

BigFooty.com

Annual 2011



Port Adelaide Power

A comprehensive review of players
from the 2011 AFL Premiership Season

[Created by fans, for fans.](#)

Please distribute this freely in its original, unaltered form.

The *BigFooty Annual* is provided free of charge by [BigFooty.com](http://www.bigfooty.com) and its contributing members from the [BigFooty Power Forum](#).

Reproduction of content within this *Annual* or distribution in any form other than this PDF is by permission only:

<http://www.bigfooty.com/forum/sendmessage.php>

Photography

Our pictures are by Peter Moschos – aka [Power Pete](#).

Updates

Keep up to date with the latest on Port Adelaide players in the [Club 1870 board](#) on [BigFooty.com](http://www.bigfooty.com).



Table of Contents

Mitchell Banner - #11.....	5
Daniel Bass - #37.....	6
Travis Boak - #10.....	7
Matthew Broadbent - #5.....	8
Dean Brogan - #20.....	9
John Butcher - #32.....	11
Alipate Carlile - #27.....	12
Domenic Cassisi - #1.....	13
Troy Chaplin - #30.....	14
Chad Cornes - #35.....	15
Kane Cornes - #18.....	16
Mitch Curnow - #48.....	17
Jason Davenport - #41.....	18
Brett Ebert - #33.....	19
Robbie Gray - #17.....	20
Hamish Hartlett - #8.....	21
Callum Hay - #45.....	22
Cameron Hitchcock - #2.....	23
Jarrad Irons - #47.....	24
Ben Jacobs - #16.....	25
Thomas Jonas - #42.....	26
Matthew Lobbe - #23.....	27
Tom Logan - #44.....	28
Danny Meyer - #31.....	29
Andrew Moore - #26.....	30
Daniel Motlop - #4.....	31
Marlon Motlop - #7.....	33
Ben Newton - #40.....	34
Cameron O'Shea - #13.....	35
Danyle Pearce - #6.....	36

Michael Pettigrew - #36.....	37
Simon Phillips - #22.....	38
Jasper Pittard - #29.....	39
Jarrad Redden - #34.....	40
David Rodan - #15.....	41
Steven Salopek - #3.....	42
Nick Salter - #19.....	43
Jay Schulz - #28.....	44
Daniel Stewart - #43.....	45
Paul Stewart - #14.....	46
Jacob Surjan - #9.....	47
Matt Thomas - #21.....	48
Jackson Trengove - #12.....	49
Daniel Webb - #46.....	51
Justin Westhoff - #39.....	52
Matthew Westhoff - #24.....	53
Aaron Young - #38.....	54
The Back Page.....	55

Mitchell Banner - #11

By [S.Patrol.G](#)

Games - 9

Goals - 11

Sub: on = 3, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 4 votes (=16th)

Dreamteam: 640 points, \$295,700 (+\$37,000)

Supercoach: 548 points, \$292,700 (-\$17,700)

Although it would be a little rich to suggest 2011 was a “break-out” year for Banner, there was certainly enough to show persistence may pay off. After a few years on the list without really impacting in the way most thought he would and constant comparisons to Premiership midfielder Roger James, Banner grasped the opportunity he was finally given after stringing together excellent performances for the Magpies in the SANFL.

The biggest step forward Mitch took in 2011 was balancing his natural attacking, ball-winning game with better defensive efforts and smarter disposal. At AFL level, Mitch showed he has an uncanny knack of being in the right spot in the forward 50, where he managed to average a sniff over 1 goal per game.

It’s not all high-fives and bum slaps just yet for Banner. There are areas of his game that need work. Pace is an issue as is a tendency to hoof the ball anywhere when under pressure. With the evolution or “re-evolution” of the game which asks midfielders to go forward and kick goals, it could just be that with hard work and commitment Banner will find himself a regular position in the Port Adelaide midfield rotation.



Daniel Bass - #37

By [The Smaller Warrior](#)

SANFL:

Games: 14

Goals: 3

Best Players: 0

SANFL Reserves:

Games: 7

Goals: 3

Best Players: 2



Drafted to Port as an International Basketball Rookie with the expectation that it will take Daniel a little longer than most to become an AFL Standard Player, the 200cm 100kg Bass continued to improve as 2011 went on.

The club saw a large improvement in 2010 from Daniel and playing 14 Games at SANFL Level in 2011 was a huge win for him, averaging 14 Hitouts and 6 Disposals and playing in a Final would have been taken any day of the week by the club at the start of 2010 and it was expected that with one further Pre-Season he could work on his struggles which mainly related to his placement around the ground.

Daniel was surprisingly delisted at the end of 2011 and is expected to either feature in this years Rookie Draft (With some Victorian Clubs showing interest) or continue playing at either South or Williamstown in the VFL.

Travis Boak - #10

By [Bresh](#)

Games – 21

Goals – 12

Sub: on = 0 off = 1

Best and Fairest - 13 votes (=1th)

Dreamteam - 1713 points; \$298,100(-\$96,000)

Supercoach - 1800 points; \$356,600 (-\$114,700)



Travis Boak ended his injury-interrupted 2010 showing lateral evasiveness in packs that is only demonstrated by the preeminent midfielders in the AFL competition. With that said, his 2011 held great promise and expectations.

If nothing else, we were given a stark insight into what a Best-and-Fairest season at a sixteenth-ranked club may in fact look like. Boak did not reach the heights expected of him in 2011, but neither did the club. Nonetheless, next to Robbie Gray, Boak was one of our more consistent players in a team bereft of the ability to compete at AFL level in 2011.

Boak frequently made the best players and was, unsurprisingly, a primary figure in our three wins for the season including 26 disposals in the triumphant early win over the Crows. He managed to get his hands on the football in big losses to Geelong (27 touches) and Collingwood (31 in Round 20), as really our only player capable of accumulating high possession counts alongside his overmatched teammates. Boak led the club disposal count with 458.

The Adelaide Oval game provided relief and promise for Port players, staff and fans who had endured an arduous season. Unquestionably, the game will be looked back on as a seminal moment for the club. As such, Travis Boak etched his name in club folklore with two goals truly from the top shelf. A monstrous torpedo punt from beyond 50 gave the team hope going into the quarter-time break; an uncanny left-footed snap in the final term gave Port the lead in a game that everyone associated with club needed so desperately. May they be replayed forever more.

Perhaps time will be kind to Travis Boak's 2011 season, where the disappointment of some heavy losses overshadowed what otherwise may have been considered some fine performances. He now has a Best-and-Fairest award, which can never be taken away. It is easily forgotten that in Boak's short career he has experienced the Port Adelaide Football Club at the top of its game. He is the player perhaps most entrusted with the club's return.

Matthew Broadbent - #5

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 19

Goals - 4

Sub: on = 1, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 2 votes (24th)

Dreamteam - 1211 points; \$187,000 (-\$64,400)

Supercoach - 1165 points; \$202,100 (-\$124,400)



Matthew became a regular in 2011, playing 19 games and commanding a midfield position for much of the year. His form was a mixed bag, playing some good consistent football in the middle part of the year, before falling away significantly in the final third of the year.

He made the best players on 6 occasions, including 4 in a row from rounds 8-11. His best game of the year came against Carlton in Round 11, picking up 18 disposals and a goal to be best on ground. He was also excellent against Fremantle in Round 9, picking up a career high 24 disposals and 8 marks in a good midfield performance.

But, Matthew seemed to tire as the year went on and it came to a point during the second half of the year where he could barely raise a gallop after ¼ time. He struggled to find the ball and ended up dropping to the SANFL twice.

Matthew has quite a lot of talent and a midfielder of his size and shape is the type that the club needs, but he absolutely needs to get his fitness up to AFL standard. If he can get himself super fit then he becomes an excellent proposition as a clearance winning midfielder.

Dean Brogan - #20

By [Bresh](#)

Games - 12

Goals - 2

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 6 votes (=13th)

Dreamteam - 808 points; \$270,900 (-\$42,400)

Supercoach - 952 points; \$364,300 (+\$28,800)



Perhaps if Dean Brogan had not been kept out of the Adelaide 36ers main rotation by some of the best players in one of the best NBL teams ever put on the court the decision to change sports may have been more difficult.

--

In the first half of the 2011 season, it seemed as Port's plight became worse, Brogan became more dogged and inspirational. In a Round 7 loss to Hawthorn, the ruckman dragged his deteriorating body across the field to amass 19 disposals and 23 hit outs. His season high 36 hit outs played a large role in the second win for the season against Richmond at Darwin's TIO Stadium.

