

GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

Aiden Bonar	FWD/CTR	#10	19yo	189cm	86kg
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SONAR AIMED AT BONAR

half forward flanker centre rotations

A well-built and explosive athletic prospect, Aiden Bonar plays as a third tall forward, pushing further up the ground as an inside midfielder. He looks likely to begin his AFL career in that same role, with some thought that he will develop into a full-time midfielder.

Unfortunately Bonar has a history of injury, overcoming two knee reconstructions in his junior years, with a hamstring strain last December in his first Giants preseason. He possesses undoubted X-factor, he'll be behind the pace and unlikely to debut in the near future.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Dylan Buckley	BAC	57.6	#43	25yo	179cm	76kg	39 games
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BUCKLEY'S SECOND CHANCE

half forward flanker rookie

Dylan Buckley joined the Giants' rookie list off the back of 39 games over six seasons at the Blues prior to delisting. During his best season at Carlton his scoring was just under 60, not close to start-worthy even if he were a regular.

Buckley's purpose is solely as a depth player, and he will have to wait for injury to strike in order to be elevated off the rookie list and don the Giants colours. Pass.

Not projected to play (-1). Value: nil.

Jack Buckley	FWD	#41	194cm	81kg
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BUCKLEY'S AND NONE

key forward rookie

A key forward who played the maximum of 5 games as a top-up player for the Giants' NEAFL side, Jack Buckley won the AFL Sydney U19 league best and fairest in 2016. He boots multiple goals in about half his games.

The Swans had him in their academy and were eligible to pick him up as a category B rookie as well due to his basketball background, but GWS got in first. However, he's another Buckley who is unlikely to play seniors in season 2018.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Matthew Buntine	BAC	60.0	#21	24yo	189cm	84kg	41 games
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COMEBACK LINE FOR BUNTINE

lockdown defender coming off LTI knee problem

Bizarrely, it was discovered after round 2 last season that Matthew Buntine had been carrying a partially torn ACL for several years, which required a full knee reconstruction. When he's on the park, fantasy scoring takes a back seat to playing the team role.

Buntine is yet to play more than 12 games in each of his six years at the Giants, also dropping out of the leadership group last season, and his scoring potential indicates he should not be drafted.

Projection: 50.6 from 14 (+12). Value: -313.7. Draft rank: 618. BAC rank: 197.

Jeremy Cameron	FWD	83.0	#18	25yo	196cm	94kg	112 games
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JEZZA LEADS THE BAND

key forward aerialist finisher hurt factor

2017 was Jeremy Cameron's most impressive fantasy season to date by a mile. His output jumped by almost 20 points, yet his goal tally of 45.25 was his lowest of the last three years. The key was his marking, adding three per game plus four disposals as he spent more time leading up the ground.

As Cameron and most of the GWS squad enter their prime playing years, this star forward is set for another virtuous season as that mark tally puts a nice base on what had previously been more variable scoring. He would not look out of place in any fantasy forward line, and is worthy of a middle-round draft pick.

Projection: 86.0 (+4) from 19 (+1). Value: +170.2. Draft rank: 113. FWD rank: 26.

Stephen Coniglio CTR 100.3 #3 24yo 182cm 85kg 95 games

CLEAR AIR FOR CONIGLIO

inside midfielder extractor in-and-under

A prolific 2016 placed Stephen Coniglio in the top echelon of fantasy midfielders, even polling the most Brownlow votes of his team. Ongoing ankle issues, including surgery that forced him out for 10 weeks mid-season, meant he couldn't replicate that stellar form.



(AAP Image/Julian Smith)

Coniglio has largely been freed up from tagging roles, and tends to score okay even when applying them as his game has become more outside and he excels at running off his man to receive. If he gets through the preseason unscathed, the Giants' #3 warrants a pick in the early rounds as he has strong bounce back potential.

Projection: 102.3 (+2) from 18 (+11). Value: +293.0. Draft rank: 65. CTR rank: 42.

Aidan Corr BAC 61.0 #35 23yo 195cm 94kg 59 games

NO ZEST FOR LEMON CORR

key defender ankle problem

After an injury-ruined 2016, Aidan Corr bounced back last season to cement his defensive position in the GWS line-up. His numbers are team-focused, meaning he'll play his defensive role for the team with little regard for the desire of fantasy coaches.

