# BigFooty.com Annual 2011



# Western Bulldogs

A comprehensive review of players from the 2011 AFL Premiership Season

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# **Photography**

A selection of player photographs has been kindly supplied by Old Dog.

# **Updates**

Keep up to date with the latest on Western Bulldogs players in the <u>Dog Tags Board</u> on BigFooty.com.



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# Dylan Addison - #22

By VitalDread

Games - 4 Goals - 0

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

Stats History:

**Dylan Addison (AFL Tables)** 

Date of Birth - 07-10-1987

Recruited- 2005 NAB AFL Draft 2nd round

selection No. 27 overall. **Height/Weight:** 185cm 82kg

**Dreamteam:** -\$197,200 **Supercoach:** -\$223,700



It was a disappointing year for Dylan Addison only managing to get four senior games with the Bulldogs after showing a impressive 2010 performance racking up ten games and three finals appearances.

When Dylan was playing in the Bulldogs VFL side Williamstown, he was a class above every player, being able to read the ball well and make a contest, win the hard ball which allowed him to play fourteen matches with Williamstown including their Foxtel Cup Grand Final Win against Claremont and playing in the VFL Grand Final against Port Melbourne.

When Dylan was playing in the Senior List, he was averaging around fifteen disposals a game and four tackles per game in his four game season but sadly wasn't enough to keep him in the senior list with players like Libba, Wallis, Howard all showing that they will make a bigger impact on the game then Dylan.

2012 is an important year for Dylan to regain his form and make a bigger impact in which 2011 nearly ended in him being delisted with the Bulldogs, but McCartney is aiming for tougher players that can win the hard ball which could allow for Dylan to play more games next year and break into the top 22 side.

#### **Notable Games:**

Round 8 vs. Richmond 19 disposals 11 kicks 8 handballs 3 marks 6 tackles, showed that he can still make a impact in the senior side but was dropped afterwards.

Foxtel Cup Grand Final vs. Claremont- 9 kicks 5 handballs 14 disposals 2 tackles.



# Matthew Boyd - #5

#### By Werewolf

**DOB:** 27th August, 1982

Drafted: Pick 23, 2002 Rookie Draft (recruited

from Frankston), elevated 2003 Height: 184cm Weight: 89kg

Games: 22 Goals: 8

Subsituted: N/A

Best and Fairest: Winner (140 votes)

**Dreamteam:** 2552 points; \$447,200 (-\$31,000) **Supercoach:** 2541 points; \$521,900 (+\$4,400)

Stats history: Matthew Boyd (AFL Tables)



The retirement of captain and club champion Brad Johnson in 2010 left big shoes to fill. Matthew Boyd inherited the captaincy and despite a difficult season for the club, he proved he was up to the task, playing every game and leading the AFL in disposals (701), contested ball (326) and clearances (154). He polled 24 Brownlow votes to finish equal third. Leading the Bulldogs in kicks (398) and coming second to Ryan Griffen for inside 50's (115) and goal assists (23), Boyd was duly awarded his second Charles Sutton medal (previously winning in 2009).

His best game was probably the round 22 demolition of Port Adelaide where he collected 39 disposals and booted 3 first half goals. Other notable games were against Fremantle (45 possessions in a close defeat) and West Coast (40 possessions in another close defeat). His consistency is shown by having under 25 disposals in just 3 games, with a low of 22 vs. Adelaide.

Sometimes criticised for his disposal by foot (62% DE - admittedly less than his peers), Boyd's ability to keep winning the ball makes him a vital cog in the Bulldogs' midfield.

A selection of past BigFooty.com threads about Matthew:

Bulldogs in AA (2011)

Matthew Boyd named new Western Bulldogs skipper (2011)



# Adam Cooney - #17

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 13 Goals - 9

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

**Date of Birth** - 30th September 1985 **Recruited** Priority Pick 1 2003 draft.

Height/Weight: 186cm, 88kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 1037 points; \$320,100 (-\$59,500) **Supercoach:** 1054 points; \$376,000 (-\$106,000)

Stats history: Adam Cooney (AFL Tables)

As many expected when he was unable to complete virtually any of the 2011 preseason it was a tough year for the Brownlow Medallist managing only 13 games with his knee again giving him issues.

His disposal at times looked quite shakey clearly as a result of his knee damage and his normally sublime finishing skills were missing.

The highlight for he season was his game against Carlton where he looked like the player we enjoyed watching in 2008 with great skills, explosive acceleration from he packs and quality delivery into forward line.

I don't think anyone expects Cooney to get back to his 2008 brownlow medal winning best, but with the same knee injury he was an all australian squad member only last year which is he level he can get back to being, a top 25 player in competition, with good management and of course some luck. Being he highest paid player at dogs they need to find a way to maximise his output which may include rests every 5-6 weeks or more time playing up forward.

- Round 16 vs. Carlton: A game where Cooney was back to his 2008 best ripping through Carlton's midfield with 31 possessions and a goal and was able to show great acceleration which was missed throughout most of year
- Round 14 vs. Gold Coast: 23 possessions, 7 inside 50's and 3 goals





# Ayce Cordy - #49

By VitalDread

Games - 2 Goals - 0

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Stats History- Ayce Cordy (AFL Tables)

Date of Birth - August 6, 1990

**Recruited**- 2008 NAB AFL Draft 1st round father-son selection (Western Bulldogs) No. 14 overall.

Height/Weight: 202cm 90kg

**Dreamteam:** -\$97,600 **Supercoach:** -\$110,200

Finally managing to make his long awaited AFL debut Cordy showed great form in the VFL side Williamstown playing as both a

forward/ruck/backman, being able to play in multiple areas on the field will help Cordy in the long run being able to adjust to any type of game style.

Playing in the VFL he managed a solid five week performance in which he was named best on ground in 3 of the appearances, thus finally allowing him to play his first match against Port Adelaide in Round 22.

His performance was solid at helping keep Port Adelaide scoreless in the first half, holding down the defense with players like Markovic, Wood, Murphy though he only managed six disposals his pressure and attacking the contest kept PA worried about bombing into their forward 50.

In his match against Hawks, Cordy remained strong when Hawks kept pressure on our backmen, suffering from a broken finger Cordy kept on playing showing that he has the will and strength to remain on the field and play out.

In 2012, Cordy is hoping to have a breakout season and rack up a few games under his belt and figure out his prime position either being a ruck/forward or a ruck/backmen and hold his own for the future number 1 or 2 ruckmen for Bulldogs.