It became clear at mid-season that 2011 would be Dean Brogan's final year. With the Power and Brogan sporting a 2-11 record and battered legs respectively, the premiership ruckman announced his retirement from football at a press conference in late June. Former teammate and coach Matthew Primus would say "He is one of our leaders and his passion and his want to make this club better is nothing short of extraordinary. He is leaving a legacy of a guy who left no stone unturned; not only for himself but for every other player to want to be better."

As soon as Brogan's retirement press conference ended, the race against time to have him fit for a farewell game before the end of the season started. While Brogan's passion and relentlessness were missed in the second half of the season, his absence also handed opportunity to Matthew Lobbe to follow in his footsteps. By the time Brogan was a confirmed starter for the Round 24 clash with Melbourne at Adelaide Oval, Lobbe had fully entrenched himself as Brogan's successor.

The historical Adelaide Oval game was classic Brogan. While the taps went slightly in favour of Melbourne, it was around the ground that Port's ruckmen played a role in the final stages of Port's Oval masterpiece. Fittingly, a trademark floating Brogan grab released a Pearce kick to hit Lobbe in the square for his first club goal, to give Port a 21-point lead that would give just enough leeway to hold on to the win.

In the weeks to follow Port's uplifting end to its worst AFL season, it became clear that Brogan's AFL story would feature an epilogue with the Greater Western Sydney Giants. With some media acrimony in the background over whether Port would release Brogan and teammate Chad Cornes

to the new franchise, the retiring ruckman's speech at the Best and Fairest left no doubt that his heart remained at Alberton.

--

Dean Brogan was once a divisive figure who assaulted doctors and opposition fans. He leaves Port having been its most unifying figure in 2011.

Dean, you made the right decision.

John Butcher - #32

By [The Smaller Warrior](#)

AFL Stats:

Games: 4

Goals: 11

Best Players: 3

Dream Team Average: 61.5, \$144,900

Supercoach Average: 65.8, \$170,000

SANFL:

Games: 10

Goals: 17

Best Players: 3



Drafted at Pick #8 back in 2009 some Port supporters may have begun to worry when Butcher was barely on the past for his entire first year on Port's list due to a Back Injury.

2011 almost began as his first year on our list and Butch had a consistent - but not groundbreaking - run in the SANFL up until Round 21 against Hawthorn where he had his first chance at AFL Level.

Though Port went down to Hawthorn (32-197) Butcher was one of the few shining lights of the game picking up 8 Disposals and his first goal at AFL Level. It was enough for Butch to finish in the Best Players which was more than any expected of John for his first game.

If the club and supporters were excited by John's first showing at AFL Level, his next two games were about to bring the club into a mass of excitement.

6 Disposals and 6 Goals against Western Bulldogs and 12 Disposals and 4 Goals against Essendon in his next two games was enough to get not only the South Australian Media - but the Eastern States media in awe. Butcher was then sought after by multiple Victorian AFL Clubs in the hope of bringing John home (He was uncontracted at the end of 2011) and the media attention was strongly in the Victorian Corner.

His forth game was Port's Final game of the year at Adelaide Oval, and though John was (for the first time at AFL Level) not on the Best on Ground List, his attacking and defensive pressure up forward was well sighted even without picking up a large number of possessions.

The year for John ended on a high - signing a new contract with the Port Adelaide Football Club. It was the clubs most important signature of the year, and John "The Future" Butcher is a Key in the rebuilding phase of the club.

In 2012 John will look to be fit for a full season and impose his name as a lock-in for Ports Best 22 with the opportunity to still receive the Rising Star Award where he should be one of the Top 10 Favorites.

Alipate Carlile - #27

By [Bresh](#)

Games – 17

Goals – 0

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 7 votes (=7th)

Dreamteam - 817 points; \$163,200(-\$63,600)

Supercoach - 1045 points; \$245,300 (-\$70,500)



Playing full back in one of the least competitive

teams in recent memory was a thankless task for Alipate Carlile in 2011. One of the more repeated football philosophies is that a backline stands no chance with their midfield being overrun. That was certainly the case for Carlile and his teammates in the defensive six; only the most astute of judges would be able to determine the level of culpability that was attributable to midfield or defence.

As it happens, Carlile would succumb to a hip injury that plagued him for the season, missing from Round 15 to 20 inclusive. While this injury no doubt helps to explain Carlile's poor season, he would surely admit personally that he was not satisfied with his performance.

Carlile's lack of form may have been perceived as disinterest from supporters, leading to a supposition the out-of-contract full back would be headed for the GWS Giants or otherwise at season's end. In what came as a slight surprise, Carlile resigned with the club along with a handful of other young Victorians in a bumper off-season for the club.

"Bob" is clearly rated highly by the coaching staff and his teammates for his onfield prowess and leadership. He, along with Travis Boak and Jackson Trengove, would go on to organise a boot camp for a select group of Port's young brigade in a show of commitment to improvement for next year. There is enough goodwill for Carlile to be given a mulligan for a poor season and reclaim his All Australian full back potential in 2012. However, with Nathan Blee drafted as a ready-made defender, Carlile will be on a slightly tighter leash than this year.

Domenic Cassisi - #1

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 13

Goals - 6

Sub: on = 0, off = 1

Best and Fairest - 3 votes (=21st)

Dreamteam: 1154 points, \$346,600 (-\$24,500)

Supercoach: 1166 points, \$392,200 (-\$85,500)



Our Captains 2011 season was largely ruined through injury sustained in Round 2 against West Coast. The leg injury kept him out for 2 months and he missed almost the entire first half of the season. He came back in Round 13 against West Coast and didn't miss another game for the rest of the year. His form when on the park was quite good – 2nd in tackles and 5th in contested possessions despite missing 9 matches shows that the quality of his inside work is well above average. In fact, his 8.8 tackles per game was 2nd across the whole league.

His best game came in the disastrous loss against Hawthorn in Round 21, whilst he also picked up 26 disposals and a goal against Melbourne in Round 17. But, overall it was a year to forget for Dom as he had to spend much of the year watching the side falter on the sidelines.

2012 will hopefully see our Captain fit and firing. No doubt a 20+ game season from Dom in 2012 will see our midfield a more determined and cohesive unit.

Troy Chaplin - #30

By [FishingRick04](#)

DOB – 23/02/1986

Games – 21 2011 (season), 121 total

Goals – 1 (2011), 10 total

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest – PAFC 7 votes = 7th, Big Footy 109 pts 5th

Dreamteam – 61 ave points; \$206,700 (-101,200)

Supercoach – 81.4 points; \$303,100 (-\$)127,000



Troy Chaplin is a player who has a lot of expectation to rise to the next level but is yet to make that stride. A significant amount of Port faithful believe Troy is soft into a contest and this causes frustrations from supporters. Reasons for this could be Port like to get Troy free so play him on smaller opponents, some believe his hit on Daniel Rich in a previous season caused Troy to adjust his game.

Troy is held in high regard at the club and the last two years has polled well in the best and fairest. As with the whole team, expectations were high for Troy after previous seasons. But the weight of numbers coming into the forward line took its toll. A Port Adelaide defender in the 2011 season would have been a difficult job. Troy had some memorable games however making the best players regularly in the early season. His stand out games were round 4, 7 and 14, but end of season couldn't come fast enough for Troy.

As football followers we all hold out hope next year will be better and this is no different for Troy. Some added strength to his game with consistency will have people taking notice again. The type of game Troy plays will be symbolic of our side. If the midfield plays more accountable footy the backline will look more cohesive. Brad Gotch coming to Port will provide added experience which could be ideal for Troy and Ports backline as a whole. This could also lead to a different role. Personally I would enjoy seeing Troy taking on the tall defenders consistently and be able to show us he has the strength plus the guile to take on the best and be the best.

Chad Cornes - #35

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 9

Goals - 10

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 4 votes (=16th)

Dreamteam - 601 points; \$264,000 (+\$3,000)

Supercoach - 628 points; \$324,600 (-\$55,000)

2011 was Chads last year at the Port Adelaide Football Club. He played just the 9 games for the year, spent significant time in the SANFL and announced his “retirement” during the year. He played his last game in the loss against Collingwood in Round 20.

After a big pre season, Chad was left out of the side for Round 1, but came straight in for Round 2 against West Coast. He picked up 5 marks and 2 goals in a good display up forward. He followed that up with a near best on ground effort against Geelong with 8 big arks and a goal. His form after the Geelong game tapered off and he was dropped after the North Melbourne game in Round 6.

He played 6 games at SANFL level mid year before coming back into the Power line up for the Saints game in Round 16. He was best on ground against Melbourne in Round 17 with 17 touches and 3 goals, and was good – as usual – in the Showdown with 8 marks and 2 goals.

