

‘FROM THE ARCHIVES’ DROMANA DEFEAT FLINDERS 1908

Reference: FTA: 2021/1



DROMANA DEFEAT FLINDERS-1908

This match occurred more than a century ago (1908); and in that year, Dromana competed in the Peninsula Football Association. The other affiliates were Frankston, Tyabb, Hastings, Mornington, Somerville and Flinders.

It appears that Flinders FC had joined the league at a late juncture; and there is evidence to suggest that Flinders may have missed several matches early in that season. According to ‘The Mornington-Dromana Standard’, the Flinders team had recruited some players from the Shoreham district in that era of local football.

The match between Flinders and Dromana was played at the Flinders Oval. The match report, as carried in the newspaper, was very short on detail ; and it was simply described as an ‘exciting affair.’ Dromana hung on to win a dour battle by 7 points.

While the report is extremely brief, it is nonetheless important in our club’s history as it names eleven players who represented Dromana in 1908.

THE FINAL SCORES WERE:

Dromana 7.9 (51) defeated Flinders 6.8 (44).

Goal kickers for Dromana:

D. Chapman 4, McLear, Lawrence and McDonald

Goal kickers for Flinders:

Eadie 2, Cleave 2 and O’Neil 2

Best players for Dromana:

Chapman, Wyatt, Gibson, Hoskins, Evans, McDonald, Callanan, Clydesdale and Wilson.

Best players for Flinders:

HISTORICAL FOOTNOTES FROM 1908.

1. It was noted that Doug Chapman *“rucked for four quarters and was always prominent and finished with 4 goals.”* Doug Chapman (born 1889) was a tall (191 cm) and skilled ruckman who left Dromana to play with Richmond and Melbourne between 1908-1913. In all, Doug played 33 VFL games and kicked 12 goals.
2. It is recorded that Doug Chapman had been a captain of Dromana before joining Richmond. This fact, in itself, is quite amazing as Doug was just 18 years when he made his debut for the Tigers against Fitzroy at the Punt Road Oval. Fitzroy won by 25 points. The Richmond team had several notable players listed that day including Charlie Pannam (also Collingwood - 193 games), Bob Bowden (also St Kilda-150 games), Dick Condon (also Collingwood-181 games) and Billy Schmidt who had played VFL football with St Kilda. Doug's last VFL game was for Melbourne against South Melbourne in 1913.
3. Henry Morley Kidgell was another Dromana footballer who played VFL football with South Melbourne (5 games) in 1904. His last game for South Melbourne was in Round:17 against Geelong at the Corio Oval.
4. Another well known player of Dromana FC in that era was Ernie Ruddock. Ernie played VFL with Collingwood in 1907. Articles about Ernie and his dedicated contribution to the football club can be found on this website (see below).

FURTHER READING

Further information regarding Doug Chapman, Ernie Ruddock and Henry Kidgell (and other players of the 1908 season) can be found elsewhere on this website.

CLUB HISTORY - CAN YOU HELP?



The above article was originally written for the club's newsletter; and has been redrafted in 2021 so as to be posted and filed on the Dromana Football Club's Website for future reference.

DFNC is working determinedly to 'fill the gaps' in the club's history and photographs, press cuttings, team sheets and other memorabilia are most welcome.

There may be readers who have match reports/ cuttings from their years at Pier Street. Please feel welcome to forward and have them posted on the website for posterity.

One of the best ways to thank the hundreds of players, officials and volunteers who have built DFNC is to ensure that they are remembered by recording their contribution and endeavours for future generations to read and appreciate. Thank you. Roger - February 2021.

REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION

Sources: DFNC archives -NLA - Personal files & DFNC publications.

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