Corr has established his value in the Giants' defensive stocks, with his extreme competitiveness and good ball use not going unnoticed. However, his fantasy return is bordering that of a lemon. Shouldn't be drafted.

Projection: 51.5 (+3) from 19 (-1). Value: -408.4. Draft rank: 645. BAC rank: 215.

Isaac Cumming BAC #13 19yo 184cm 74kg '16 ND #20

ISAAC YET TO COME ON

half back flanker

Coming off a junior year representing six different sides, Isaac Cumming played 16 games in the NEAFL for averages of 21 touches and five marks for 78 fantasy points, far from dismal but not enough for a call up considering the extensive list of Giants talent.

The LTI to **Zac Williams** in preseason gives Cumming the chance at an AFL debut. Replicating that stat line from the magoos at senior level is another kettle of fish, and he will have competition for the spot. Someone in your league will burn a flier on him as he enjoys better opportunity, though his scoring upside is limited.

Projection: 62.0 from 10 (+10). Value: -110.0. Draft rank: 460. BAC rank: 143.

Brent Daniels FWD/CTR #16 19yo 171cm 70kg

DECEMBER DOWNER FOR DANIELS

crumbing forward current LTI knee problem

As a small and speedy roving forward with footy smarts, Brent Daniels looms as a damaging goalscorer with potential to move into midfield. He slotted 13 goals in seven TAC Cup games last season.

Daniels' start to 2018 will be delayed after undergoing surgery on a knee meniscus in December which will put him out until at least March. He will develop in the NEAFL for a while.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Phil Davis BAC 66.2 #1 27yo 197cm 96kg 121 games

DON'T FILL UP ON DAVIS

key defender

The GWS co-captain has the role and the mindset of team before individual. Routinely, Phil Davis will mark the opposition full forward, never an easy day at the office.

Davis' defensive efforts are exceptional, his fantasy game is not. He is the anchor of the GWS ship but shouldn't be a deadweight on your fantasy back line, with consistent scoring around the 50 mark.

Projection: 52.5 (-2) from 19 (-2). Value: -389.3. Draft rank: 642. BAC rank: 213.

Matthew de Boer	FWD	67.4	#24	28yo	189cm	86kg	153 games
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NO APB FOR MDB

tagger defensive forward

Following eight seasons at the Dockers, Matthew de Boer's numbers dropped considerably at GWS. His best work came off the ball as a lock-down forward, as in his job on **Zach Tuohy** in round 15. He featured in the top 10 for tackle and handball averages at the club.

de Boer's leadership and experience is valued much more than the half a goal per game he now delivers, but his best fantasy days are behind him. He won't go near his best effort of 84 from 2012, and should be left undrafted.

Projection: 58.7 (-7) from 15 (+3). Value: -273.8. Draft rank: 604. FWD rank: 231.

Brett Deledio	FWD	102.2	#7	31yo	188cm	86kg	250 games
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TEARS ON LIDS' EYELIDS

half forward flanker

On his transfer from Richmond, Brett Deledio was touted to be the touch of experience, speed and finesse that could boost the Giants into a grand final. Contrary to hope, Lids' 2017 was miserable as a wretched run with a calf injury kept him on the sidelines until round 20.



(AAP Image/Julian Smith)

When he did appear, he looked slow. That's what a year out of the game will do to you. If he can stay on the park this preseason and put his injury woes behind him he will surely improve from 2017, but don't expect the Deledio of old.

Projection: 85.5 (-6) from 14 (+10). Value: +119.3. Draft rank: 139. FWD rank: 33.

Jeremy Finlayson	BAC/CTR	19.0 (1)	#31	21yo	196cm	91kg	1 game
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NO FIELD DAY FOR FINLAYSON

half back flanker

A left knee injury on debut would have been an awful feeling for Jeremy Finlayson. Four weeks of rehab later, he could not break back into the Giants' strong senior squad with both HBFs filled with quality players. He finished his NEAFL season averaging 26 touches, a goal and over 100 fantasy points, and signed a one-year contract.