Chad retired the next week after the Collingwood match, ending a fantastic career at our club. At his best he was one of the best and most versatile players in the competition, capable of playing in any position on the ground with class. It looks likely that Chad will spend his retirement at GWS and no doubt everyone at the club wishes him the best.



Kane Cornes - #18

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 17

Goals - 1

Sub: on = 1 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 4 votes (=16th)

Dreamteam - 1,344 points; \$267,300(-\$151,000)

Supercoach - 1,272 points; \$277,500 (-\$219,300)



Kane Cornes is a name that will sit comfortably in the top echelon of players to play for the Port Adelaide Football Club. Double All Australian, 3 time Best and Fairest, Premiership Player. He has been one of the clubs most consistent players for nearly a decade. But, things didn't go to plan for Kane in 2011. He looked lost after being told he had to perform a new role in the side and was dropped for the first time since 2002.

Kane ended up playing three matches at SANFL level for Glenelg and it was the first time Kane had finished outside the top 3 in the best and fairest for the first time in 8 seasons. A multiple winner of this award, Kane finished a lowly 17th in 2011.

Kane was dropped for the first time after the Geelong loss in Round 3, listed only as an emergency for the Showdown in Round 4, and playing for WWT Eagles reserves in Round 5. He came back into the AFL side in Round 6 where he stayed until the final month of the season.

His best game came against Fremantle in Round 9, picking up 21 disposals and a goal, whilst his effort in Round 10 against Richmond brought back the best of Kane. He made the best players in 9 out of 11 matches before being dropped after the Hawthorn match where he was thrashed by Sam Mitchell. He spent the last three weeks playing in the SANFL, averaging over 30 disposals a game but again struggling for impact.

Kane at his best is as good a player as Port Adelaide has had, but its been a sharp decline for Kane in 2011. Kane has been told he needs to reinvent himself and so far he has notably added some muscle to his frame in the off season. Kane can still be a very important player for Port Adelaide.

Mitch Curnow - #48

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Under 18s Stats:

Games: 7

Goals: 6

Best Players: 3

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 10

Goals: 0



With the clubs ruck stocks looking thin, Port Adelaide decided to use up a rookie pick on a project ruckman. Mitch Curnow was the player, a 201cm agile ruckman with fine skills and good tapping ability.

A very young, raw ruckman, he spent 2011 switching between the Sturt Reserves and Sturts Under 18s side. He played the first 9 matches of the year at Reserves level. A couple of quiet weeks saw the club ask that he be pushed down to the Under 18s to continue his development. He played well at Under 18 level, making the best players in 3 matches and kicking 6 goals in his 7 matches.

He was promoted back to the reserves in Round 16 before missing 5 weeks with injury. He returned back through the Under 18s where he played in Sturts losing Elimination Final team.

Mitch deserves the time to develop his body as his raw ruckwork is quite impressive. Agile around the ground and capable of directing taps to his midfielders, A big pre season in the gym should see Mitch start to get his body capable of playing at a consistent level in the SANFL reserves and to start pushing for senior selection.

Jason Davenport - #41

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 4

Goals - 4

Sub: on = 3, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 1 vote (=28th)

Dreamteam: 107 points, \$207,900(-\$92,600)

Supercoach: 102 points, \$242,100 (-\$131,200)



After such a good 2010 season, where he became a regular contributor and goalkicker across the forward line, Jason went backwards at a fast rate of knots in 2011, struggling to get a game and failing to push hard for selection at SANFL level. His form was poor in the SANFL throughout the year, with consistency of performance his main issue.

His first game of the year was coming on as sub against his bunny team West Coast. He kicked 3 goals in the third quarter in one of the best sub performances of the year. But that was the only shining light in his year. He struggled against both Geelong and Gold Coast and only played the one AFL game after Round 5. His SANFL form was a mixed bag, ranging from the good (21 disposals, 2 goals in Round 11) to the poor and disinterested. He was a late inclusion into the side against Collingwood but managed just the 2 disposals).

Unfortunately for Jason, his lack of form this season led to him being delisted with the second wave of delistees at the end of the season. He will be most remembered for his love of playing West Coast and his 4 goal match winning last quarter against them in Round 2 last season.

Brett Ebert - #33

By [FishingRick04](#)

DOB – 18/11/1983

Games – 12 2011 (season), 150 total

Goals – 11 (2011), 217 total

Sub: on = 0 off = 1

Best and Fairest – PAFC 3 votes = 21st, Big Footy 18 pts = 26th

Dreamteam – 66.2 points; \$217,700 (-\$50,400)

Supercoach – 65.3 points; \$258,600 (-\$71,800)



Brett was struck down in the offseason with a knee injury and followed teammate David Rodan with the LARS surgery. Any football follower knows injuries in off season lead to slow form in the actual season, compounded with a knee injury it was always going to be a super effort to get going by mid season for Brett.

Expectation is always high for Brett, being the son of a gun, supporters always hold out hope that Brett would be moved into the midfield as some view Brett as a liability in the forward line. His mobility isn't fantastic, knee injuries wouldn't help and for 179cms he plays very tall, people view him as a tall forward in a small man's body, which structurally is viewed to throw our forward line out. Adding to Brett's midfield lure is the fact he won a Magarey medal in the midfield with the magpies. Brett's physical strength, strong hands and short burst speed are all factors leading to a role in there.

Brett's stand out game was clearly round 21 when he collected 21 disposals and kicking 3 goals helping Port attain the win back at Adelaide Oval and avoiding the wooden spoon. Otherwise he was in and out of the Port side throughout the year. Clearly his knee injury had an impact in his 2011 season.

Where to for Brett in 2012? This is an interesting question. Brett's best is good enough to demand a very good defender and would worry an oppositions coaching box. But is there enough? Are Port supporter's feelings about his limitations as a forward justified? Personally I think it could be a tough 2012 for Brett. He may get an opportunity early but with youth the flavor at Port, will he be able to produce enough to keep these young boys out? Will Brett at 28 be able to change his game enough to deserve more midfield time? New coaches Rehn and Carr could be a savior to Brett giving him a role no one has trusted him with before.

Robbie Gray - #17

By [P.A.F.C](#)

Games - 22

Goals - 32

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 9 votes (=4th)

Dreamteam - 1,344 points; \$341,500(+\$59,100)

Supercoach - 1,272 points; \$410,100 (+\$41,200)



To Port fans, merely playing 22 games was the most promising aspect of Gray's season. Having been constantly hampered with minor soft tissue injuries since arriving at the club in 2007, Gray and the Power's fitness staff got the balance right in 2011. The outcome was a true sign of the potential that the forward cum-midfielder possesses. In a year to forget for Port Adelaide, Gray led the club in goals, brownlow votes, contested possessions and goal assists. For someone often considered as a flashy player, this shows the improved work ethic that Gray has amassed during his time at the club.

The disappointing aspect of Gray's season was his lower than expected time in the midfield. Gray has shown he is capable of playing both as an inside midfielder and a small all round forward, however, many supporters have been hoping he would skew more towards a midfielder as he developed. Perhaps because of the fitness concerns mentioned earlier, Gray often found himself stationed at full forward, often being marked by genuine full backs and classy defenders. Midfield time generally came in short bursts, which gave Port fans the taste of his true potential as a premium midfielder.

Gray's highlights included an important 4 goal haul in a rare win against Richmond, in a match where goals were very hard to come by in the tough Darwin conditions. To better this, Gray's 6 goal haul against Essendon in round 21 nearly contributed to a massive upset, and led to the maximum three Brownlow votes. Power fans will hope Gray plays another 22 games in 2012, with midfield time increasing as his fitness improves.

Hamish Hartlett - #8

By [Jonts](#)

Games - 16

Goals - 8

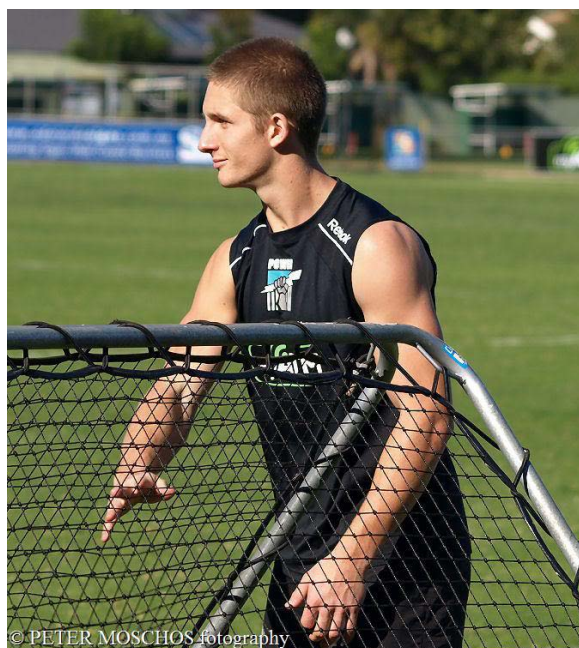
Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest – 7 votes (7th)

Dreamteam - 1410 points; \$343,000 (+80,600\$)

Supercoach – 1475 points; \$421,000 (+123,200\$)

Taken at pick four, Port Adelaide's highest ever, Hamish has struggled to find himself injury free after an impressive debut year in 2009. In previous seasons he has shown Port fans glimpses of why he could become a potential superstar often getting compared to Nathan Buckley. Before 2011 he was yet to reach 20 games.



