



MEDIA RELEASE

dick smith

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For immediate release

NEWMAN LEADS THE NEXT WAVE

The Richmond Football Club is pleased to announce that Chris Newman has been named as its new Captain.

"It is such a massive honour and I am really grateful to the Club for putting such trust in me," Newman said.

"To have John Devine, the grandson of Jack Dyer, present me with the famous number 17, was something I'll never forget."

Newman paid tribute to former captain Kane Johnson who stepped down last week after four years at the helm.

"Kane was an outstanding leader at our club and although they will be big shoes to fill, I am going to relish the challenges and opportunities that come with being Captain of such a proud club," Newman said.

Coach Terry Wallace praised Newman for his outstanding qualities.

"Chris is known by Richmond people for his courage and selflessness. He is a player I can always rely on in the pressure cooker environment of AFL both on and off the field," Wallace said.

Nathan Foley has been retained as vice captain and Brett Deledio and Kelvin Moore will round out the new look leadership group. Two players in the group - Foley and Moore - started their careers at Tigerland on the rookie list.

"Nathan leads by example and sets extremely high standards for his peers. Kelvin is a great organiser on field and has equipped himself well against key opposition forwards while Brett is a dynamic player and an exceptional team lifter," Wallace said.

"I believe this leadership group represents the right blend of youth, experience and energy to take the Richmond Football Club forward in 2009," he said.

Chris Newman profile

Age: 26 years, 6 months

Height: 183cm

Weight: 85kg

Draft details: Selected by Richmond at pick No. 55 (overall) in the 2000 National Draft.

Recruited from: Beaconsfield/Dandenong Stingrays

AFL debut: 2002

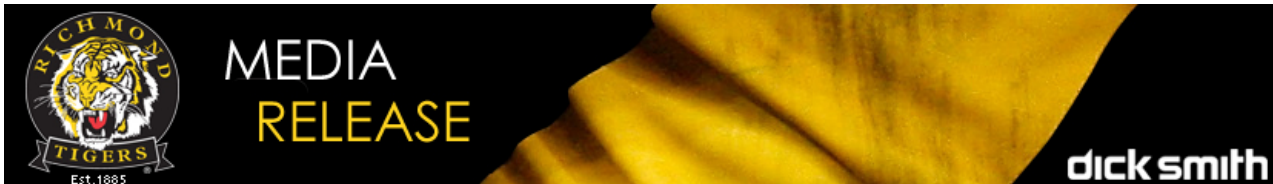
Games: 133

Goals: 17

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17 THINGS ABOUT CHRIS NEWMAN

1. He was born in the year that Richmond last played in a Grand Final - 1982 (May 18).
2. He was selected by the Tigers with their 5th pick (No. 55 overall) in the 2000 National Draft behind Kayne Pettifer, Mark Coughlan, Chris Hyde and Andrew Krakouer.
3. At this stage only one other player from that 2000 National Draft has gone on to captain his club - St Kilda's Nick Riewoldt, who was that year's No. 1 pick.
4. He spent the entire 2001 season with Richmond's VFL affiliate Coburg, although he was named as an emergency for the AFL side in Rounds 7 and 10.
5. He made his AFL debut with Richmond at age 20 years, 7 days, against St Kilda at Telstra Dome in Round 9, 2002 on May 25. He had 4 kicks, 2 handballs, 1 mark, 1 tackle, and the Tigers lost by 9 points (10.12 to 9.9).
6. His first nine games of league football were in losing sides, with his first win coming against Melbourne at the MCG in Round 18 of the 2002 season.
7. He had a career-high 32 disposals against St Kilda in Round 22 of the 2007 season.
8. He took a career-high 13 marks against Hawthorn in Round 20 of the 2008 season.
9. He has polled 11 Brownlow Medal votes all-up in his 133-game career, with his best result being 5 votes in 2007.
10. He was nominated as one of the Tiger Treasures of the Century this year in the goals category, for his "monster" torpedo-punt six-pointer against Fremantle at Subiaco in 2007.
11. His best goal return in a season was 5 in 2003.
12. He has played 44 consecutive games since returning from a severely broken leg, which he suffered against Collingwood at the MCG in Round 13, 2006.
13. He finished 4th in the Tigers' Best and Fairest award this year.
14. He becomes the 39th captain in Richmond's 100-year VFL/AFL history.
15. The No. 17 will be his third guernsey number since joining the Tigers. He started in No. 35 and took over No. 1 a couple of years ago.
16. He will become the third Richmond player to wear the "Captain's No. 17" since its inception five years ago, following Kane Johnson and Wayne Campbell.
17. At 26, he is the youngest Richmond captain since Tony Free was appointed at age 24 in 1994.

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