Finlayson has been barking on the door for another shot at AFL level and will get it after **Zac Williams** was injured, similar to the opportunity **Daniel Lloyd** received last year. He hasn't proven himself yet on the big stage and could fail to replicate that lower level form like Lloyd. Any sort of positive sign in the JLT will see him fly up draft boards like a monster truck.

Projection: 57.0 (+37) from 6 (+5). Value: -96.0. Draft rank: 426. BAC rank: 133.

Matthew Flynn	FWD/RUC		#30	20yo	200cm	101kg	'15 ND #41
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STILL OUT LIKE FLYNN

second ruck/forward

Spending all of his first two listed years at the lower level as young tallies are often forced to do, Matthew Flynn's NEAFL numbers were serviceable at just under 70 fantasy points in a ruck/forward role.

Flynn will spend most of 2018 in the NEAFL as well. With Shane Mumford and Tom Downie retired, he's a slight chance to make an AFL debut. Keep waiting for him to mature.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Zac Langdon	FWD		#17	24yo	175cm	75kg	
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A FRENCH INVASION?

crumbing forward

After playing the last two seasons with Claremont, Langdon is a ready-made small forward. Before the draft, Andrew Embley touted him as the next **Mark LeCras** though his rate of just over a goal per game in the WAFL isn't quite as impressive as that hype.

The retirement of Steve Johnson opens up a spot for a small forward, but competition will be tight. Watch Langdon during the preseason to see where he fits into the talented squad.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Toby Greene FWD 95.1 #4 24yo 182cm 82kg 117 games

IT IS TOBY AN EARLY PICK

inside midfielder half forward flanker buckets finisher hurt factor

Despite his history with the MRP and off field indiscretions, you'd much rather see Toby Greene on your side than on your opponent's. His high half forward role allows him to accumulate as well as make a dent on the scoreboard with 18 disposals, six marks and 2.4 goals per game in 2017. Since his move away from a full-time midfield gig, Greene's scoring hasn't reached the same epic heights. He broke a toe on holiday in the off season and started preseason in January.



(AAP Image/David Moir)

Many wondered what the arrival of **Brett Deledio** would mean for Greene, each playing that similar wing/half forward role. In a small sample size of six games played together, both failed to crack the fantasy ton in any of those games. We will have to bide our time to see how their relationship unfolds in more detail, but his FWD eligibility means Greene will and should be snapped up with an early pick.

Projection: 90.5 from 19 (+3). Value: +257.4. Draft rank: 77. FWD rank: 8.

Ryan Griffen CTR 88.8 #32 31yo 192cm 88kg 241 games

SHUT THE GRIFFEN DOOR

loose in defence inside midfielder

Once a fantasy jet, now an injury-prone veteran, Ryan Griffen's presence at the Giants is about leadership and experience. His 2017 was one to forget, failing to reappear after a persistent ankle injury struck in round 3. Back and hamstring problems the year prior meant that Griffen's last two seasons have been limited to 17 matches.

In the same boat as **Brett Deledio**, if Griffen's body can hold up he is a vital player in the Giants outfit with his contested ball winning ability crucial, making him capable of delivering decent fantasy scores. Keep an eye on him in the preseason - if there are no more hurdles then his risk may be worth a pick in the later stages of middle rounds.

Projection: 81.7 (+1) from 15 (+12). Value: -64.9. Draft rank: 356. CTR rank: 101.

Nick Haynes BAC 79.3 #19 25yo 193cm 89kg 81 games

SPLATTER OF SCORES FOR HAYNES

key defender

Hamstring injury forced Nick Haynes to the sidelines for 10 weeks midway through last season, abruptly halting his strong run of form over the first six rounds, when he averaged just on 80 fantasy points. Coming off a 2016 season with remarkable consistency, Haynes' ceiling increased with three fantasy tons while his variability blew out with sub-50 scores on three other outings.

Floating around as a loose man in defence boosts his output on occasion, but you can usually expect an accountable defensive role for Haynes. There is nothing to suggest much will change coming into 2018. There are better options to choose from who boast more upside, but you know what to expect with Haynes and, if that's of value to you when it's your turn to draft, he can be worth a late round pick.

Projection: 74.9 (+1) from 19 (+3). Value: +35.7. Draft rank: 187. BAC rank: 52.