He entered 2011 after taking a hamstring “hole” procedure and was always going to get going after doing another injury interrupted pre-season, this mean that Hamish first game for 2011 had to wait until round 3. The expectations on Hamish were to show once again why he was a high pick and to start taking the game on a bit more. Hamish this year took his midfield game to a whole new level, showing how he could become a potential midfield jet with two best on ground efforts (picking up 22 touches 7marks and 32 touches, 7 marks and a goal respectively). He then stagnated for a few weeks with the extra attention before injuring his shoulder in round 14 against North Melbourne. He then played out the remainder of his season (before round 22).

The expectations on Hamish for 2012 are that he has another year in his development to becoming a possible elite midfielder. If he can remain injury free you would expect him to play all 22 games in the 2012 season and to start rising in Port Adelaide's B and F. Early preseason reports are that his fitness has not been interrupted by his should injury and he has a midfielder's body on him, let's hope for his sake and for Port Adelaide's that Hamish Hartlett has an injury free 2012

Callum Hay - #45

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 9

Goals: 2

Best Players: 1

19 year old Callum Hay was drafted with the clubs second round pick in the 2010 Rookie Draft. The back flank cum midfielder impressed throughout 2010 in North Adelaide's reserves, making the best players in 6 of his last 10 matches. He was invited out to pre season training where his movement and delivery of the ball impressed enough to be drafted. 2011 however didn't go as planned for Callum, missing 12 weeks with injury which seriously dented his chance to impact and develop.

He played the second match of the tri-series pre season match against Adelaide, playing in a back pocket and collecting a couple of disposals. He played the first three matches in North Adelaide's reserves before succumbing to the hamstring injury which would keep him out for 3 months.

Callum came back and played 6 more matches to finish the season, making the best players once in Round 22 after picking up 27 disposals and 4 marks. He ended the year playing 9 matches with an average of 14 disposals and 3 marks a game. He ended with an elite disposal efficiency of 84%.

A popular member during his season at the club, Callum was delisted at the end of the season.



Cameron Hitchcock - #2

By [P.A.F.C](#)

Games - 13

Goals - 9

Sub: on = 3, off = 1

Best and Fairest - 2 votes (24th)

Dreamteam: 303 points, \$205,900(-\$14,900)

Supercoach: 365 points, \$219,000 (-\$22,600)



After a promising debut year off the Rookie list in '10, Cameron struggled to recapture his form that had Port fans excited. With a similar build to his first year at the club, he failed to improve and with the club moving backwards on the field, found it difficult playing up forward in a team that could not win the midfield battles. Instead, he was forced to move further up the ground to get his possessions. To make matters worse, his goal sense seemed to desert him, as he missed a number of relatively easy shots on goal, a cardinal sin for the sneak forward.

However, the second half of the year showed a real improvement. After being dropped to the SANFL, he became arguably the best Power performer in the SANFL, kicking a number of bags of goals in a Glenelg side that was capitulating. His form then transferred well into the AFL, and he started to show more glimpses of skill and flair. But his body still continued to be a concern. He was schooled by Leon Davis in Round 20, in a nightmare game which showed he is not the type of player you kick long to.

Cameron needs to bulk up in 2012 if he is any chance of becoming a consistent AFL performer. Being physically ready is the key; when up and about, his creativity and dare is valued very highly.

Jarrad Irons - #47

By [gopower](#)

Games - 3

Goals - 3

Sub - on = 0, off = 1

Dream Team: 143 points, \$108,500 (+\$28,100)

Supercoach: 130 points, \$118,900 (+\$27,200)



Jarrad was taken as a smokey at pick 50 in the rookie draft, and exceeded all expectations in the early part of 2011. He impressed in the pre-season with his good skills, his goal-sense and his very impressive agility, awareness and evasiveness for such a young player. Jarrad's pre-season was so impressive that he was elevated from the rookie list and selected for his first AFL game against Collingwood in round 1.

Jarrad's impressive pre-season form was replicated in his debut match, with 13 disposals and 2.2 on debut against the reigning premiers. Unfortunately it was all downhill from there, as he only had two more mostly ineffectual games at AFL level before being dropped to the SANFL. Jarrad then struggled to make an impact even at SANFL level, eventually being dropped to the reserves. He then severely injured his shoulder, requiring a reconstruction that had him out of action for the rest of the season.

Port supporters have been burnt before by rookie-listed small forwards who begin their first pre-season with a bang but quickly fade out in the real stuff. Everyone involved at the club will be hoping that Jarrad can buck the trend in 2012 and return to the form that once had him looking like an inspired selection at pick 50 in the rookie draft.

Ben Jacobs - #16

By [P.A.F.C](#)

Games - 12

Goals - 2

Sub: on = 1, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 0 votes

Dreamteam: 303 points, \$215,800 (+\$115,300)

Supercoach: 365 points, \$260,700 (+\$147,100)



Ben had a baptism of fire in his first AFL season. The Power's first pick in the 2010 draft, Jacobs was likened to Luke Hodge. With a booming left foot and assured overhead, there were high hopes for his first year as a Power player. However, he was struck down with glandular fever in the middle of an otherwise impressive pre season. Once he recovered, he quickly showed his credentials as a ball magnet in the SANFL, before debuting for the Power in round 8.

Jacobs primarily played off the half back, a difficult task, considering he only played in a winning team in one of his 12 games. Still lightly built, coping with the fast paced nature of the AFL proved challenging. In such a difficult environment, Jacobs often frustrated Power fans with his hit and miss disposal, as well as a tendency to be slow to dispose of the football. However, positive signs were seen and his ability to get the football transferred well to the AFL.

Power fans will look forward to a full pre season from Ben. Gaining body strength and game time will help him mature into someone more capable of playing AFL week to week.

Thomas Jonas - #42

By [gopower](#)

Games - 4

Goals - 0

Sub: on = 1, off = 0

Dreamteam: 111 points, \$101,600 (+\$1,200)

Supercoach: 136 points, \$124,500 (+12,800)



Jonas was Port's first pick in the rookie draft, and as an older draftee there was probably some expectation that he challenge for a spot in the 22. Jonas met that expectation with strong form for Norwood in the SANFL early in the year. He seemed set to break into the struggling Port side mid-season, but unfortunately suffered an injury which set that back a couple of months.

Only a couple of weeks after his return from injury through the SANFL, Jonas eventually made his AFL debut in Round 21, which was one of the darkest days in PAFC history as they suffered their biggest ever loss in an 165-point demolition by the Hawks. Jonas was one of very few shining lights on the day, playing a shutdown role on Hawks star Luke Hodge and significantly restricting his influence. He did the same to Ryan Griffen the next week, before playing a role deeper in defence in the remaining two rounds. Jonas performed well in this role too, sticking to his man well and showing defensive aptitude in one-on-one contests.

While he will never be a star, Jonas showed that he has the ability to play a role as both a tagger or a small/medium defender. With former locks for Port's best 22 in Kane Cornes (tagger) and Jacob Surjan (small defender) struggling in 2011, Jonas may be looking to take one of their positions and making it his own in 2012. He was not elevated from the rookie list, which will hinder his chances of doing so, but if he can continue to improve at the rate that he did in 2011 he may have a long future in the Port Adelaide side.

Matthew Lobbe - #23

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 10

Goals - 1

Sub: on = 0, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 4 votes (=16th)

Dreamteam: 722 points, \$256,500 (+\$130,500)

Supercoach: 754 points, \$295,800 (+99,500)



I hope Matt Lobbe shook Dean Brogans hand before he left Port Adelaide. His injury arguably saved Lobbe's career. It gave Matt the opportunity to prove his worth at AFL level and he's gone from heading towards a disappointing season to showing he may have what it takes to lead the ruck outfit into the future.

But it wasn't all smooth sailing throughout 2011 for Matt. He struggled for form at SANFL and was dropped to the reserves twice during the year. With West Adelaide choosing non-AFL players to lead their ruck, Matt was resigned to spending too much time on the bench and trying to get a kick up forward. But, once he got his chance at AFL level in Round 14, he took it with both hands and never looked back.

