

# **'FROM THE ARCHIVES' DROMANA DEFEAT RED HILL 1939**

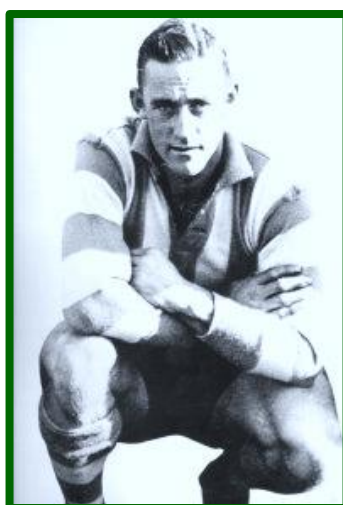
**Reference: FTA: 2021/2**



## **DROMANA DEFEAT RED HILL ROUND: 15 1939**

In 1939, DFC was affiliated with the MPFL 'B' Grade competition and the other clubs were: Balnarring, Navy, Pearcedale, Rosebud, Frankston, Hastings-Tyabb (a combine), Red Hill and Baxter.

Newspaper reports indicate that the Dromana list in 1939 included such family names as: Guy, Loader, Williams, Griffith, Gourlay, McLear, McLaren, Hosking, Hazeldine, Pittock, Humphrey, Temby, Aust, Cornish, Brown and MacDougall.



**Wally Guy-182 games for Dromana.  
Wally played with North Melbourne FC in 1934.**

The Round:15 clash between Dromana and Red Hill was played at Dromana; and, from all the available information, the oval was an absolute quagmire. 'Mud...mud...glorious mud' (as was often the case at many grounds in earlier times before improved playing surfaces, drainage and oval maintenance).

The game was a torrid, grubby and slogging affair with Red Hill holding the 'upper hand' in the early stages of the game. It was only the accuracy of Arthur Loader that kept Dromana 'alive and in touch' at half time.

The third quarter saw a form reversal of some magnitude as the Dromana back line 'held sway' and starved Red Hill of opportunities to score. In the second half, Dromana booted five goals to one and went on to 'notch-up' an impressive victory despite the foul conditions.

When the final siren sounded the football was as 'heavy as a pumpkin'; and the players looked as though they had spent the afternoon in the famous Black Bog of Tyrone ( in Ireland).

### The Quarter by Quarter Scores:

**Dromana:** 1.1 4.2. 7. 4. 9.4 (58)

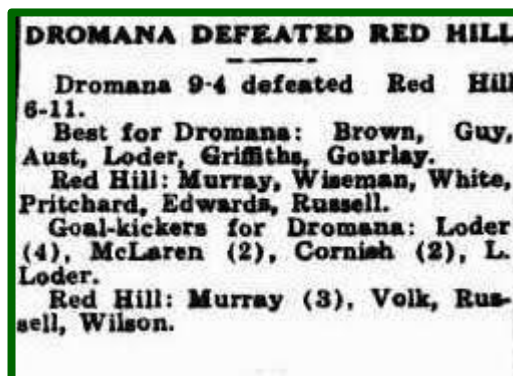
**Red Hill:** 3.5 5.7 \*\* 6.11 (47) \*\* Score incorrect at source

### Goal kickers for Dromana:

Arthur Loader 4, Jack Cornish 2, Pat McLaren 2 and Laurie Loader 1

### Best players for Dromana:

Spencer Brown, Wally Guy, Bert Aust, Arthur Loader, Allan Hosking, Rupert Griffith, and William 'Scotty' Gourlay



Source: 'The Standard' August 11<sup>th</sup> 1939 Page: 6.

## FOOTNOTES:

1. Four weeks later, Red Hill 'turned the tables' and defeated Dromana in the MPFL First-Semi Final at Sorrento by 10 points.
2. Balnarring FC won the MPFL pennant that season (by defeating Navy).
3. According to the available club records, Bert Aust played 238 games, Rupert Griffith (185), Wally Guy (182), Alan Hosking (137) and Vern Humphrey played 89 senior games for DFNC.
4. Younger readers may be interested to know that in August 1939, Adolf Hitler's troops began their push into Poland; and the dark shadow of war fell across Europe. Within a few months (of the above match), the Australian nation was on a war footing.

5. It is known, that from the above team that following players Bert Aust, Rupert Griffith, Elgar Pittock, Vern Humphrey (RAAF), Spencer Brown (RAAF), William Gourlay and Vin Hazeldine enlisted for military services during World War: II.
6. Thanks to Brian Griffith for his assistance in identifying several of the listed players in the story.



## **CLUB HISTORY - CAN YOU HELP?**

The above article was originally written for the DFNC newsletter, and has been redrafted so as to be posted / 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 them for posting 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 2012.

## **REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION**

**Sources:** NLA- local newspapers of that era-DFNC publications.

**Article reference:** Dromana v Red Hill 1939 (Ref: FTA 2021/2)

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