Harrison Himmelberg BAC/FWD 51.3 (13) #27 20yo 194cm 92kg 16 games

ICE BREAKER FOR HIMMELBERG

key defender key forward swingman

After a year of playing defence in 2016, the majority of Harrison Himmelberg's games last season were as a forward. On the big stage without **Jeremy Cameron**, Himmelberg booted four goals in the preliminary final loss to the Tigers.

Himmelberg has become a swingman for the Giants but his fantasy numbers weren't overly impressive in either position. He should improve in 2018 through natural progression, though not enough to warrant selection. Let him slide through the draft.

Projection: 53.8 (+7) from 12 (+3). Value: -230.9. Draft rank: 574. BAC rank: 174.

Jacob Hopper	CTR	66.0 (17)	#2	21yo	187cm	87kg	23 games
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SLOW CRAWL FOR HOPPER

inside midfielder rests forward

It's no secret that Jacob Hopper can play. The Giants' former #7 pick burst onto the scene in his first game in 2016 with 32 disposals. Since then, injuries to back, ankle and finger have stunted his progress. His metres gained stat dropped below 200 per game in his second season, even as his contested rate dropped below 50%.

The abundance of midfield talent around Hopper meant occasionally starting forward. Watch with interest during the preseason comp, as this could be the year that that Jacob hops into the next bracket. While it's no certainty due to GWS's sublime depth, Hopper should be a regular feature come 2018 and could be a brilliant late round pick.

Projection: 81.4 (+14) from 15 (+5). Value: -68.6. Draft rank: 367. CTR rank: 107.

Lachlan Keefe	BAC/FWD	61.3	#25	28yo	204cm	101kg	40 games
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MORE GRIEF FOR KEEFFE

key defender

After he and former Magpie teammate **Josh Thomas** served two-year bans for testing positive to clenbuterol, Lachlan Keefe played 19 VFL games last season for averages of 13 touches and five marks. The Giants gave him a second chance after Collingwood's delisting.

Pigs would have to fly for the versatile swingman to debut in round 1, with **Harrison Himmelberg** the go-to tall utility at GWS. However, with Shane Mumford retired, Keefe may assist in ruck alongside **Dawson Simpson** or **Rory Lobb**. Regardless, he was never the fantasy type.

Projection: 48.4 from 4 (+4). Value: -98.5. Draft rank: 436. BAC rank: 138.

Josh Kelly	CTR	111.4	#22	23yo	184cm	82kg	84 games
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GREATER WESTERN KELLY

balanced midfielder magnet in-and-under launcher hurt factor

Josh Kelly joined some incredible fantasy royalty in making top six in the 2017 Brownlow Medal. He went to a new level in averaging 29 touches and six tackles, ninth overall for total fantasy points, was incredibly consistent, and displayed an enormous ceiling with two 150+ scores. His ratio shifted inside from 13:11 to 14:15, adding a couple of tackles per game and four points to his contested rate.



(AAP Image/Julian Smith)

The worry with Kelly is that he will surely be paid more attention this year, and we don't know how he might respond. With a star-studded midfield causing headaches for oppo analysts, Kelly might avoid the crosshair. You couldn't be faulted for taking Kelly with a first round pick, but he may turn out to be a steal in second or third rounds if more established names go first.

Projection: 107.5 (-3) from 22 (+1). Value: +472.9. Draft rank: 17. CTR rank: 14.

Adam Kennedy	BAC/CTR	53.5	#40	25yo	182cm	80kg	83 games
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LATE BLAST OFF FROM KENNEDY

lockdown defender current LT1 knee problem

Believe it or not, Adam Kennedy was GWS' highest scoring player in their inaugural AFL match. Since that outlier in round 1 of 2012, he has not gone close to those heights. An ACL tear in round 7 ended Kennedy's 2017 season.

With the usual 12-month turnaround on that injury, his start to the season will likely be delayed. When fit and firing, he can have the odd serviceable fantasy game, but his concentration is on defensive play rather than rebounding. Look elsewhere.

Projection: 55.6 (-1) from 7. Value: -121.7. Draft rank: 478. BAC rank: 148.