#### **Past Threads:**

- Cordy???
- Has everyone given up on Cordy?
- Ayce Cordy and 'project players'

- Round 22 vs. Port Adelaide 1 kick 5 handballs 6 disposals, his long awaited debut
- Round 33 vs. Hawthorn 3 kicks 7 handballs 10 disposals



# **Daniel Cross - #4**

#### By Werewolf

**DOB:** 30th March, 1983

**Drafted:** Pick 56, 2000 AFL Draft (recruited from Albury)

Height: 187cm Weight: 86kg

Games: 22 Goals: 1

Subsituted: r18 (off)

Best and Fairest: 6th (74 votes)

**Dreamteam:** 2140 points; \$371,300 (-\$57,600) **Supercoach:** 2108 points; \$428,200 (-\$126,300)

Stats history: Daniel Cross (AFL Tables)

In his 10th season, Cross didn't reach the heights of previous years but still managed to lead the club in handballs (323), marks (125) and tackles (125). His trademark courage both in packs and in the air made him a key contested ball winner in the midfield.



His best game was the round 3 win over an inexperienced Gold Coast, where he collected 37 disposals. His only other 30 possession game was the 10 goal win over Port Adelaide in round 22. He suffered concussion against Sydney in round 18 and was subbed off.

His role in the team has been questioned recently, with critics pointing to his lack of pace combined with awkward kicking, but Cross's ability to win the hard ball will make him an important part of the Bulldogs' midfield in 2012.

Cross was awarded the most courageous player in 2011.

#### Past BigFooty.com threads about Daniel:

- Where to for D Cross? (2011)
- Trade Boyd or Cross (2010)



# Luke Dahlhaus - #40

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 11 Goals - 11

**Best and Fairest** – Outside Top 10

**Date of Birth** - 21st August 1992 **Recruited** Pick 22 2010 rookie draft.

Height/Weight: 178cm, 72kg

**Dreamteam:** 630 points; \$232,700 (+\$144,300) **Supercoach:** 657 points; \$267,900 (+\$168,200)

Stats history: Luke Dahlhaus (AFL Tables)



An outstanding debut year for Dahlhaus saw him starting at Williamstown reserves to Williamstown Seniors to Promoted Rookie to Substitute player and finally to be a best 22 western bulldogs player. Now part of the senior list after being offered a 2 year contract.

His electric speed combined with his tackling ability and instinct to hunt players in forward line saw him quickly become a cult hero at the dogs in 2011. His form this season saw him rewarded with the round 21 rising star nomination.

From his first game as a sub against St Kilda he showed great promise and never looked back from there improving almost weekly throughout the remainder of the season.

Given he finished 3rd in the Morrish Medal and represented Vic Country at TAC level as well as the team of the year, it's hard to believe he slid so far down the recruiting line but the knocks on him by recruiters were his size and ability to compete at AFL level. What his first season has shown is he already has the ability to be a gifted small forward, whether he can translate that into having an impact in the middle only time can tell but there may be some silly looking recruiters in a few years time to overlook such a talent based on physical attributes.

- **Round 13 vs. Adelaide**: 18 possessions, 4 tackles, 6 inside 50's and a goal saw him amongst he best in his first full game.
- **Round 21 vs. Essendon**: 19 possessions 2 goals and 2 goal assists, was lively up forward kicking a couple of freakish goals.



# Nathan Djerrkura - #33

#### By **Unotuchable**

**DOB**: 19 September, 1988

From: Yirrkala, Northern Territory

Drafted: 25th, 2006 by Geelong; Traded for Pick 57 to Western Bulldogs

Height: 176 cm / 80 kg

Games: 8 Goals: 4

Subsituted: N/A

**Supercoach** Price: \$217,000 **Dreamteam** Price: \$207,100 **Liston Trophy** votes: 2

Williamstown B&F votes: 28 equal 10<sup>th</sup>

Stats history: Nathan Djerrkura 2011 Stats



**DJ** had a mixed bag this season; He played reasonably well in the opening two rounds before injuring himself and had very poor games against St, Kilda and Geelong which saw him play from round 14 through to round 17 with the Seagulls. He hit some form later in the year which coincided with him being moved out of the forward line and into an outside mid role.

However, an **ankle injury in round 18** killed what momentum he had and he only returned for round 21 and 22 although these were numerically his best for the club.

His Williamstown form was exceptional though; He was consistently amongst the best on the ground throughout the year for the Seagulls although he strangely only polled two votes in the Liston medal tally. If he can keep his body right and capture his ability at VFL level and use it at AFL level then DJ could prove to be a handy player next year.

- Round 18 vs. Sydney- Picking up a career high of 17 disposals and 7 tackles, this was probably the first chance that non-VFL watchers got to see that we might not have been ripped off. Unfortunately, he suffered an ankle injury and was denied the chance to build some momentum.
- Round 22 vs. Port Adelaide- DJ gathered 14 possessions, laid five tackles and kicked a career high two goals in a game. This was his best game based on his Supercoach statistics where he scored 81 points.
- VFL Grand Final vs. Port Melbourne- Played a respectable game for Williamstown and showed some good signs.



# Daniel Giansiracusa - #13

By Griffs Revenge

Photo by old dog

**Games** - 20 **Goals** - 45

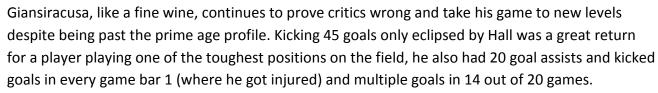
**Best and Fairest** - 7th (72 votes)

Date of Birth - 11th March 1982 Recruited Pick 32 1999 draft. Height/Weight: 182cm, 83kg

**Dreamteam:** 1766 points; \$328,800 (-\$58,300) **Supercoach:** 1766 points; \$385,900 (-\$65,700)

Stats history: Daniel Giansiracusa (AFL Tables)

#### Despite a tough year for the team on the field,



A much maligned player by fans over the years he has become a consistent and reliable performer and performed well against the top sides this season, a feat not many of his teammates could claim this year.

Capable of playing in the midfield, but limited time due to similar players in Boyd and Cross playing has meant Giansiracusa has had to play a role as a small creative forward over past few seasons. With Hall's retirement and only young heads around him next season he is likely to lead the forward line attack in 2012.

- Round 11 vs. Geelong: A shining light in a disappointing team effort kicking 5 goals from 23 possessions.
- Round 15 vs. Melbourne: 4 goals from 25 possessions resulted in 3 brownlow votes.





# Lindsay Gilbee - #9

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 13 **Goals** - 10

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 8th July1981 Recruited Pick 43 1999 draft. Height/Weight: 180cm, 82kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 838 points; \$240,400 (-\$109,700)

**Supercoach:** 965 points; \$309,200 (-\$147,500)

Stats history: Lindsay Gilbee (AFL Tables)

2011 was a year which saw Gilbee thrown around to play a variety of roles from half back, to half forward, defensive forward to

midfield. Gilbee struggled throughout the year with both form and injury that saw him play just 13 games and end the year playing for Williamstown.