He made the best players in 8 out of his 10 matches at AFL level and impressed with his attack on the ball and improved work around the ground. He impressed most against Brisbane in Round 15, picking up 19 disposals and 22 hitouts and also against the Bulldogs in Round 22, beating another young Ruck in Jordan Roughead with 35 hitouts.

How Matthews career pans out is really up to him now. The first ruck is there for the taking with Brogan leaving, so Matt will get every chance to lay claim to that position over the pre season. He showed a good base to work from this year, but will need to improve his core strength and body positioning at stoppages to really step up to being a dependable first ruck.

Tom Logan - #44

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 19

Goals - 2

Sub: on = 0, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 10 votes (3rd)

Dreamteam: 1,178 points, \$218,200 (-\$79,400)

Supercoach: 1,177 points, \$252,200 (-\$134,400)



Tom had his best and most consistent season at AFL level in 2011. He became an important part of the clubs defence, playing 19 games and missing three matches with injury late in the year. His start to the year was very good, rating high in the best players in the first three matches. He played well on players like Krakouer, Blair and Stokes in the early rounds and had a good Showdown as well. He was awful against Gold Coast but came back well with a strong effort against Hawthorn and Sydney, where he was rated high in the best after shutting out the dangerous Ben Mcglynn.

He shut down Nicoski in Round 13 and performed well on Milne in Round 16. His end to the year wasn't great, missing three matches with a Plantar Fascia injury, whilst struggling to impact in the final rounds, but overall, Tom had a successful year, taking over Surjans mantle as number 1 small defender and doing the job diligently.

With his guts and almost careless attack on the ball, Tom is quite a popular player amongst the supporter base. There is no reason why Tom won't continue to perform well throughout 2012.

Danny Meyer - #31

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Reserves:

Games: 6

Goals: 4

SANFL Stats:

Games: 3

Goals: 1



Danny was a former first round draft pick picked up originally by Richmond. He made his way a number of years later to Port Adelaide via the rookie draft, where he spent two years in 2009 and 2010. After some solid form throughout those two years, Danny was promoted full time to the senior list at the end of 2010, after playing every game under Matthew Primus in the second half of the season.

Unfortunately though, things didn't go to plan in 2011. He injured his neck during the first round playing for Glenelg and missed three weeks. He came back four weeks later and spent 5 weeks in the reserves before being added to Glenelg's senior side in Round 11. He played two more games, before being dropped and then missed the last 10 weeks of the season with groin issues.

Unfortunately for Danny, he retired at the end of the season citing persistent injury issues and other interests. We wish Danny the best of luck in his future endeavours

Andrew Moore - #26

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 6

Goals - 2

Sub: on = 3 off = 1

Best and Fairest - 0 votes

Dreamteam - 186 points; \$128,000 (-\$44,000)

Supercoach - 200 points; \$146,900 (-\$24,800)



Andrew played only the 8 games outside of SANFL reserves level in 2011, a disappointing return compared to expectations at the start of the year. After a bit of an injury riddled pre season, Andrew played the first four matches of the season at reserves level. He was promoted to Port Adelaides side after his 25 disposal, 4 goal effort in the reserves in Round 6.

He played 4 AFL games in a row, with his best being against Fremantle in Round 9, picking up 14 disposals and a goal. He was dropped after the Round 11 match against Carlton, where he picked up just the 4 disposals. He played two more AFL games for the rest of the year, impressing in a purple catch against Brisbane before being subbed off.

Andrew was a high draft pick but as said hasn't seemed to discover where he feels most comfortable at AFL level. 2012 will be an important year for Andrews future. He and the club will need to work out where he best fits – whether that's as a shutdown defender, a marking mid sized forward or as a midfielder.

Daniel Motlop - #4

By [gopower](#)

Expectations were low for Daniel Motlop after a horror 2010, and deservedly so. He was unfit, lazy, petulant, selfish and mired in off-field troubles on more than one occasion. After being considered worthy of a 2 year contract on significant money at the end of 2009, Port shopped him around at the end of 2010 and found that nobody was interested. Given that, it was little surprise that he was left out of the side in Round 1.



Somewhat surprisingly at the time, his absence was short-lived. He initially repaid the faith with 4 goals against the GC and 4 goals against North Melbourne in a one-man show in the forward line, often beating 2 or 3 North defenders to put a goal away on a day where he was clearly Port's best player. Unfortunately that game was the last time Motlop would kick a bag at AFL level. He struggled for form playing deep forward, and was eventually moved further up the ground to half forward and eventually half back in an effort to find a spot for him, but could not convince Primus that he was worth a spot in the side and was sent back to the SANFL after Round 13.

Motlop was brought back into the side for the last three games of the year, playing an attacking half-back/wing role. He was adequate against the Bulldogs, but it was against Essendon and Melbourne where he really shined, trying to push the ball forward at all costs in a side that was plagued by stagnant movement out of defence all year. His style of play arguably had a ripple effect on the rest of the team, who played far more direct, attacking football in the final two games, only missing out on snatching a win against Essendon due to extremely dubious umpiring and then finally avoiding the wooden spoon at the last possible moment against Melbourne in the first AFL game at Adelaide Oval, which turned about to be Motlop's last game for the club.

His game against Melbourne summed up everything that made Motlop such an enigma during his time at Port Adelaide. He was arguably the best player on the ground in the first 3 quarters, showing off his sublime skills and attempting things that few others would attempt. However, he nearly undid all of his good work in the first quarter by having a kick smothered by Tapscott, allowing the Demons to kick ahead. Luckily for Motlop and Port Adelaide, the team fought back and re-took the lead, partly due to Motlop showing some of the brilliance late in the game with a neat sidestep in congestion and a perfect pass to the lead of Travis Boak, allowing Travis to put Port further into the lead. This game was a snapshot of the type of player Motlop was, he'll give you the good and bad, but (at least until 2010) the good usually outweighed the bad. In his final game for Port, his good (23 touches, 1 goal, line-breaking ability, excellent ball use) played a big part in helping Port avoid their first AFL spoon.

Daniel was delisted at the end of the 2011 season, which seems harsh given his significantly improved form throughout the season. It is said that perception often takes a year to catch up with reality in football, and that may be what cost Motlop his career at Port Adelaide. Hopefully another club sees past that and gives him another chance, because it would be a shame for the AFL to lose such a talented player when he still has a couple of years of football left in him.

Marlon Motlop - #7

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 10

Goals: 6

SANFL Stats:

Games: 5

Goals: 1



Marlon was one of the real disappointments of 2011, struggling with his football which culminated in his delisting at the end of the year. After a strong pre season which saw him get fit he was given every chance during the pre season matches to win a spot in the AFL lineup. Unfortunately, whilst plenty of game time, Marlon struggled to find the football and therefore struggled to impact.

He started the season in the SANFL for North Adelaide but after a poor, 3 disposal performance in Round 2, Marlon sought a change of scenery and was able to move to West Adelaide.

Despite very good reserves form, making the best players in 8 out of 10 matches, Marlon just could not find the football in his 3 league games at the Bloods. His inability to win the football (just 41 disposals in 5 matches) at league level for the year put his spot on the list in jeopardy.

He finished the season with a finger injury and was delisted at the end of the season. After 4 years on Port Adelaide's list, consistency and output had regularly been cause for concern over Marlon's game and it cost him a spot on the list.

Ben Newton - #40

By [Jonts](#)

Games - 0

Goals - 0

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest – 0 votes (equal last)

Dreamteam - 0 points; \$92,500 (+0\$)

Supercoach – 0 points; \$103,600 (+0\$)



Picked up with pick 35 (a pick that port gained through the Krakouer compensation trade) the silky skills left footer has been hampered with a hip injury in his debut year.

Ben was drafted for his contested ball winning ability, speed strong marking and skills by hand and foot. But Port Adelaide supporters have only seen a glimpse of what he is capable of only playing 5 games with West Adelaide averaging 17.2 disposals at 75.6% efficiency with only two goals to his name. Also had a quite U18's carnival as he has had his appendix but still managed 20.5 disposals for South Fremantle in 2010.

Watch for him to have a bigger impact as he pushes for a debut in 2012, the key will be staying fit enough to do so.

Cameron O'Shea - #13

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 18

Goals - 4

Sub: on = 0, off = 2

Best and Fairest - 5 votes (=15th)

Dreamteam: 984 points, \$195,700 (+\$103,200)

Supercoach: 986 points, \$213,500 (+\$109,900)



Cam had a surprisingly good season in 2011, playing 18 games at AFL level and becoming a rare player in not having played at SANFL level during his debut season. The Powers 4th and final pick in the 2010 draft, Cam impressed early with his high fitness level and end to end running throughout the pre season. He was rewarded with his debut AFL game in Round 1 against Collingwood.