Daniel Lloyd	FWD	43.3 (7)	#38	26yo	187cm	87kg	7 games
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LOWER LEVEL FOR LLOYD

inside midfielder rests forward rookie

With GWS's deep injury woes of 2017, Daniel Lloyd laced on the boots more than many expected him to in playing seven games with the senior squad, rotating midfield and forward. His NEAFL numbers are excellent, chugging along at 25 disposals and 93 fantasy points across his ten 2017 matches, with 26 and 113 across 16 the year prior.

On the big stage he came nowhere close to replicating this, a 17-touch, 1-goal debut game his peak performance. Mirroring last year, Lloyd will need a lot to fall his way in order to break into a supreme Giants side. Leave undrafted.

Not projected to play (-7). Value: nil.

Rory Lobb	FWD/RUC	73.1	#37	23yo	207cm	104kg	55 games
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CURVEBALL FOR LOBB

key forward second ruck/forward buckets groin problem

Shane Mumford went down with a foot injury during the 2017 finals campaign, forcing Rory Lobb to take first ruck duties. This move from a support role to lead ruck delivered two of his better fantasy scores for the year. His athletic ability and willingness to fly at the contest means that if he's not grabbing contested marks, he's bringing the ball to ground for the small forwards to jump on. The groin problem that put him out for four games in 2017 surfaced again in preseason, forcing the club to modify his program.

Lobb has established his value within the Giants line-up and is now a regular feature in the 22. In the fantasy realm, his dual positioning is a desirable bonus, as his scoring if playing lead ruck would not be all that much more than baseline if he didn't also have forward eligibility where the standards of startability are looser. Rory is definitely worth a later pick as flexible bench cover, even if he doesn't get the lead ruck gig.

Projection: 67.9 (+1) from 18 (+1). Value: -164.6. Draft rank: 526. FWD rank: 198.

Tim Mohr	BAC	68.5	#39	29yo	196cm	104kg	46 games
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NOT MANY LESS THAN MOHR

key defender

With a single senior appearance in 2017 as a late inclusion. Tim Mohr lined up 12 times in the NEAFL for an average of 15 touches and 6 marks... which isn't awful, but NEAFL isn't AFL.

Previously a regular in the Giants' starting squad, Tim Mohr has fallen down the pecking order as younger defenders surpassed him. He's out of favour and the scoring potential isn't there anyway. Pass.

Projection: 57.9 from 1. Value: -15.1. Draft rank: 228. BAC rank: 69.

Joel Patfull	BAC	48.3		33yo	190cm	88kg	219 games
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EMPTY NEST FOR PATFULL

key defender retired

While Joel Patfull is still technically on the Giants' list, you'd be outright mad to pick this bloke in your team.

Patfull has been retired for over a year now and is only listed for administrative reasons.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Jonathon Patton	FWD	82.8	#12	24yo	198cm	101kg	77 games
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PUT DOWN PIEBALD PATTON

key forward buckets finisher

It was the best season to date for the General, kicking 45.23 with 12 possessions and six marks per game. Jonathon Patton's fantasy output increased by a respectable amount as well, putting the big unit into serious consideration for drafting for the first time. He notched three fantasy tons, highlighted by a 23 touch, 13 mark, four goal humiliation of the Lions in round 4.

As it is with many full forwards, Patton's efforts don't always translate into fantasy points with crunching packs and bringing the ball to ground also strong points of his game. Don't be fooled as it's in the nature for this type of forward to be inconsistent, so don't take Patton with any sort of early pick. A selection in the latter rounds of the draft is more reasonable, if at all.

Projection: 70.0 (-4) from 22 (+3). Value: -155.0. Draft rank: 517. FWD rank: 194.

Harry Perryman	BAC	50.0 (8)	#36	19yo	184cm	77kg	8 games
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MILD FLAVOUR TO PERRYMAN

half back flanker

A 20-disposal game showed glimmers of Harry Perryman's capabilities during his eight senior games rotating through defence last season. His NEAFL stats are much more impressive at rates of 26 touches and five marks with a fantasy average just north of the ton.

The departure of **Nathan Wilson** to Fremantle and injury to **Zac Williams** opens up multiple spots in defence. The clever, classy rebounder should be given more opportunity this season, but Perryman hasn't yet proven his fantasy capabilities at AFL level yet and may be left undrafted in your league.