His game against Richmond was one of the great individual forward games seen this year in which he contributed 10 goals kicking 6 and directly assisting in another 4.

2012 looms as a crunch year for Gilbee in the last year of his contract, over 30 and seemingly lost a yard of pace. May have to reinvent himself as his days as a top quality half back where he could use his deadly kicking ability seem gone due to a loss of speed and youngsters like Wood and Schofield pushing through.

**Notable Game - Round 8 vs. Richmond**: An outstanding individual game playing up forward with 6 goals and 4 goal assists from 16 possessions.





# Jarrad Grant - #1

AKA Merlin, Spindleshanks, Spock

By Werewolf

**DOB:** 6th July, 1989

**Drafted:** Pick 5, 2007 AFL Draft (recruited from Dandenong Stingrays U18)

Height: 192cm Weight: 82kg

**2011 Games:** 16 **2011 Goals:** 16 **Subsituted:** r11 (off)

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

**Dreamteam:** 867 points; \$194,800 (-\$115,400) **Supercoach:** 833 points; \$214,900 (-\$146,300)

Stats history: Jarrad Grant (AFL Tables)

After a breakout year in 2010, Grant's lacklustre 2011 season saw him dropped to Williamstown three times. His best game was round 8 vs. Richmond (6 marks, 3.3) but in too many games he had little or no impact, particularly when the team as a whole struggled in heavy mid season losses to West Coast and Geelong. That said, he finished 4th at the club for marks inside 50.

Grant was trialled in defence in round 24 vs. Fremantle, but is expected to play up forward in 2012.

He received a nomination for mark of the year in round 15 vs. Melbourne.

A selection of past threads about Jarrad:

- Jarrad Grant (2011)
- Is Grant our Jack Watts? (2011)
- Don't take it for Grant'ed young man (2011)
- That skinny kid called Grant on a half forward (2010)
- Development of Jarrad Grant (2010)





# Ryan Griffen - #16

By Werewolf

Photo by Old Dog

DOB: 27th July, 1986

Drafted: Pick 3 (priority), 2004 AFL Draft (recruited

from South Adelaide)

Height: 188cm Weight: 86kg

2011 review:

Games: 22 Goals: 24

Subsituted: N/A

Best and Fairest: 3rd (99 votes)

**Dreamteam:** 2164 points; \$333,900 (-\$45,400) **Supercoach:** 2381 points; \$421,500 (-\$34,700)

Stats history: Ryan Griffen (AFL Tables)

Ryan Griffen backed up his stellar 2010 season with another solid year, playing every game and finishing 3rd

in the Bulldogs B&F. He finished second in kicks (341) and third in goals (24) behind full time forwards Hall and Giansiracusa. He was the Bulldogs' main attacking midfielder, leading the club for inside 50's (130) and goal assists (24).

Griffen collected 100 disposals and kicked 10 goals during a four game purple patch midyear coinciding with the Bulldogs 4 game winning streak, although his next few weeks were relatively quiet as the team struggled.

Arguably his best game was the 33 possessions and 3 goals in a crushing win over Brisbane in round 2. He also racked up 28 possessions and 2 goals in the final round win over Fremantle.

With his running bounces and evasion abilities, Griffen gains the most ground for the Bulldogs, although at a cost of lower disposal efficiency compared to elite midfielders.

A selection of past threads about Ryan:

- Cheers Ryan Griffen
- Griffen





# Ryan Hargrave - #25

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 5 **Goals** - 1

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 26th July1981 Recruited Pick 66 1999 draft. Height/Weight: 190cm, 85kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 294 points; \$252,600 (-\$66,900)

Supercoach: 323 points; \$302,100 (-\$70,500)

Stats history: Ryan Hargrave (AFL Tables)

Hargrave suffered another frustrating year riddled with injuries following on from a disappointing 2010 injury affected year. Re-injuring his damaged ankle in the preseason due to coming back and pushing it too early left him on the sidelines for first 7 weeks of year and was never able to get any momentum throughout season.

With these interruptions he has also lost form and his run and disposal from defence has been shaky, seemingly panicking at times spraying kicks out of backline into opposition hands.

Signing a 3 year, good money contract at the end of 2009 following a year where he made the all australian squad, Hargrave has been unable to recapture that form. Coming into his last contracted year and over the age of 30 it is a make or break year for Hargrave, with a new coach he could also find himself playing for Wiliamstown if form does not warrant selection.

**Notable Game - Round 8 vs. Richmond:** First game back was his best providing stability and run from defence.



# Barry Hall - #28

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 15 **Goals** - 55

Best and Fairest - 9th (51 votes)

Date of Birth - 8th February 1977

Recruited Traded for pick 47 in 2009 AFL draft from Sydney

Height/Weight: 194cm, 104kg

Dreamteam Price: 904 points; \$322,400 (+\$14,300)

**Supercoach:** 1064 points; \$403,300 (+\$5,200)

Stats history: Barry Hall (AFL Tables)

In his second season for the club Hall had a tough first half of the year and his second half showed just how good a player he is and that age has no bounds. Some had even started questioning his decision to retire urging him to play on another year, but his mind was made up due to how his body was feeling and the impact that training and playing was having.

Turning at the half way mark of he season with just 5 games and 10 goals due to an ankle injury many had started to question if Hall should hang up the boots mid-season and end his great career. He had decided to continue on and get past his ankle injury which led to a stellar vein of form which saw him end up with 55 goals for the season and in every game from round 16 onwards he would kick 4 or more goals.

Now retired Hall has achieved what he wanted to at the dogs restoring his reputation and should now be remembered as the great forward he was at 14th on the all time VFL/AFL goal kickers at 746 goals.

- Round 18 vs. Sydney: 5.3 and 4 inside 50's against his old club.
- Round 21 vs. Essendon: 6.3 and 1 assist from 15 possessions



# **Shaun Higgins - #7**

By Werewolf

DOB: 4th March, 1988

Drafted: Pick 11, 2005 AFL Draft (recruited from Geelong

Falcons U18)

Height: 184cm Weight: 90kg

2011 review:

Games: 18 Goals: 12

Subsituted: r9 (off), r24 (on)

**Best and Fairest:** Equal 10th (42 votes)

**Dreamteam:** 1518 points; \$318,900 (-\$22,100) **Supercoach:** 1486 points; \$341,900 (-\$37,300)

Stats history: **Shaun Higgins (AFL Tables)** 

After a 2010 season ruined by thyroid problems, Shaun Higgins was expected by many to come of age in 2011. He began the season strongly on the half forward line, starring in the demolitions of Brisbane (23 touches, 3 goals) and the Gold Coast (32 touches, 1.4).

