



W. H. (Dick) Lee

Walter Henry (Dick) Lee

Collingwood footballer

20

Dick Lee was the greatest Collingwood player of the era spanning World War One. He played his first League game at sixteen and went on to play 230 games from 1906 to 1922 and kicked a phenomenal 713 goals.

Despite a ground-breaking cartilage operation in 1912, Lee headed the VFL goal-kicking ladder eight times during his career and tied for the lead twice, a record which has never been challenged. He was one of only three players chosen to play every interstate carnival between 1908 and 1921 and was named Victorian champion, which was an accolade rarely bestowed on a full forward. But Lee was a champion footballer who could star in defence on or off the ball, and his goal tally would have been even higher had he not been so versatile.

A players' representative for nine years, Lee was Vice-Captain twice and Captain twice. His devotion to the club was unquestioned and he served sixteen years as Vice-President. When he walked the streets of Collingwood during his playing days, Lee was revered as a god. His long service and gentle demeanour made him one of the most respected and beloved figures in club history.

Dick Lee was the son of Walter and Isabella Lee. He and his wife Zella (nee Dixon) lived in St George's Road, Northcote. Outside of the football world, he worked as a carrier. He died on 11 September 1968 aged 78 and is buried with his parents and wife.

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