Projection: 62.4 (+7) from 12 (+4). Value: -126.8. Draft rank: 487. BAC rank: 149.

Sam J. Reid	FWD	51.3	#50	28yo	188cm	85kg	43 games
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PAGE TURNER BY REID

crumbing forward rookie

Sam J. Reid is a journeyman, and 2017 was his most promising AFL year to date, chalking up a career-best 13 matches mostly as a deep forward. An ankle injury following round 16 put him out for a month, and he only made the emergencies for finals as **Matthew de Boer** filled his spot.

As GWS have healed from their wounds in the off season, it would be a surprise to see Reid beat last year's games tally. There are a few spots available in the forward line with the departures of Steve Johnson and **Devon Smith**, and it's Stevie J's pocket he will aim at. He is not a fantasy player in any case.

Projection: 49.7 from 7 (-6). Value: -191.2. Draft rank: 547. FWD rank: 209.

Tom Scully	CTR	88.9	#9	26yo	181cm	79kg	151 games
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DUMMY RUN FROM SCULLY

outside midfielder

Unfortunately for Tom Scully, showcasing a phenomenal work rate and elite speed don't always equate to fantasy points, as much of his running off the ball is defensive to fill space. After a career-best 2016, the former #1 pick's output dropped off slightly in most basic stats last season with his number of fantasy tons dropping from nine to three, including a couple of tags slapped on him before the bye.



(AAP Image/Julian Smith)

The emergence of **Josh Kelly** on the opposite wing was one factor. The football continues to find Scully's hands, but his preference to handball rather than kick can be frustrating for fantasy coaches. He will slide to a mid-round pick and should be snapped up there, as his role could easily change to a more leather-focused one if Kelly starts getting tagged more often.

Projection: 88.8 (+6) from 22 (+1). Value: +60.8. Draft rank: 171. CTR rank: 66.

Will Setterfield	FWD/CTR	44.5 (2)	#11	20yo	190cm	82kg	2 games
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FIELD SET FOR WILL'S BOWLING

inside midfielder

At senior level, Will Setterfield only played two games in his debut season, one of which was affected by a head knock. A ten-week ankle injury delayed that mini-run to late in the season and prevented him from building continuity to recreate his previous TAC Cup form line of rates of 22 touches and eight tackles.

Setterfield will be a gun in future years, with the prototype midfield build mirroring **Scott Pendlebury** and **Marcus Bontempelli**. With the quality engine room at GWS, it's doubtful that the kid lines up in the ones more than he doesn't this year. He's certainly worth a late-round flier if you gamble on him playing the majority of games.

Projection: 70.5 (+21) from 12 (+10). Value: -78.0. Draft rank: 388. FWD rank: 132.

Heath Shaw	BAC	83.4	#23	32yo	183cm	86kg	262 games
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CLIFF LOOMS ON (C) SHAW

half back flanker loose in defence rebounder

Coming off his two most industrious seasons, Heath Shaw couldn't back that up for a third time with his fantasy scoring dropping by 20 points. He's still the prime rebounder at the Giants, but dropped from first to sixth in the league for rebound 50s with the load shared around a bit more. Heater lost his title as most bounce-hungry in the league to **Adam Saad** as well.

Despite these declines, Shaw remains the unofficial captain of the GWS defence, constantly pointing fingers and directing traffic. On the wrong side of 30, Shaw will not regain the scoring form of his prime years. However the Giants will continue to look for this bloke as the rebound catalyst in **Nathan Wilson's** absence, and Shaw will remain a firm choice for any fantasy defence.

Projection: 87.5 (+7) from 20 (-2). Value: +290.0. Draft rank: 68. BAC rank: 18.

Dylan Shiel	CTR	97.8	#5	25yo	182cm	82kg	112 games
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LAST BLOCK FOR SHIEL

inside midfielder extractor launcher

A smooth mover, Dylan Shiel has been consistently delivering fantasy averages in the 90s since 2014. An impressive season saw him finish fourth overall for clearances, eighth for inside 50s and second behind **Dustin Martin** for centre clearances. On zero occasions during the home & away season did his disposal tally fall below 20.