Missing rounds 6 to 8 took the wind out of his sails, and this coincided with a decline in the fortunes of the team. He was moved to the half back line mid season and for the most part, stayed there.

One of the more maligned players at the Bulldogs, Higgins is considered by critics to have underachieved. His best season was 2009 (20 games, 32 goals).

A selection of past BigFooty.com threads about Shaun:

- <u>Time to trade Higgins</u> (2011)
- Shaun Higgins (2011)
- Is Higgins the most overrated player to play for us? (2010)





# **Tom Hill - #35**

By VitalDread

Photo by Old Dog

**Games** - 0

Goals - 0

Best and Fairest - N/A

**Date of Birth** - 07-04-1991

Recruited- 2010 NAB AFL Draft 5th round selection

(Western Bulldogs) No. 89 overall.

Height/Weight: 199cm 90kg Dreamteam Price: -\$92,500 Supercoach: -\$103,600

Tom Hill was out of the Williamstown Senior side due to injuries but was still able to rack up a few solid games in which he kicked 8 goals against Frankston reserve side.

Being pre-listed by GWS but then suffering a knee injury, Bulldogs decided to take a punt with T. Hill and drafted him, if he can kept his injuries in check and builds more he will become a strong forward that can take a solid contested mark and knows where the goals are.



In 2012, Hill fate rests on him and looking after himself and keep getting appearances in Williamstowns VFL side to ensure that he is getting recognize for his efforts and hopefully will gain a few games under his belt.

#### **Notable Games:**

Round 22 vs. Frankston 8 goals, overall impressive performance needs to build on that.



# Andrew Hooper - #41

By VitalDread

**Games** - 6 **Goals** - 5

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Stats History: Andrew Hooper (AFL Tables)

Date of Birth - January 18, 1991

**Recruited**- 2010 Rookie Draft selection (Western Bulldogs) No. 35; 2010 NAB AFL Draft rookie elevation (Western Bulldogs) selection No. 110.

**Height/Weight:** 172cm 83kg **Dreamteam Price:** -\$138,100

**Supercoach:** -\$172,300

After having a good solid season playing for Williamstown and debuting against Swans in the finals, Andrew Hooper looked to keep up his form from the VFL to the AFL side for 2011.

Hoops showed off his VFL form in his six AFL games for the doggies but wasn't enough to keep him in the top 22 for too long but still showed great form in the VFL, playing in the VFL Grand Final and Foxtel Grand which will help his confidence later on in his career.

Hoopers main role for the Bulldogs was to apply pressure in the forward half along with Dahlhaus and provide more run and carry in our forward half and keep the defenders guessing on which player we would aim for.

Being a small forward, Hoops looked to apply pressure on defenders along with Dahlhaus, he kept defenders looking around for him and making sure he doesn't sneak up on them and was a goal sneak around the clearances.

2012 will allow for Hoops to grow as a player figuring out his true position, showing some great form in the midfield in the VFL and to improve his decision making and tackling.

#### **Notable Games:**

Round 15 vs. Melbourne, 14 disposals Round 18 vs. Swans, 10 disposals 2 goals





# **Christian Howard - #30**

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 6 Goals - 1

**Best and Fairest** – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 19th March 1991 Recruited Pick 19 2009 draft. Height/Weight: 184cm, 81kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 305 points; \$158,800 (+\$61,200)

**Supercoach:** 265 points; \$165,300 (+\$55,100)

Stats history: Christian Howard (AFL Tables) After 2010 was ruined through injury Howard showed some very good development signs in 2011 to justify his high draft pick. Although only playing 6 senior games for the bulldogs, the signs were there that he could be a good AFL player playing off the wing with his big tank, good speed and good disposal of the ball.

Things to work on for 2012 are definitely his defensive side of his game as he can be caught ball watching at times particularly around clearances where his opponent can get free. The lack of defensive capabilities has also seen his position seemingly shifted from a half back flanker to a possible winger.

Already up there with Boyd, Cross and Gia in the endurance testing is a great sign for someone only completing his second year and currently doing his second preseason, plenty to look forward to in 2012 where he should aim to cement a spot in the bulldogs best 22.

#### **Notable Games:**

Round 21 - vs. Essendon: 18 possessions 4 tackles and a goal playing off the wing.



# Jason Johannissen - #39

By **Unotuchable** 

Photo By Old Dog

**Games** - 0 **Goals** - 0

Best and Fairest - N/A

**Date of Birth** - 08-11-1992

Recruited 2011 Rookie Draft selection, No. 39.

From: East Fremantle

Height/Weight: 176cm, 68kg

The young quick played the majority of the year in the VFL reserves, kicking 8 goals and being featured in the best 3 times from 15 matches. He cracked the senior team late in the year to play in the 101 point rout of Box Hill, snapping up three goals and showing some real pace and poise through the midfield. He played two more games before playing the prelimfinal loss to Coburg in the reserves.



His main problem is that his disposal let him down at times at VFL seniors level so that is one area that he will have to work on.



# Liam Jones - #19

By Werewolf

DOB: 24th February, 1991

Drafted: Pick 32, 2008 AFL Draft (recruited from Tasmania U18,

Scotch College)

Height: 197cm Weight: 94kg

2011 review:

**Games**: 20 **Goals**: 19

**Substituted**: N/A

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

**Dreamteam**: 1116 points; \$217,800 (-\$3,100) **Supercoach**: 1050 points; \$250,600 (+\$45,300)

Stats history: Liam Jones (AFL Tables)

After 5 games late in 2010, Jones managed 20 games in 2011 (only missing 2 games early in the year), taking out the award for most improved player. He lead the club in contested marks (43), well ahead of Barry Hall (19) and took a respectable 96 marks overall (3rd) including 27 inside 50 (3rd). Although not having a standout game, he managed 2 goals on 5 occasions against Richmond, West Coast, St.Kilda, Hawthorn and Fremantle. The last game earned him a nomination for the NAB Rising Star award.

Jones's main strength is his contested marking. His field kicking and/or decision making needs improvement, but his goal kicking is reasonably accurate within 40m. An increase in leg strength should enable him to take shots from further out.