His early season games were a bit shaky, playing the role of dropping back in the hole in defence. But after Round 3 he started to come into his own and with a move further up the field onto a wing he began to impact the game in a more positive fashion. He was strong against the Crows in Round 4 and was one of the clubs best players the following week against Gold Coast.

Cameron's best game however came against St Kilda in Round 16 when he was given the task of running with Brendon Goddard. He performed admirably in his role and was given some other big tagging jobs throughout the year. Some he succeeded in, others he struggled, but you could never doubt his commitment to the contest nor his willingness to learn.

There are parts of Camerons game that he must continue to work on if he is to become a consistent AFL player. His decision making and foot skills can be shaky at times. If he can get these up to a very good level then there is every possibility that Cameron can become one of the clubs most consistent and versatile players heading into the future.

Danyle Pearce - #6

By [gopower](#)

Games: 19

Goals: 5

Sub: On = N/A, Off = Round 9

DT: 1,405 points/73.9 average points, \$298,100

SC: 1,442 points/75.9 average points, \$353,300



Danyle Pearce has always been criticised for being inconsistent and not being able to break a tag. Up until Round 9 of this year, the critics were right. From that point on, Danyle was in career best form and began finally proving his critics wrong.

Danyle's form was mediocre up until Round 9, and included a brief stint in the SANFL between Rounds 3 and 6. His game in Round 9 against the Dockers, however, was possibly the worst game he's played at AFL level. He had only 6 touches, gave away two 50 metre penalties and was subbed off at half time.

For a much-maligned player, games like that can end a career if club and player don't respond to them in the right way, or it can be a turning point if they do. Luckily for Pearce and Port Adelaide, Primus continued to show faith in Pearce by picking him the next week, and Pearce repaid the faith by contributing to Port's second win of the season with 20 touches and a season high 10 inside 50's against Richmond. From that point on he looked a different player. Danyle's usually reliable left foot, which had deserted him in the early rounds, was back. He finally got some consistency in his game, not falling below 18 disposals for the rest of the year.

He fought criticisms of his inability to break tags and status as a 'downhill skier' by keeping this form up for an extended period in a side that only won one game for the rest of the year, breaking the tags of players like Dennis Armfield, Brent Reilly and Nathan Jones, as well as playing a defensive role himself and doing a good job of it on players like Brett Deledio and Daniel Wells.

Pearce was also tried at half back later in the year. Along with Daniel Motlop, Pearce's attacking play out of the back half made a big difference to the often stagnant Port Adelaide side, and his performance against Melbourne in Round 24, in which he was excellent offensively and good defensively, played a big part in avoiding the spoon. It remains to be seen whether this experiment will continue next year, but whether it does or not, in the latter half of the year Danyle showed that he can be a consistent contributor as an attacking winger or as a rebounding half-back. His continued improvement in whichever of these roles he is played in next year will be crucial to Port Adelaide's hopes of rising back up the ladder.

Michael Pettigrew - #36

By [Bresh](#)

Games - 12

Goals - 0

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest - 4 votes (=16th)

Dreamteam - 558 points; \$1591600(+\$34,500)

Supercoach - 629 points; \$200,800 (+\$11,000)



Michael Pettigrew's best form since the 2007 season came in the SANFL in 2010. He seemed to have found his niche with West Adelaide playing the mobile forward role that he always seemed best equipped to play. Unfortunately, injury cruelled what seemed to be a mid-career rejuvenation before he could be recalled to the Power side.

With that in mind, Pettigrew was always going to face an uphill battle to retain his position on the list in 2011. With key position players having over taken him at either end of the ground, Pettigrew's role was ultimately a 'bits and pieces' one, managing 12 games for the year.

Pettigrew's most prolific game, in what would prove to be his last season, saw him collect 19 possessions against Sydney. Towards the end of the season with injuries to key defenders he was given the unforgiving task of manning some powerful forwards of the best teams in the competition.

Michael Pettigrew retired from AFL football at the end of the season after managing 103 games with the Port Adelaide Football Club. His career will ultimately be remembered for a series of key moments – bursting onto the scene in 2004 in the first two rounds of Port's premiership season, the key role in Port's 2005 elimination final win over the Kangaroos, dead-eye kicking in the final stages of a 2006 game to lead us to victory over the Bulldogs in Darwin and a moment of madness in the disastrous 2007 Grand Final.

Pettigrew's best football would mean that his career may look like potential unfulfilled, but with over 100 games and some of the aforementioned highlights, it can comfortably be said that he performed beyond the expectations of a #46 draft pick.

Simon Phillips - #22

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 8

Goals - 7

Sub: on = 1, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 2 vote (=24th)

Dreamteam: 463 points, \$211,200 (+\$113,600)

Supercoach: 472 points, \$244,600 (+\$134,400)



After a couple of strong seasons with Norwood in the SANFL, Simon was picked up by Port Adelaide in a trade after he was pre-listed with the Gold Coast Suns. Simon had experienced AFL football with Sydney a few years earlier and had impressed in the SANFL with his pace and goal sense.

After breaking his jaw in the SANFL GF, Simon missed much of the pre season and played his first game for the year in Round 4. He kicked 3 goals and made the best players for Norwood. He played one more SANFL game before coming into the Power lineup as sub against Hawthorn in Round 7. He slowly found his niche and he started to become an important link between the midfield and forward line with his pace and ability to find space.

Simon played 8 games for the year, kicking 7 goals and averaging just under 12 disposals a game. He busted his shoulder in the game against Brisbane at the Gabba in Round 15 and missed the rest of the season after having a shoulder reconstruction. Simon adds another dimension to the forward line with his pace and ability in front of goal, but what he must do is improve his decision making and become cleaner with the ball. Too often he would find space only to fumble and give up the ball. If he is to make it at AFL level, this must improve. If it can, then he could become a very valuable addition to the line up.

Jasper Pittard - #29

By [The Smaller Warrior](#)

Games: 13

Goals: 2

Best Players: 6

Dream Team Average: 55.8, \$171,600

Supercoach Average: 61.6, \$207,400

Jasper was another one of our "Key Three" Picks of 2009 (Along side Butcher and Moore) and has his chance this year with his debut in Round 1 of 2011.

He had a strong showing for the first half of the year, playing 7 Games Straight and finishing in the Best in 5 of those games. He was also nominated in Round 4 against Adelaide for the Rising Star after his 25 Possession game (which followed the previous weeks 28 Disposal game against Geelong.)

Throughout the middle of the season he was consistently reaching the high teens in the Disposal count, but unfortunately for Pittard injury plagued the second half of his season and he was only sighted for 2 Quarters after Round 14 (Injured in the first quarter against both North Melbourne and Collingwood.)

Jasper continues to grow from the small bodied player we picked up in 2009 and from pre-season news so far this season is looking like he is ready to continue to grow into the player Port require from him. A move up in the midfield looks set in the next few years, and if he can work on his decision making and disposal he will show everything we can see from his potential.



Jarrad Redden - #34

By [S.Patrol.G](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 3

Goals: 3

SANFL Stats:

Games: 12

Goals: 3



“Big Red” is a player that us supporters are waiting to see arrive on the scene. Unfortunately, injury hampered much of 2011, but a strong finish to the year with more consistent performances and greater influence around the ground in conjunction with smart ruck work leaves much to be excited about. Redden finished the season as a part of an SANFL premiership team and ably supported arguably the best ruckman in the SANFL.

2012 could well be the make or break for Redden. The club has been open in saying Redden is a project, but the casual observer would suggest that a good to excellent season in the SANFL is required to quiet the doubting voices. Redden should aim to take 1st rucking duties at WWT and be ready for a call-up to the big league if required.

Redden is a big man with talent to burn. He’s a hunter of the footy around the packs. If he can add some pack-breaking ability and hit 2012 fit and firing, the football department at Port Adelaide and supporters will, perhaps, rest a little more easily when perusing the Ruck options.

David Rodan - #15

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 16

Goals - 11

Sub: on = 3, off = 3

Best and Fairest: 7 votes (=7th)

Dreamteam: 980 points, \$215,800 (-\$79,700)

Supercoach: 1176 points, \$284,700 (-\$122,800)



After having another knee reconstruction in the off season, David had a solid year playing 16 matches and making the best players 9 times. David had a strong start to the season, making the best players in three of the first four matches, including a match changing 14 disposal, 4 goal effort against Adelaide in Round 4. He had another good game in the middle against Hawthorn in Round 7 before injuring his knee in a tackle and missing 3 weeks.

