

DROMANA FOOTBALL-NETBALL CLUB HISTORY



'DOWN MEMORY LANE'

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE 1960'S

We recently received two photographs of Dromana teams of the 1960's era. They are important additions to the club's history and are sure to create interest. The photos are posted below as shown:

1963 TEAM PHOTOGRAPH



The above photograph is from 1963 and the team includes some well-known players and officials from that era:

Back Row: Fenney Caine(Trg), Brian Taylor, Fred Olsen, Barry Liddell, Bob O'Leary, Colin Buchanan, Graham Anthony, Daryl Grogan, Ed Buchanan, Ian Matthews, Eric Oakes, ?

Mid Row: Wally Guy(Goal Ump), Graham Frazer, Brian Griffiths, Brian McCormick, Leo Doolan, Ray Brindley, Bob Coucaud, ?, Rick Stivenberg(Bound), George Osborne.

Front Row: Ken Myers, Herbert, Terry Fowler, Max Gorsuch, Burnie Pearson

The coach that season was Leo Doolan. It is thought that he had been listed with North Melbourne FC in earlier times; however, there is no evidence of Leo playing a Senior Grade VFL match. A certain 'L. Doolan' was listed as a youngster of some ability with Werribee in earlier years. Leo was the coach at Dromana for only one year before stepping down when the former Richmond star, John Nix, was appointed in 1964.

Note: It is not clear if Leo is related to former NMFC midfielder/ utility Neil Doolan (103 games) who won the Gardiner Medal in 1951 and later represented Victoria. Neil coached Northcote to a VFA premiership in 1961.

Any reader with knowledge of Leo's football career is kindly asked to contact Roger. It is hoped that a story about Leo's time at Dromana FC can be pieced together and placed on record.

Officials in the group included Eric Oakes, Ed Buchanan, George Osborne, and Wally Guy (i.e. the goal umpire in the white coat). Younger readers may be unaware, that in earlier times, in most country leagues, each club was required to supply a goal and a boundary umpire for all grades.

UNDATED TEAM PHOTO



This photo is more than 50 years old and presents a few more challenges regarding player recognition. Guess work is 'not good enough' in club history; and, although there are well known faces, assistance is required in positively identifying the other team members. If any readers can assist in naming any of the above players please contact Graham or Roger. Thank you.

Back Row: Reg Bailey (Tr), Colin McLear, Ian Matthews, Alec Matthews, Ed Buchanan, Bob Brindley, Alby Ireland, Jack Richards, Alan McDonald, John Seymour, John Cornish, ?, Bob Coucaud, John Ross
Front Row: Joe Ibister, ?, Tony MacKenzie, Ken Edwards, Donald Edwards, Ken Toy, Alan 'Bluey' Holmes, Brian Griffiths, Bruce Jordan, Bob Moorehead

PLAYERS OF THE 1960's

Research indicates that some of the family names of players who represented the DFC in the 1960's included: Brindley, Dark, Gourlay, Pittock, Williams,

Matthews, Clay, Robinson Fyson , Jolley Coucacaud, Lechte, Griffiths, Birch, Cox, Castles, Squire, Olsen, Chambers, Clay Allan, Grogan, Seymour, Van Roy, McCormick, Griffith, McLearn, Myers, Moorehead Emerson, Hazeldine, Edwards, Gorsuch, Kennedy, Nix, Murphy, Buchanan, Taylor, Reilly, Cornish, Proudfoot, Ross, Andrews, O' Leary, Myers, Frazer and Doolan.

TEAM LISTS

The above list of players from the 1960's is not exhaustive, and the club would appreciate any team sheets of matches from the 1960's. Team lists carry a great deal of information about the players, who represented DFNC, and sometimes unearth some surprising revelations about earlier times.

THE MATTER OF UMPIRES IN LOCAL FOOTBALL

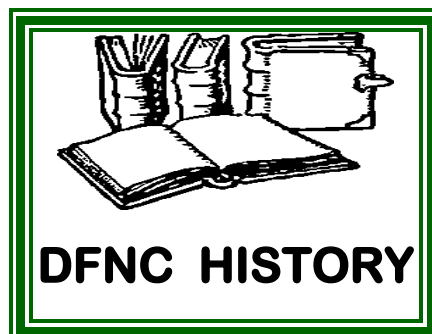
Further to the fact that Dromana supplied umpires in the 1960's, as a point of interest , 'neutral' umpires were not introduced in to the VFL until 1872. Believe it or not , prior to that, the captains of the teams awarded free kicks.

Considering that the first game of Australian Rules was played in 1858 (Scotch College v Melbourne Grammar) it took another fourteen years for the 'penny to drop' and the idea of independent umpires to 'take the whistle ' to be introduced.

Umpiring was also problematic matter in the formative days of the local competition. In 1893, complaints about the impartiality of umpires were common and openly published. The following extract is from 1905 and it seems that things had not improved a great deal...

“ The secretary of the Peninsula Football Association is having a good deal more writing and worry over the umpire question than is considered a fair thing. First one club states they won't play under this umpire, and another club states they won't play under that umpire. Under, these circumstances it would be advisable for the delegates to meet at an early date, to consider what is best to be done in the matter, for if clubs refuse to play under Peninsula umpires it resolves itself into getting umpires from Melbourne and that is sure to prove costly.” Source: 'Mornington Standard May 20th 1905 Page: 5

CAN YOU HELP TO BUILD THE DFNC ARCHIVES ?



Over the past few years, the History Committee of the DFNC has been trying to place on record as much as possible about the people, games and events of the club since it inception more than 100 years ago.

It is hoped to gather club memorabilia such as photographs, programs, publications, membership tickets, press cuttings, awards and teamsheets to place on permanent record on the club's website. Hopefully, in this way, our club's rich history can be preserved and enjoyed by future generations.

One of the best ways for any club to show its appreciation, to those members who 'paved the way' in earlier days, is to record their contribution to strengthening and maintaining the club. Your assistance in building the club's archives is valued. Thank you. Roger Spaul for DFNC – March 2020.