#### A selection of past BigFooty threads about Liam:

- <u>Liam Jones Round 24 Rising Star</u> (2011)
- Jones is the Story (2011)
- <u>Liam Jones</u> (2011)
- Liam Jones Debut Game Thread (2010)





# Brian Lake - #36

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 5 **Goals** - 3

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 27th February 1982

Recruited Pick 71 2001 draft. Height/Weight: 195cm, 104kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 258 points; \$276,800 (-\$137,500)

**Supercoach:** 294 points; \$338,800 (-\$169,900)

Stats history: Brian Lake (AFL Tables)

A horror season where everything possible went wrong is the only way to describe Lake's 2011 season. Over the preseason Lake underwent 3 serious surgeries with his knee, hip and shoulder that required an extensive rehab and severely limited his preseason.

Just 3 games into his season he was sent back to

Williamstown in order to find form and recapture his ability to contest despite his wishes to not play and just train as he felt his body was not up to playing at that stage. Coming back for a further 2 AFL games that ended with a horror game against Geelong where nothing went right until a last quarter 3 goals that fell his way when sent forward after the game was lost.

He ended the season with the tabloid footy media reporting he is likely to be traded out of the western bulldogs, but Western Bulldogs coach and administration wanted nothing to do with trading out their full back star and he remains at the bulldogs with a further 2 years on contract.

As is the way with great players in Australian sport, supporters and media are quick to want to right them off after a bad run but with a decent preseason the 2 time all Australian has the ability to get back to his best and again be the premier full back of the competition.

#### **Notable Games:**

The fact nothing is in this section says a lot.





# Tom Liberatore - #21

By Werewolf

**DOB:** 16th May, 1992

Drafted: Pick 41 (father-son), 2010 AFL Draft (recruited from

Calder Cannons U18)

Height: 180cm Weight: 80kg

**2011 Games:** 16 **2011 Goals:** 4

Subsituted: R 18 (on)

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

**Dreamteam:** 1116 points; \$250,800 (+\$158,300) **Supercoach:** 1198 points; \$313,900 (+\$210,300)

Stats history: Tom Liberatore (AFL Tables)



One of two Bulldog father-son selections in the 2010 draft, Tom Liberatore's impressive pre season form rewarded him with an immediate debut. He proved to be a capable midfielder in his own right, and was named in the best players in the first two rounds. Opposition teams no doubt paid him closer attention as his impact diminished for several weeks.

He gathered 25 disposals and booted 2 goals (both from outside 50m) against Richmond in round 8. He tried hard in the horrendous loss to West Coast a week later. An inevitable form slump and mid season fatigue saw him miss rounds 14-17, but he returned to the team for the remainder of the season. In that time, his best game yielded 27 disposals against Port Adelaide.

Overall he finished 6th at the club in contested possessions (153), clearances (66) and tackles (77), despite missing 6 games.

Not surprisingly, Liberatore won the Bulldogs' award for best first year player, but was amazingly overlooked for a rising star nomination.

A taller version of his famous father, Liberatore is a tough hard tackling left footer. What sets him apart is longer delivery on both feet. With improved fitness, his quick hands and good vision will no doubt make him a crucial part of the Bulldogs' midfield for years to come.

A selection of past threads about Thomas:

- Another toast, this one for Lil' Libba (2011)
- Best #21 the club has had in ages (2011)
- Mitchell Wallis & Thomas Liberatore (2009)



# Lukas Markovic - #37

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 16 **Goals** - 0

**Best and Fairest** - =10th (42 votes)

**Date of Birth** - 5th January 1987 **Recruited** Pick 63 2009 draft. **Height/Weight:** 193cm, 94kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 593 points; \$145,200 (+\$47,600)

**Supercoach:** 735 points; \$197,600 (+87,400)

Stats history: <u>Lukas Markovic (AFL Tables)</u>

With Lake being absent for most of the season someone needed to stand up and be counted and Markovic did a great job at filling this gap in 2011 as evidenced by a top 10 finish in he B&F.

Playing the first 9 rounds he did some great jobs aided by the sub rule meaning he could match up on he resting ruckman or slower KF which limited his exposure of his lack of pace. Showing good defensive

capabilities and able to read the play in front of him well.

In round 9 in that horror day out west he got badly beaten and found himself playing for Williamstown for the next 5 weeks only to return and play the remaining games at the Bulldogs from round 15 onwards.

Never going to be a Brian Lake type full back but can hold his own at AFL level and fulfil a role, at nearly 25 years old he isn't likely to develop much more but if he can improve some of his clanger kicks and keep things simple he could play a role at bulldogs in 2012.

#### **Notable Games:**

**Round 6 - vs. Collingwood**: 15 possessions and 6 marks in a good job on Dawes.



#### Will Minson - #27

By Griffs Revenge

**Games** - 9 **Goals** - 6

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 11th April 1985 Recruited Pick 20 2002 draft. Height/Weight: 199cm, 106kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 665 points; \$256,200 (-\$6,100)

Supercoach: 746 points; \$322,300 (+35,200)

Stats history: Will Minson (AFL Tables)



With the sub rule being introduced in 2011 there was always only going to be room for 1 big ruckman per side, and as the match committee saw fit for most of the year they went with Hudson instead of Minson which many will debate if that was the right course or if Minson was playing second fiddle due to Hudson having a good established relationship with Eade given Hudson's poor form for majority of the year.

Minson kept fighting on however playing some great football for Williamstown, finishing 4th in Liston medal and 3rd in Williamstown B&F despite also playing 9 games for Bulldogs.

Minson will have the first ruck duties for 2012 and needs to take control as he is 26 and in prime age for a ruckman.

- **Round 8 vs. Richmond**: Playing up forward, Minson took a dismal Richmond defence apart with 4 goals and a goal assist.
- **Round 6 vs. Collingwood**: Playing his first game for year in Hudson's absence he took Wood to the cleaners racking up a missive 56 hitouts.



# **Brodie Moles - #44**

By VitalDread

Photo by Old Dog

Games - 4 Goals - 3

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Stats History- **Brodie Moles (AFL Tables)** 

**Date of Birth** - 7-11 1985

**Recruited**- 2008 Rookie Draft selection (Geelong) No. 16; 2010 Rookie Draft selection (Western Bulldogs) No. 19; 2010 NAB AFL Draft rookie elevation (Western Bulldogs) selection No. 102.

**Height/Weight:** 184cm 88kg **Dreamteam Price:** -\$220,000

Supercoach: -\$240,500



After playing a impressive thirteen games in 2010 Brodie Moles was elevated to the Senior List with pick 102 in which he was expected to show the same amount of impact he showed in 2010 in the 2011 season.

Only managing four games this season before being injured half way in the season resulted in him being placed onto the long term injury list.

With the four games he managed this year he show amazing pace and skills around the ball, being able to keep a cool head under pressure and able to kick goals when out in open space.

In 2012, Moles hopes to regain his 2010 form that allowed him to play thirteen games and also be part of our top 22 side, with a strong pre-season and more development, Brodie Moles is the kind of player McCartney is looking for, tough players that can break tackles and keep a calm head but time will tell.



