
7-44	C Elder	Northern District v Manly-Warringah	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1992/93
7-47	MB Pawley	Manly-Warringah v St George	Sydney Cricket Ground	1968/69
7-47	KR Francis	St George v Western Suburbs	Sydney Cricket Ground	1963/64
7-48	WJ Stack	Sydney University v Redfern	Sydney Cricket Ground No.2	1911/12
7-55	GR Robertson	Manly-Warringah v Northern District	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1992/93

Only 5 players have ever taken 10 wickets in a match in a 1st Grade final. The best being Trent Copeland with 11-94 for St George in 2009/10. Others to take 10 wickets in a match were Gary Gilmour, Sean Abbott, Chris Elder and Jack Treanor.

11-94	TA Copeland	St George v Sutherland	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2009/10
10-27	GJ Gilmour	Western Suburbs v Gordon	Chatswood Oval	1971/72
10-77	SA Abbott	Sydney University v Bankstown	Hurstville Oval	2013/14
10-79	C Elder	Northern District v Manly-Warringah	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1992/93
10-166	JC Treanor	C.Cumberland v Petersham-M'ville	Sydney Cricket Ground	1955/56
9-36	MG Phelps	Bankstown v Sydney University	Hurstville Oval	2013/14
9-92	J Phillips	Northern District v Sutherland	Waitara Oval	1966/67
9-101	AK Davidson	Western Suburbs v St George	Sydney Cricket Ground	1963/64
9-102	TA Copeland	St George v Sutherland	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2012/13
9-104	SCG MacGill	Sydney University v University of NSW	University No.1 Oval	2004/05
9-109	P Hoffman	Manly-Warringah v Northern District	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1992/93

58 players have taken at least 5 wickets in an innings in a First Grade Final. Only 6 players have taken 5 wickets in an innings or more twice in a First Grade Final. Alan Davidson in 1956/57 and 1963/64; Gary Gilmour in 1971/72 and 1972/73; Grant Lambert in 2001/02 and 2005/06; Mike Pawley in 1968/69 and 1973/74; Mitchell Phelps in 2013/14 and 2014/15; and Trent Copeland in 2009/10 and 2012/13.

Sydney University is the club which has taken the most five wickets in an innings with 7 occurrences. Next are Manly-Warringah, St George and Western Suburbs with 6 each.

Trent Copeland and Stuart MacGill lead the wicket takers in finals appearances with 26 wickets apiece. Copeland has taken 26 wickets at an average of 11.42 in 4 appearances while Stuart MacGill has taken 26 wickets at an average of 17.85 in 6 appearances. Scott Thompson is in third place with 23 wickets at an average of 21.87 in 6 matches. In equal fourth place are Wayne Holdsworth and Gary Gilmour with 19 wickets apiece. Holdsworth took his wickets at an average of 18.11 in 6 appearances while Gilmour took his at an average of 11.26 in 3 appearances.

	Mt	Wkts	Avg
TA Copeland	4	26	11.42
SCG MacGill	5	26	17.85
SM Thompson	6	23	21.87
GJ Gilmour	3	19	11.26
WJ Holdsworth	6	19	18.11
AK Davidson	3	18	12.22
GM Lambert	3	18	15.39
SK Green	4	17	12.76
MG Phelps	4	17	12.94
WA Wellham	6	17	14.59

Bob Simpson holds the record for the most catches by a fielder in first grade finals with 9 catches in four matches for Western Suburbs and Petersham-Marrickville.

Fifteen players equally share the record for the most catches in an innings by a fielder in a first grade final. The most recent addition to the list was Nic Maddinson in 2012/13.

Richard Fry (Manly-Warringah) and Tony Steele (Balmain) both share the record for the most catches in a match in a first grade final. Steele achieved the feat in 1967/68 and Fry in 1992/93.

Kevin Pillay holds the record for the most dismissals in first grade finals by a wicket keeper with 16 in 4 matches. He is followed by Shane Stanton with 11 in 2 matches.

Dennis Lynch from Northern District holds the record for the most dismissals in an innings in a first grade final with six dismissals, all caught. This was in the 1973/74 final against Manly-Warringah. Ray Tozer from St George is second on the list with five dismissals in the 1968/69 final.

Linton Ball for Sutherland holds the record for the most dismissals in a match with 7 dismissals in the 1995/96 final against Bankstown-Canterbury.

The highest team innings in a final was by Fairfield-Liverpool against Manly-Warringah who scored 553 in 2005/06 at Manly Oval. The top ten highest team innings are below:

Total	Team/Opponent	Ground	Season
553	Fairfield-Liverpool v Manly-Warringah	Manly Oval	2005/06
9d545	Bankstown-Canterbury v Parramatta	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1993/94
6d478	St George v Gordon	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2007/08
7-452	Randwick v Penrith	Howell Oval, Penrith	1979/80
6d441	Bankstown v Sydney University	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2016/17
423	Bankstown v Sydney	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2015/16
407	Sydney University v Randwick Petersham	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2012/13
402	Sutherland v North Sydney	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1997/98
393	Western Suburbs v Glebe-South Sydney	Sydney Cricket Ground	1956/57
389	St George v Western Suburbs	Hurstville Oval	1970/71

The lowest team innings in a final was by Sydney University against Bankstown who were bowled out for 37 in the 2013/14 final at Hurstville Oval. Mitchell Phelps took 6 for 9 and followed it up with 3-27 in the second innings. The Sydney University total was in response to Bankstown's innings of 82. They then dismissed Bankstown for 98 in their second innings. In reply Sydney University made 7-144 and won the match outright by 3 wickets. The top ten lowest team innings are below:

Total	Team/Opponent	Ground	Season
37	Sydney University v Bankstown	Hurstville Oval	2013/14
38	Gordon v Western Suburbs	Chatswood Oval	1971/72
67	Balmain v Western Suburbs	Pratten Park, Ashfield	1972/73
67	Western Suburbs v Balmain	Pratten Park, Ashfield	1972/73
72	Sutherland v St George	Bankstown Memorial Oval	2009/10
75	Northern District v Balmain	Sydney Cricket Ground	1967/68
77	Redfern v Sydney University	Sydney Cricket Ground No.2	1911/12
80	Sydney University v St George	Hurstville Oval	2008/09
82	Bankstown v Sydney University	Hurstville Oval	2013/14
87	Bankstown-Canterbury v North Sydney	Bankstown Memorial Oval	1994/95