(AAP Image/David Moir)

The dependability is there, as is the scoring ability, but the ceiling doesn't reach the heights of his fellow GWS mids. Shiel has teased fantasy coaches on taking the next step to uber-premium; will he be able to this year? An early pick does justice here, how early depends if you think he can take that next step.

Projection: 100.2 (+6) from 22. Value: +312.8. Draft rank: 60. CTR rank: 39.

Nicholas Shipley	CTR		#34	18yo	188cm	93kg	
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SARGASSO AHEAD FOR SHIPLEY

inside midfielder

With a similar body type to **Will Setterfield**, Nicholas Shipley often finds himself extracting the footy from the bottom of packs. He's quick for his size and has shown his ball-winning ability, leading disposals for the Allies twice during the Championships.

An academy draftee, Shipley will spend most if not all of the year in the reserves, with a long waiting list to crack into the Giants midfield, a quiet and unrewarding pathway trodden by a long line of first-round draft picks before him..

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Dawson Simpson	RUC	74.5 (19)	#26	29yo	210cm	109kg	30 games
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SIMPSON OUT OF THE DESERT

first ruck

Retirements of Shane Mumford and Tom Downie suggest that Dawson Simpson has a strong chance of taking charge of the GWS ruck brigade in 2018, with support from **Rory Lobb**. He's a monster in the hit out department, with tallies of 44 and 33 in his only senior games in 2017, and a career high of 55. He has been dominating the NEAFL with 14 disposals and 48 hit outs per game for an impressive fantasy average of 116.

Obviously that's almost impossible to replicate at AFL level, however 2018 looms as Simpson's greatest opportunity for a stand-out personal year. Not a household name even though he has two surnames, he won't be on many coach's radars, so he could easily slip to the later rounds and be a boast-worthy pick if all works out. Watch with interest during the preseason to see how GWS sort out their ruck department as he has strong sleeper upside.

Projection: 78.9 (+16) from 18 (+16). Value: -109.9. Draft rank: 458. RUC rank: 32.

Zachary Sproule	FWD	#28	19yo	197cm	91kg
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GREEN SHOOTS FOR SPOULE**key forward** **rookie**

Versatile Zach Sproule spent his first year after graduating the Giants' academy as a roaming forward in the NEAFL. Seventeen games with 28.15 on the scoreboard and a 17 disposal, 81 fantasy point average was a solid return for this youngster.

Sproule will likely spend the majority of this year continuing to develop in the NEAFL. With a host of GWS talent bidding for spots, it's hard to see him as a regular feature just yet.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Jake Stein	BAC	#42	24yo	195cm	94kg
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DIFFERENT GAMES FOR STEIN**key defender** **non-AFL background** **rookie**

Former decathlete Jake Stein's AFL record was almost non-existent prior to last season, and he played 17 games in the NEAFL at rates of 11 disposals and 4 marks. He was elevated off the rookie list when the Giants were rotting with injury, but did not make a senior appearance.

2018 will be another year of development for this project player to build his basic footy skills as a key position defender, with the slightest chance to debut if injury turmoil strikes again and zero fantasy relevance even if that happens.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Tim Taranto	FWD/CTR	66.5 (12)	#14	20yo	186cm	83kg	14 games
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FANFARE FOR TARANTO**inside midfielder** **rests forward**

Thanks to a long list of injuries to teammates, Tim Taranto found himself as a regular Giant in the first half of 2017. Then he joined the injury himself with an ankle complaint that saw him miss two months, though he made it back for finals. Across his 14 matches, he averaged 15 touches and four tackles mostly playing as an outside midfielder.

With another preseason under his belt and the ankle injury behind him, expect Taranto to improve his on-field and fantasy performances. While he's near the top of the list of preferred younger mids, a couple bad games and there's a host of GWS talent who will snap his spot. A mid-late pick could prove a steal if he cements a spot in the senior side.

Projection: 77.4 (+16) from 17 (+5). Value: +7.1. Draft rank: 205. FWD rank: 61.

Sam Taylor	BAC	#15	18yo	196cm	87kg
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TALL TIMBER IS TAYLOR**key defender**

A quick and composed tall defender who is willing to take intercept marks and start rebounds, Sam Taylor averaged 18.5 disposals and seven marks at the Championships in between appearances for Swan Districts in the WAFL.