#### Dale Morris - #38

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 18 Goals - 1

**Best and Fairest** - 5th (81 votes)

**Date of Birth** - 29th December 1982 **Recruited** Pick 19 2004 rookie draft.

Height/Weight: 190cm, 92kg

**Dreamteam:** 1101 points; \$201,300 (-\$14,200) **Supercoach:** 1334 points; \$280,800 (-\$62,000)

Stats history: <u>Dale Morris (AFL Tables)</u>

A model of consistency, Morris again had a stellar 2011 blanketing his opponents both tall and small and covering for the loss of Brian Lake. Finishing 5th in the best and fairest despite missing 4 games Morris can be counted on every time he steps on the field and always gives 100% and was rarely beaten by opponents in 2011. His shutdown roles on some of the games best forwards of all shapes and sizes is a role that few can perform to such a high standard.

However, 2011 ended in tragedy for Morris breaking 2 bones in his leg in the round 21 loss to Essendon.

A renowned fast healer and unparalleled commitment to training and recovery will see Morris do everything he can over he preseason to get himself right for 2012, how his body responds and lets him preform will be a telling sign for the Dogs as he is a vital player to he team and a great leader for the backline.

- Round 12 vs. St Kilda: 23 possessions 5 marks and 5 tackles in a loss to St Kilda
- **Round 16 vs. Carlton**: Given the task of blanketing Eddie Betts, Morris kept the goal kicker to just 9 possessions and 1 goal.



# James Mulligan - #31

By 100action

**Games** - 3 **Goals** - 0

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Recruited Pick 4 rookie draft 2008, promoted at Pick 92 2009

draft.

Height/Weight: 199cm, 99kg

Dreamteam Price: 78 points; \$110,500

Supercoach: 56 points; \$90,000

**Stats** 

James Mulligan can run, jump and overpower with even club officials claiming he is the strongest at the club. A natural athlete Mulligan was always going to be a project player, after a string of performances that saw his name listed in the BESTS for Williamstown, a debut followed in round 11 vs. Geelong.

In this match despite being a player of not much chop Podsiadly booted 3 goals and took 8 grabs, a bulk of which

inside 50 in an annihilation of Mulligan. Mulligan maintained his spot for round 12 but did a hamstring and was subbed off in the third quarter. Mulligan made another appearance in round 19 vs. West Coast, first year player Jack Darling was matched up on him and he beat Mulligan convincingly with a 2 goal, 15 disposal performance which was crucial in West Coast's 8 point win.

Although many people called for Mulligan's delisting come the end of the 2011 season I believe the club made the right call in keeping him for one more year.

Firstly as new recruits are given 2 year minimum contracts, a late pick in this year's weak draft will lock us out of a spot in next year's "super draft", furthermore if the Shane Thorne 1 year delist method was to be used it would be a poor reflection on the club given perceptions about our inability to keep a player and as a small club that has been in a dire financial state, paying out a rookie may seem unprofessional.

Mulligan will also have the opportunity to turn things around; he will essentially need to develop a substantial amount of footy smarts and nous to see him stay on the list post 2012.

#### **Notable Games:**

\*tumbleweed\*





# Robert Murphy - #2

By Werewolf

**DOB:** 9th June, 1982

Drafted: Pick 13, 1999 AFL Draft (recruited from Gippsland Power

U18)

Height: 186cm Weight: 82kg

2011 Review

Games: 21 Goals: 6

Subsituted: N/A

Best and Fairest: 2nd (130 votes)

**Dreamteam:** 1568 points; \$267,500 (-\$55,500) **Supercoach:** 1886 points; \$387,400 (+\$41,400)

Stats history: Robert Murphy (AFL Tables)

In a year when everything went wrong for the Bulldogs backline, Murphy was a shining light. His agility and experience enabled

him to get the better of his opponent nearly every week, while providing valuable run out of defence (3rd in kicks and first in running bounces). His consistent form and high disposal efficiency (82% - impressive considering 7/10 disposals were kicks) saw him rewarded with a place in the All - Australian team along with captain Matthew Boyd. He finished runner-up in the B&F to Boyd.

He played his 200th game in a win over Adelaide in round 13

A selection of past BigFooty threads about Robert:

- <u>Bulldogs in AA</u> (2011)
- Robert Murphy 200 games (2011)
- Robert Murphy a wasted talent (2010)





#### Matthew Panos - #48

#### By **Unotuchable**

**DOB**: January 25, 1991

**Drafted**: No. 48, 2009 Rookie Draft

Height: 191cm Weight: 91 kg

#### 2011 Review

VFL Senior Games: 14

VFL Senior Goals: 29 (13th in competition)

Highest Total: 6 goals versus Frankston round 22 2011

2012 looks to be a big year for young KPP player Matthew Panos following the retirement of Barry Hall. Starting the 2011 season in the VFL reserves, Panos graduated the senior squad holding down positions at CHB and Full Forward. Named in the best for Williamstown on three occasions, he came of age as a player in the VFL Finals kicking 11 goals from three games and being named as Williamstowns best in the GF.

Time will tell if the South Australian forward will make it at AFL level with a lack of pace and size being his only knocks. However, he will only need the ball a handful of times a game to be a threatening player and is easily the best set shot at the club.

#### **Standout Games**

- VFL Round 7 vs. Port Melbourne Kicked four in terrible conditions at TEAC Oval in a big loss.
- **VFL Qualifying Final** Kicked 5 goals against North Ballarat in the 77 point rout of the former champion team and boogeymen of the Seagulls.
- VFL Grand Final vs. Port Melbourne Kicked four goals and was named best for Williamstown in a losing performance.



#### Liam Picken - #42

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 22 Goals - 4

**Best and Fairest** - 8th (66 votes)

**Date of Birth** - 1st August 1986 **Recruited** Pick 30 2008 rookie draft.

Height/Weight: 183cm, 83kg

**Dreamteam:** 1362 points; \$215,400 (-\$41,100) **Supercoach:** 1362 points; \$249,900 (-\$64,700)

Stats history: Liam Picken (AFL Tables)



One thing with Picken is you know exactly what you are going to get each and every week and that is 100% effort. He is a very consistent player with little difference between his best and worst games that saw him play every game this year.

Picken was asked to play his usual midfield shutdown roles but also to play in defence due to the large amount of injuries the bulldogs had in that area of the ground during the year.

With the way the game is moving having shutdown players is becoming less important to team structures and players must be able to be effective both ways in order to impact moving forward. This may mean Picken may play either forward or back as his poor skill level can be found out in the midfield despite his efforts. One thing for sure is that Picken is exactly the player McCartney would like as he is tough and uncompromising, adaptable and gives 100% effort all the time.