After kicking 6 goals for Norwood in the SANFL in Round 12, he was back in the side for the Round 14 match against North Melbourne, kicking 2 goals from 18 disposals. His form for the rest of the year was solid, often being the sub and having one standout performance in Round 23 against Essendon. He picked up 27 disposals and 5 marks and had a number of key clearances.

With a bit more luck, David will hopefully have an injury free pre season, which will give him every chance to get back to his excellent best.

Steven Salopek - #3

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 16

Goals - 11

Sub: on = 3, off = 3

Best and Fairest: 7 votes (=7th)

Dreamteam: 980 points, \$215,800 (-\$79,700)

Supercoach: 1176 points, \$284,700 (-\$122,800)



After having another knee reconstruction in the off season, David had a solid year playing 16 matches and making the best players 9 times. David had a strong start to the season, making the best players in three of the first four matches, including a match changing 14 disposal, 4 goal effort against Adelaide in Round 4. He had another good game in the middle against Hawthorn in Round 7 before injuring his knee in a tackle and missing 3 weeks.

After kicking 6 goals for Norwood in the SANFL in Round 12, he was back in the side for the Round 14 match against North Melbourne, kicking 2 goals from 18 disposals. His form for the rest of the year was solid, often being the sub and having one standout performance in Round 23 against Essendon. He picked up 27 disposals and 5 marks and had a number of key clearances.

With a bit more luck, David will hopefully have an injury free pre season, which will give him every chance to get back to his excellent best.

Nick Salter - #19

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 6

Goals - 0

Sub: on = 0, off = 0

Dreamteam: 303 points, \$204,600 (-\$5,600)

Supercoach: 365 points, \$285,200 (-\$1,900)



Nick was another player whose year was shortened significantly due to injury. He managed just the 8 games across all competitions due to a foot fracture that kept him out of the first 3 months of the season and a calf injury that shouldn't his year a few games early.

He spent all his six AFL matches in defence and ended up leading the league in Rebound 50s per game. Mind you, Nick also played in a number of our worst losses for the year meaning that the ball was in his area a lot. He struggled in his key defensive role and was often beaten by his opponent and had little support from teammates.

Nick seems destined to spend the rest of his AFL days in a defensive role, despite some impressive form up forward in his first two seasons at the club. He was offered a new two year contract at the end of the season. Hopefully with a big pre season and an injury free year we can see some of the consistent form we know he can perform throughout 2012.

Jay Schulz - #28

By [gopower](#)

Games - 16

Goals - 31

Sub: On = 0, Off = 2

Dream Team: 954 points, \$191,500 (-\$77,100)

Supercoach: 1013 points, \$244,000 (-\$116,100)



Despite being taken as a first rounder, Jay had an underwhelming career at Richmond, before being traded to Port at the end of the 2009 season. In his first couple of months as a Port player, his underwhelming form continued, leading to his eventual demotion to the SANFL. However, at some point last season, something clicked. Soon after Warren Tredrea suffered a career ending injury, Schulz returned to the side and kicked 7 goals against North Melbourne in his return game, and did not look back for the rest of the season with 25 goals from his final 9 games.

It was anyone's guess which Jay Schulz would show up this year. Thankfully for Port, when he was able to get fit and on the park, it was usually the latter. When fit, Jay was generally good for 2 or 3 goals a game as one of the few shining lights in a disappointing Port Adelaide side, as well as one blinder with another 7 goal haul against Brisbane. He showed off his contested marking prowess, worked hard up the field and generally provided good defensive pressure when the ball was in his area, as well as being good for the occasional specky. However, Jay was plagued with injury troubles, suffering two separate injuries against Collingwood in Round 1 and Adelaide in the second Showdown which both kept him out for decent chunks of the season and affected his form and fitness upon his returns.

Under Richardson at Richmond and Tredrea in his first few months at Port Adelaide, Schulz has historically struggled when he is not the No. 1 target. With the emergence of John Butcher as a viable key forward option for the future, Jay will have to learn to co-exist with another key forward if he is going to be a part of the Port Adelaide side in the future. Port Adelaide fans will be hoping that the Round 23 game against Essendon where Butcher kicked 4 goals and Schulz kicked 3 is a sign of things to come from their two main key forwards.

Daniel Stewart - #43

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 12

Goals - 8

Sub: on = 0, off = 2

Dreamteam: 537 points, \$166,900 (-\$29,000)

Supercoach: 500 points, \$181,000 (-\$69,800)

Daniel had a fairly enigmatic year in 2011. His form at AFL regressed somewhat on some of the promise that he showed at the back end of 2010, but his SANFL form sky rocketed to becoming a consistent regular performer.

His 30 goals in 10 SANFL games showed the improvement in his game at state level to become a real first class key forward. Hi best game came in Round 19 when he picked up 7 marks and 8 goals in a best on ground display against Port Adelaide. He followed that up 2 weeks later with 11 marks and 6 goals whilst he also had a bag of 4 and 5 throughout the year.

But at AFL level he just couldn't get it all together. He played well against Gold Coast in Round 5, impressing with his ruckwork whilst also taking 6 marks. He played another decent game against the Bulldogs in Round 22, but overall he lacked strength and pace at the contest and often found himself out of position.

Daniel is the type of player that is quite tempting. A big contested grab and generally quick off the mark, he has reached the stage that Damon White reached that he has become almost too good for the SANFL, but really needs to find an extra string to his bow to make it at AFL level. A good pre season in the gym to improve his core upper body strength and plenty of work with the forward coaches may see Daniel become a viable consistent player at AFL level.



Paul Stewart - #14

By [Forzaport](#)

Games: 6 (44 total)

Goals: 0.0

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest: 0 votes

Dreamteam: 400 points; \$249,200 (-\$8,900)

Supercoach: 387 points; \$277,100 (-\$30,200)



Paul Stewart entered 2011 with high expectations after having a break out year in 2010 where he became a regular fixture in Port Adelaide's defence and the winner of the Most Improved Player award at the club's Best and Fairest night. Paul has demonstrated an ability to play on both tall and small opponents in defence but new coach Matthew Primus decided take advantage of Paul's aerial strength and hard-running ability by positioning him further up the field on the wing.

The move to the wing proved to be challenging and Paul struggled to make any impact. Paul played 6 of the first 7 games of the season, missing the Gold Coast game with a knee injury. Paul was eventually dropped due to poor form after round 7. Unfortunately for Paul, he injured his shoulder in his one SANFL game and required season-ending shoulder surgery.

In a season where the entire club struggled on and off the field, Paul's season was particularly torturous as he was denied the opportunity to contribute on the field after round 7. A full recovery and big pre-season should see Paul reclaim his spot in Port Adelaide's best 22 and rediscover some of that 2010 form. Whether Paul spends 2012 in defence or further up on the wing is the big unknown. The arrival of Brad Ebert to Port Adelaide and the continued development of Broadbent and Moore should allow Paul to settle once again in defence in 2012.

Jacob Surjan - #9

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 8

Goals - 3

Sub: on = 0, off = 3

Best and Fairest - 1 vote (=28th)

Dreamteam: 300 points, \$147,500 (-\$110,000)

Supercoach: 319 points, \$190,800 (-\$121,700)



2011 was Jacobs worst season at AFL level since

his 2nd year in 2005. He went from the clubs premier small defender to someone that struggled to get a game for much of the year. He missed a large chunk at the end of 2010 and reports said that he showed up to pre season over his playing weight. He started the year in the SANFL but came into the side for the Showdown against Adelaide in Round 4. Playing as a small forward, he kicked a goal and shut Johncock out of the game in a near best on ground effort before being subbed off in the third quarter.

He made the best players again the next week when he kicked 2 goals from 16 disposals, but was dropped two weeks later. After some solid SANFL form he came into the side against Carlton but was well beaten by Chris Yarran and was dropped the next week.

His SANFL form over the next month was excellent and he came back into the side in Round 21 against Hawthorn. His form for the rest of the year was poor, though he did make the best players against the Bulldogs in Round 22.

At his best, Surj is a fan favourite and one of the key components to the defence. If fit, his vigour and passion will be a welcome addition back into the side for 2012.

Matt Thomas - #21

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 19

Goals - 8

Sub: on = 1, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 6 vote (=13th)

Dreamteam: 1423 points, \$253,300 (-\$51,100)

Supercoach: 1308 points, \$268,100 (-\$105,800)



2011 was another solid year for Matt, who did a lot of the grunt work early in the year with Dom Cassisi out of the team. He ended up making the best players in 12 of his 19 games, showing more consistency than he has in the past.