At 196cm and 87kg, Taylor will need some time in the gym to mould some bulk into his frame, and won't break into the Giants' established list any time soon unless complete disaster strikes. Keep an eye on Taylor, but don't draft him.

Not projected to play. Value: nil.

Lachlan Tiziani	FWD	#33	21yo	189cm	79kg	'16 ND #54
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TIZIANI AIMS FOR A POCKET**half forward flanker**

Coming into his second year as a medium sized forward with an elite vertical leap, Lachlan Tiziani has on his CV an 80 fantasy point NEAFL average with 15 disposals and six marks, putting 19.10 on the scoreboard last season.

Tiziani will be itching to claim the vacancies left by Steve Johnson and **Devon Smith**. Watch him in the JLT to see if he can beat out mature-aged **Zac Langdon**, with **Brent Daniels** out of the race as he recovers from knee surgery.

Projection: 51.8 from 4 (+4). Value: -100.8. Draft rank: 446. FWD rank: 156.

Adam Tomlinson	BAC	58.5	#20	24yo	194cm	97kg	91 games
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TOMLINSON SHOWS SPINAL STRENGTH

key defender

2017 saw Adam Tomlinson finally nailed a spot down in the GWS line-up after being tried at both ends, beating out **Aidan Corr** for a spot in the defensive spine. Turns out that there was room for both of these boys, and this may be even more true after his move to the right wing for 27 possessions and seven marks in the final loss to Richmond.

The role Tomlinson played for the vast majority of 2017 was CHB, and in that position he was more focused on his marker than his fantasy scoring. The Giants already have two excellent wingmen and plenty of midfielders to spare, so he's likely to return to defence in 2018 where you should leave him undrafted.

Projection: 55.6 from 16 (-5). Value: -278.5. Draft rank: 605. BAC rank: 190.

Callan Ward	CTR	99.2	#8	28yo	187cm	84kg	192 games
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GIVE AN AWARD TO WARD

inside midfielder magnet extractor

Giants co-captain and proven fantasy gun, Callan Ward's disposal average rose by three to 27, but his scoreboard impact dropped. After showing some signs of back soreness early in the season, his fantasy scoring rose by a mammoth 27 points after the bye, breaking the fantasy ton in 10 of his last 13 matches including finals.



(AAP Image/Julian Smith)

Ward has been a set-and-forget fantasy pick since 2012 with the upcoming season showing no indication of being any different, and he does not seem to attract tags unlike **Josh P. Kennedy** in a similar role at the crosstown rival Swans. Pick him with confidence in the earlier rounds.

Projection: 99.2 (+6) from 22. Value: +289.5. Draft rank: 69. CTR rank: 43.

Lachie Whitfield	CTR	89.7	#6	23yo	187cm	81kg	90 games
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ANYHOW, HAVE A WHITFIELD

outside midfielder

Due to a six-month drug-related suspension, Lachie Whitfield was not allowed to play until round 8 last year meaning he was mostly irrelevant in fantasy drafts. That's not the case this year, as he notched up five fantasy tons in seven games on his return, putting the spotlight right back on him.

Whitfield has improved each year since his debut, averaging 25 touches and 6 marks in 2017. With GWS set to make another strong finals push, Whitfield has every chance to boost his scoring yet again. An early pick is warranted, how early depends on how much room you believe is left for improvement.

Projection: 101.9 (+12) from 22 (+7). Value: +349.9. Draft rank: 49. CTR rank: 32.

Zac Williams	BAC	91.6	#29	23yo	185cm	84kg	76 games
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NOT WORTH A ZAC

half back flanker current LTI ankle problem

Zac Williams' 2017 was a yo-yo in fantasy scoring, dependent on how defensively accountable his role was each week. In matches where he played loose in defence or as the spitter, coming off the back of the square, his output was premium with six fantasy tons. His preference to kick is a bonus for fantasy coaches.

More responsibility was supposed to fall on the shoulders of Williams in 2018. Instead, a preseason Achilles rupture means he will sit out the vast majority of the campaign and watch on as younger teammates vie to replace him.

Projection: 70.8 (-10) from 2 (-18). Value: -4.4. Draft rank: 212. BAC rank: 61.