- Round 12 vs. St Kilda: 27 possessions, 8 tackles and a goal in a more offensive game.
- Round 14 vs. Gold Coast: Just 16 possessions but laid 13 tackles.



# Jordan Roughead - #23

By VitalDread

**Games** - 9 **Goals** - 3

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Stats history: Jordan Roughead (AFL Tables)

Date of Birth - November 3, 1990

**Recruited**- 2008 NAB AFL Draft 2nd round selection (Western Bulldogs) No. 31 overall.

Height/Weight: 200cm 96kg Dreamteam: -\$212,800 Supercoach: -\$264,700

2011 was an important year for Roughead in gaining experience to become a number 1 ruckmen later on in his career with the bulldogs, showing some good form and marking contest.

Along side with Ben Hudson, Jordan become

our number 2 ruckmen for most of the year with him being chosen over Will Minson, so that he can gain more experience and develop more as a ruckmen/resting forward.

He showed great decision making in the ruck racking up tons of hit outs in favour of the Bulldogs and provided that he can be dangerous in the forward half, going for contested marks and crashing the packs.

Jordan was also part of the Foxtel Cup grand final victory which allowed him to gain more experience as the number 1 ruckmen.

His most impressive game of the year was against Port were he collected a high 16 hit outs and 17 disposals, a great sign for the future.

In 2012 will be a important year young Roughead, he needs to keep his form and gain as much experience from Will Minson and improve his kicking so that he can become a dangerous resting ruckmen in the forward half.





#### **Notable Games:**

- Round 21 vs. Bombers, 16 hit outs 10 disposals
- Round 22 vs. Port 17 hit outs 17 disposals.
- Round 3 vs. Gold Coast 14 disposals, 9 marks, 2 goals

#### Past threads about Jordan:

- The big ORANGE ROUGHY is delicious (2010)
- Jordan Roughead (2010)



# Jayden Schofield - #24

By VitalDread

Games - 7 Goals - 0

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

**Date of Birth** - 14-05-1992

Recruited- 2010 NAB AFL Draft 4th round selection (Western Bulldogs) No. 74 overall.

Height/Weight: 182cm 76kg Dreamteam Price: -\$134,000 Supercoach: -\$168,000

A small defensive player that has the ability to grow into a solid tackling midfielder/half back player, playing seven games this year he showed some good form that was part of the fresh faces into the top 22 side.

From the moment Jayden walked into the field as a sub against the Crows, he was set to show what he was made of, racking up ten disposals and a impressive kick from the back line kept him in the side for another six matches throughout the season in the later half and not backing down from any player regard less of how taller or tougher they are.

His most impressive match was against Port in Round 22, getting 21 disposals and being able to read the play and showing off his rebounding skills.

In 2012, Jayden will have a important year where he will need to keep his form and break into the top 22 side either as a midfielder (tagger) or a small defensive player or have a spell in the forward.

- **Round 22 vs. Port** 21 disposals, showing form in the back half and being able to rebound the ball and keeping players worried.
- Round 23 vs. Hawthorn 16 kicks, 5 handballs 21 disposals, being able to keep a clam head
  against a strong side and break Hawthorn forward pressure and helping Bulldogs rebound.



# Justin Sherman - #11

By 100action

**Games** - 14 **Goals** - 17

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

**Recruited** Pick 45 2004 draft. **Height/Weight:** 183cm, 87kg

Dreamteam Price: 950 points; \$270,600

**Supercoach:** 946 points; \$312,800

**Stats** 

Leaving the Lions in 2010, Justin joined the Western Bulldogs in 2011 at the cost of an end of first round compensation pick (Jarrod Harbrow). After a scorching 2009 season Sherman was identified as a threat by opposition analysts and was not able to fly under the radar in 2010, this culminated in Justin taking the first tag in many matches and being completely blanketed. With the Bulldogs midfield consisting of Griffen, Cooney, Boyd and Cross this was seen as a positive for Sherman as he would receive less attention from the opposition.

Sherman cemented a spot in the best 22 right from round 1 and by round 14 Justin had taken his total goal tally to 17 to lead all comers. To his credit Justin provided much needed outside class, leg speed, run and carry, finishing and goal kicking ability in an otherwise disappointing season for the dogs in which scoring was a problem in many matches. Although filling an important role, supporters continued to question if he was worth the compensatory pick with the oncoming 2012 "superdraft". Sherman was also criticized for kicking many "Joe the Goose" over the top goals in the square, however let us not forget he had to work to get into such positions and a higher percentage shot on goal is always a good thing.

In round 14 Justin Sherman racially abused Nigerian player Joel Wilkinson and tarnished an otherwise solid start to the season; in the match Gold Coast captain Gary Ablett could be seen waving his little hands in contempt and disgust. Sherman was suspended for four weeks and fined \$5000 in an agreement with the victim.

Coupled with this suspension, niggling injuries spelled the end for Justin's 2011 season. He only managed one more game which came in Round 19 against West Coast; Justin's effort in this game was unsatisfactory.

Whilst working hard offensively Justin needs to notably improve his defensive efforts and run both ways, this is currently his glaring weakness with the focus on zones and forward pressure in modern football.



- Round 4 against Fremantle: Justin booted 4 goals in a close but substandard match of football.
- Round 5 against Collingwood: Justin followed up his good work from round 4 by kicking 3 goals and gathering 18 possessions. He was the bulldog's top scorer and one of only a handful of players able to successfully break out of the crushing forward pressure set up by the reigning premiers.
- Round 8 & 13 against Richmond & Adelaide: Played well but sub standard opposition.



# Zephaniah Skinner - #26

By VitalDread

Games - 1 Goals - 0

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Stats History: Zephaniah Skinner (AFL Tables)

Date of Birth - June 27, 1989

Recruited- 2010 NAB AFL Draft 5th round selection

(Western Bulldogs) No. 88 overall.

Height/Weight: 189cm 78kg Dreamteam Price: -\$92,500 Supercoach: -\$103,600

Only managing one game for the season, Zep Skinner show some great form in the VFL side, being able to contest marks and kick a bag of goals, but was in and out of the Williamstown senior side due to injury.

With his appearance in the pre-season NAB cup, Skinner looked to be a accurate left foot kicker, with a pin point kicking on goals and at team mates.

But 2011 was a rush year for Skinner, where his only game he played against Swans resulted in him being the sub and only gathering two disposals in the fourth quarter and then was later dropped.



2012 will be an important year for Skinner, with a solid pre-season we could see Skinner play more games with him showing off his marking skills and impressive kicking skills but only time will tell.