Matt started the year on fire with a best on ground effort against Collingwood in Round 1. He picked up 27 disposals and 3 goals in what was the best game he has played at the highest level. He followed that up with votes in 8 of his next 10 matches including strong matches against Sydney and Carlton. He had another good performance against Melbourne in Round 17, picking up 25 disposals, 9 marks and a goal.

Matt had a good year and was dependable in his role. He will never be a star of the side but what he adds is valuable grunt work and 100% effort every week.

Jackson Trengove - #12

By [Forzaport](#)

Games: 22 (41 total)

Goals: 2.1

Sub: on = 0 off = 0

Best and Fairest: 13 votes (=1st)

Dreamteam: 1,353 points; \$249,000 (+\$29,800)

Supercoach: 1,568 points; \$321,800 (+\$66,000)



Jackson Trengove has just completed his 3rd season at the club, yet you'd be mistaken for thinking he's been playing at the highest level for more than 2 years. Jackson's improvement at the club is best described as exponential in the truest sense. Year 1 was spent recovering from a horrific leg injury, year 2 was his first full AFL season playing key roles in defence, up forward and in the ruck and year 3 he shared the BnF with Boak.

There have always been big wraps on Jackson and the expectation heading into 2011 was that he would continue his development after successfully staying on the park and stringing together a heap of games in 2010. The supporters wanted to see Jackson settled into a key defensive post and fortunately Primus had the same idea. Jackson's strong leadership potential saw him promoted to the leadership group for 2011 and he did not disappoint.

Jackson spent the vast majority of his time in a key defensive post with odd stints in the ruck. He would frequently take one of opposition's key forward or resting ruck. There were a few games where Jackson would convincingly beat his opponent such as thrashing Miller up in Darwin and keeping Watts quiet twice. There were other times though where his opponents had a measure of success against him such as Dawes in round 1, Brown in the middle of the season and Hurley at the end of the season. Jackson did enjoy the odd success in the ruck though, helping Port Adelaide to an emphatic showdown victory early in the season. Most of his other rucking battles were competitive although it's clear that Jackson's strength is as a key position player and not a ruckman.

Whilst there were some tough individual games for Jackson, it must be remembered that he had little to no support from the midfield and his fellow defenders (excluding Logan) were often in struggle town. Starting the season as a 20 year old and with only 19 games experience it really is easy to forget how junior Jackson is. Sure he makes the odd error and gives away the odd free kick, but experience should iron out the kinks. In a year where so many players, both senior and developing, suffered long term injuries and form slumps, Jackson stood tall and played all 22 games in a defence that was constantly under siege.

Jackson finished the year 6th in disposals, 3rd in disposal efficiency (80.9%, elite) 3rd in marks, 3rd in contested marks, 8th in contested possessions, 6th in tackles and 4th in rebound 50s. Such was Jackson's consistency that he made the best players in 11 of his appearances this year.

Jackson's season was largely unheralded by the supporters which is no great surprise given how bad the team looked, particularly in the back half of the ground. Although, as the only key defender who could raise his hands and make body contact, you'd think he would've attracted more attention! The key interest in Jackson for 2011 was not his on-field form, it was his signature.

Without doubt there would have been overtures from interstate clubs to lure Jackson back to Victoria. At the time, the Port Adelaide faithful would have been forgiven for feeling paranoid and fearful of losing arguably one of the elite junior KPDs of the competition. Fortunately Jackson decided to commit to the club. Jackson's signature began a domino of signatures from the young guns of the club, including the signature of John "The Future" Butcher.

Despite winning the 2011 B&F, Jackson is still capable of much improvement. The obvious expectation for 2012 would be to use his 2011 form and consistency as a launching pad to what he is truly capable of. With a new defence line coach in 2012 we may see a more cohesive defensive unit which will only help Jackson in his development as an elite KPD of the competition.

It's easier said than done but if Jackson stays focused, keeps working on his skills and keeps super fit, he'll become a truly dominant back bone in the Port Adelaide spine for years to come.

Daniel Webb - #46

By [The Smaller Warrior](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 1

Goals: 4

Best Players: 1

SANFL Stats:

Games: 18

Goals: 21

Best Players: 3



Daniel began his second year on the Port Adelaide Rookie list this year and make a big improvement over the off-season regarding his physical size.

Port Adelaide have generally selected considerably well in the Rookie Draft but you would have to go back to 2008 with Daniel Stewart to see our last KPF who has made any success.

At only 21 Daniel has a big build frame and was able to show his strength this year being promoted into his West Adelaide League Side and play 18 games for the year finishing best in three including a bag of 5 Goals against the Panthers and 4 Goals against Glenelg.

Daniel needs to improve his consistency in 2012 (he went scoreless in 7 Games) though he was played much more in the Ruck, or up the ground than in the past. Webb is one of the strongest contested marks at Port and with a keen set shot for goal he needs to continue his development and would hope to be promoted throughout 2012. It will be his final year at the club on his Rookie Contract so he needs to prove his worth with a strong 2013 Draft on the way.

He may end up fighting for a place against Daniel Stewart over the next twelve months with the club requiring one of the big forwards to step up to the required level of AFL Football.

Justin Westhoff - #39

By [Macca19](#)

Games - 20

Goals - 23

Sub: on = 0, off = 0

Best and Fairest - 8 votes (=5th)

Dreamteam: 1592 points, \$256,100 (-\$46,200)

Supercoach: 1636 points, \$315,500 (-\$54,800)



Justins season can be best summed up as a tale of two halves. His first half of the season was outstanding and was the clubs clear best player up until the first by in Round 12. The second half of the season saw him lose form and struggle for consistency and output, whilst also missing two games with injury.

His start to the season though was fantastic. He was excellent against Collingwood in Round 1 with 4 goals. He won the Showdown Medal for his 24 disposal, 10 mark, 2 goal match winning performance against Adelaide. He followed that up with another 10 marks against Gold Coast in a good performance – despite missing the shot for goal after the siren. He picked up another 9 marks and 19 disposals in Round 6 against North Melbourne.

Another good period came before the bye in Rounds 10 and 11 where he was high amongst the best players. But his form seemed to leave him on bye weekend. He failed to impact games and was struggling for touch before missing two weeks with a toe injury from Rounds 16-18. His form to end the season was better, with a match winning effort against Melbourne in Round 24 with 8 marks and 4 goals.

His form in the first half of the year was electric but it's the two month period where he struggled which makes Justin such a frustrating player. Capable of the brilliant mark, the clever goal and the ability to find space up the field, he can often spoil his good work by a poor clanger or even an inability to get near the ball for weeks at a time. Its these elongated poor patches which really stop Justin from becoming a player capable of winning a best and fairest and kicking 40+ goals a year.

Hopefully, with a fit Jay Schulz and John Butcher in the lineup, this should allow Justin the space and freedom to roam the half forward line and cause some more regular havoc for the opposition.

Matthew Westhoff - #24

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 7

Goals: 8

Best Players: 1

SANFL Stats:

Games: 7

Goals: 7



Matthew was originally drafted as a 2nd round pick in the 2007 National Draft. A speculative pick at the time, Matthew joined big brother Justin at the Power after Justins superb end to the 2007 season.

After some solid form throughout his first two years on the list, Matthew was delisted at the end of the 2010 season and redrafted onto the rookie list to finish off his 2 year contract that he signed at the end of the 2009. Injury and poor form riddled his season, playing just the 7 matches at league level, with another 7 coming at reserves level.

His best game for the season came in Round 3, picking up 12 disposals and 4 goals to make the best players. He couldn't however find that form through the rest of the season, only picking up multiple goals twice at reserves level. A four week leg injury halted his year, whilst a broken arm in Round 21 saw a premature end to his season.

After failing to develop and regressing over the past two seasons, Matthew was told his services were no longer required and was delisted at the end of 2011.

Aaron Young - #38

By [Macca19](#)

SANFL Reserves Stats:

Games: 14

Goals: 13

SANFL Stats:

Games: 4

Goals: 2

Notes:

After being drafted with one of the clubs second round draft picks at the end of 2010, Aaron had a steady development debut year on the clubs list. A tall midfielder & forward flanker, Aaron spent most of his time in the reserves but did break through for 4 SANFL matches during the year, and was an emergency for the clubs final two AFL matches.

Aarons best form came mid year, when he made the best players in the reserves in 3 out of 4 games, kicking 9 goals in 4 weeks and averaging 17 touches a game. He was rewarded with three SANFL games in a row before dropping back to the reserves in Round 13 for essentially the rest of the year.

A tall, quick, skilful runner with great goal sense is exactly the type of player that the club needs and they will be hoping that Aaron can develop through the pre season and push for games early on in the year.



The Back Page