Past BigFooty thread: <u>Treatment of Skinner</u>



# Jason Tutt - #15

By Griffs Revenge

Photo by Old Dog

**Games** - 3 **Goals** - 5

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 15th May 1991 Recruited Pick 31 2009 draft. Height/Weight: 177cm, 72kg

**Dreamteam:** 183 points; \$97,600 (0) **Supercoach:** 190 points; \$110,200 (0)

Stats history: Jason Tutt (AFL Tables)

While Tutt had to wait until round 22 to make his AFL debut, it was seemingly worth the wait as he produced a magical fist game that every young player entering the system dreams of. 4 goals including 3 goals with his first 3 kicks and giving a couple more away was a dream start to an AFL career.



Leading up to his debut Tutt was playing consistently well at Williamstown off the wing and half forward flank and was a key member of the Foxtel Cup winning squad leaving some people to question as to why it took so long for the match committee to select him.

Tutt starting off earmarked as a half back flanker but like Howard seems more suited to playing a half forward/wing role. Like Howard, Tutt has the combination of good speed, good disposal and a big tank which could make a damaging duo playing on the wings for the dogs in years to come.

His main aim for 2012 should be to cement a spot in 22 and to add some weight to be better able to compete as he is still fairly slight of frame.

**Notable Game - Round 22 - vs. Port Adelaide**: 26 possessions, 7 inside 50's, 4 goals and 2 goal assists in one of the best debut games in recent memory.



# Patrick Veszpremi - #8

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 3 Goals - 4

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 1st September 1989

**Recruited** Traded from Sydney with pick 88 for Andrejs

Everitt

Height/Weight: 181cm, 85kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 149 points; \$206,400 (0) **Supercoach:** 144 points; \$214,600 (0)

Stats history: Patrick Veszpremi (AFL Tables)

Veszpremi spent the majority of the year playing for Williamstown. Building up some form to a point where he was about to be selected to play for the bulldogs before unfortunately a break in his hand during training set him back several weeks.

His form after returning was not quite what it was prior to the injury but he slowly built again before being selected for his first Bulldogs game in round 22. In his 3 games he showed enough to suggest that with a better fitness base he can be a regular Bulldogs player playing as a half forward/outside midfielder.



2012 is a year where the ball is well and truly in Veszpremi's court as he needs to build a base so he can run out AFL games. Hard work over summer and we should see much more of Veszpremi in 2012.

**Notable Games** - Round 24 vs. Fremantle: In the final game of the year he produced something to build on for next year with 19 possessions 6 inside 50's and 2 goals.



# Mitchell Wallis - #3

By VitalDread

Photo by Old Dog

**Games** - 6 **Goals** - 0

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

Stats History: Mitchell Wallis (AFL Tables)

Date of Birth - October 24, 1992

Recruited- 2010 NAB AFL Draft 1st round father-son selection

(Western Bulldogs) No. 22 overall.

Height/Weight: 185cm 80kg Dreamteam Price: -\$159,400 Supercoach: -\$171,400

The son of former skipper Steve Wallis, Mitchell was drafted with Bulldogs first round pick under the father son rule, joining his long

time friend Tom Libba and plan to continuing the Wallis name in the Western Bulldogs archives.

After showing great form in the under 18 matches with Calder Cannon, Wallis was a fan favourite from the start, racking up six senior games Wallis showed great form and great hopes for the future, a pure breed leader that backs his team mates and himself.

His six games he provided great inside mid-fielding roles with his friend Libba, and showed with enough pre-season and games under his belt, he can become a true elite inside midfielder and a future captain of the club.

His most impressive match was against Freo and Collingwood, gaining a total of 18 disposals against Freo and 16 disposals against the Pies, but then only player another four games throughout the season.

He was listed in the Williamstown senior side and gain experience as a leader and homed in on his kicking and handballing skills resulting in him playing in the Foxtel Grand Final and VFL Grand Final.

In 2012, Wallis will have an important year as he battles to keep his position in the top 22 side but has shown that he will take the hard road and earn his spot by showing great skills and leader ship.

- Round 6 vs. Pies, 16 disposals 3 tackles
- Round 24 vs. Freo, 18 disposals 3 tackles





# Tom Williams - #12

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 17 Goals - 2

Best and Fairest – Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 17th July 1986 Recruited Pick 6 2004 draft. Height/Weight: 196cm, 101kg

**Dreamteam:** 767 points; \$164,900 (-\$31,100) **Supercoach:** 957 points; \$241,000 (+\$1,600)

Stats history: Tom Williams (AFL Tables)



Williams had a bit of everything in 2011. A good solid start over the first 7 weeks taking names like Cloke saw him building a nice season only for it all to be undone in some supporter's eyes by a horror day over in the west. Matched up against Kennedy he had no answers as Kennedy ran rampart. The next couple of weeks saw Williams play forward in what could only be seen as a lack of faith from Eade and the coaching staff in a disappointing move that would have shook Williams confidence after a solid start to season.

Moved back to defence Williams regained his confidence and played more good football leading up to an outstanding game against Carlton where he showed his powerful marking ability and run from backline.

A broken foot ended Williams season after round 19.

At 25, Williams given his size and athletic abilities given a good run with injuries (something he hasn't had many years of) Williams can take more control of the backline and needs to impose himself more on contests the way he did against Carlton his year.

#### **Notable Games:**

 Round 16 vs. Carlton - A big game for Tom controlling the defensive zone with some big contesting marking and run from backline.



#### Easton Wood - #10

By Griffs Revenge

Games - 15 Goals - 1

Best and Fairest - Outside Top 10

Date of Birth - 4th September 1989

Recruited Pick 43 2007 draft. Height/Weight: 185cm, 82kg

**Dreamteam Price:** 721 points; \$189,300 (-\$9,600)

**Supercoach:** 778 points; \$264,700 (+9,000)

Stats history: <u>Easton Wood (AFL Tables)</u>

A great preseason had many supporters anticipating what Wood could bring to the table this season which saw him start from round 1. Those feelings were soon evaporated however seeing Wood leave the field in round 1 with a broken ankle.



Wood returned in round 9 and played all of the remaining games bar 1 cementing his place as part of the western bulldogs starting back 6 in years to come. His versatile nature of being able to play both tall and small and defensive and offensive makes him an important asset moving forward.

Some things that Wood needs to improve on for next season are his decision making and disposal under pressure as if he improve these to go with his ariel abilities, strength and run he has the ability to turn into a very damaging half back flanker in 2012.

- Round 18 vs. Sydney: 11 possessions and 3 marks in a very good defensive display.
- Round 16 vs. Carlton: 17 possessions 7 marks and6 tackles in a good team performance.



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