

# DFNC BEST & FAIREST WINNERS UPDATE 1935-2022

Reference: 2023/10



Wally Guy (pictured on the left) and Jim Patterson were the first known winners of the DFNC's Best & Fairest award. The inaugural trophy was shared by Wally and Jim in 1935. It is not known how the winners of the award were decided in those early days; and it would be interesting to know if the voting system in 1935 bears any resemblance to today's method of selecting the best players each game. Billy Geurts (right) is the most recent winner of the award which is now known as the Eric Oakes Shield. Billy and Wally share a common honour in that they have won the DFNC Best & Fairest award on two occasions. Billy won in 2021 and 2022; and Wally took out the trophy in 1935 and then again in 1946.

## INTRODUCTION

This article is to place on permanent record the list of DFNC Best and Fairest winners in Senior, Reserves and Third Grades since 1935. Readers will concur, that it is an impressive list of names and each player has a story worth telling.

It is not easy to win a major club award as it takes dedication on the training track, perseverance in match situations and, of course, the ability to overcome injury and stay the course through 'thick and thin' in any season.

This article also lists the **multiple award winners** in all DFNC Seniors, Reserves and Third XVIII grades and those players who have also won league awards. The footnotes aim to assist younger readers understand a little more about the earlier winners of the prestigious award.

## FILLING THE GAPS IN DFNC HISTORY

Unfortunately, as readers will notice, some of the records from earlier years are incomplete; and any assistance in providing names of other former winners would be greatly valued. Thank you.

# DFNC BEST & FAIREST AWARD WINNERS

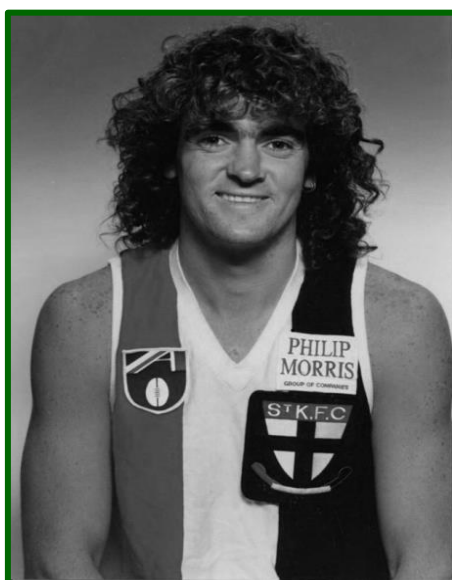
1935-2022

YEAR	SENIOR AWARD ERIC OAKES SHIELD	RESERVES AWARD WALLY GUY SHIELD	THIRDS AWARD ATHOL MARRIOTT SHIELD
2022	B. GEURTS	W. CHAMBERLAIN	T.MACDONALD
2021	B.GEURTS	M.CHAMBERS	T.MACDONALD
2020	NO MPNFL	COVID-19 PANDEMIC	
2019	T.WHEELER	M. CHAMBERS	K. GIPP
2018	S.GEURTS	D.LEYDEN-KOZIKAS	S.CHILDS
2017	S.CLARKE	K.VOELKL	L.MARTIN
2016	B.QUIGLEY C.ONGARELLO E.JOHNSTONE	J.TERRY	B.OLFERS
2015	C.ONGARELLO M. JONES	N.WEARNE	R.WILDE
2014	A.BRUHN	T.CARTER	R.WILDE
2013	T.WHEELER	D.LAWRENCE	J.FOWLER
2012	A.HUNTER	B.ALLEN	A. MUSGRAVE
2011	R.JOHNSTON	W.PEAGRAM	D.GEURTS
2010	R.JOHNSTON	W.PEAGRAM	T.CARTER
2009	R.JOHNSTON	A.PASQUILL	J.POWELL
2008	A.HUNTER	J.HUNTER	J.HUTCHINSON
2007	R.JOHNSTON	M.GILLIS	J.HUTCHINSON
2006	A.HUNTER	M.SHAW	J.HUNTER
2005	M.HUNTER	A.GARRY	T.SHEEAN
2004	M.HUNTER	A.SCOTT	T.SHEEAN
2003	M.HUNTER	N.ORMESHER	D.JONES
2002	M. PRENTICE	N.ORMESHER	M.HUNTER
2001	D.O'KANE	M.BRADFORD	C.LIARDET
2000	D.JORDAN	G.FOWLER	D.IPAVIZ
1999	D.JORDAN	J.BURKE	D.MINCHINGTON
1998	A.ROWLER	C.TRIGG	D.MINCHINGTON
1997	T.HEPNER	•	J. LEAH TBC
1996	J.CLARKE	•	•
1995	S.LANSDOWN	N.ORMESHER	C.LANDRIGAN
1994	D.JORDAN	M.WOODS	•
1993	R.ARNOTT	•	•
1992	P.WATSON	•	•
1991	J.CLARKE	•	•
1990	G.HILTON	•	•
1989	G.KENDALL		•
1988	G.KENDALL	G.HITCHENER	•
1987	B.CAIRNS	J.WILLIAMSON	•
1986	G.KENDALL	P.BAILEY TBC	•

1985	G.KENDALL	G.FERGUSON	•
1984	S.MATTHEWS	•	•
1983	J.ALDRIDGE	G.FERGUSON	•
1982	M.JAMES	•	•
1981	R.FYSON	G.FERGUSON	•
1980	R.IVEY	•	•
1979	R.THOMSON	E.POOLE	M. JAMES
1978	L.EDGERTON	C.MATTHEWS	•
1977	M.BERWICK	•	•
1976	P.MILLER	•	•
1975	L.BOOKER	•	•
1974	J.HOGAN	•	•
1973	P.OAKES	•	•
1972	D.WILLIAMS	•	•
1971	G.FYSON	A.EMERSON	•
1970	R.FYSON	•	•
1969	S.JOLLEY	I. FRASER	•
1968	S.JOLLEY	•	•
1967	R.FYSON	T.AUBURN	•
1966	N.ROBINSON	T.AUBURN	•
1965	T.CLAY	D.GROGAN	•
1964	T.CLAY	•	•
1963	A.MATTHEWS	•	•
1962	R.BRINDLEY	•	•
1961	R.BRINDLEY	•	•
1960	•	•	•
1959	J.SEYMOUR	•	•
1958	R.BRIGHT	•	•
1957	P.BURNS	•	•
1956	•	•	•
1955	•	•	•
1954	K.BROWN B.MOOREHEAD	•	•
1953	J.DUNCAN B.MOOREHEAD	•	•
1952	•	•	•
1951	K.COY	•	•
1950	K.COY	•	•
1949	H.PARKES	•	•
1948	A.HOSKING	•	•
1947	A.BROWN	•	•
1946	W.GUY	•	•
1945	WORLD WAR :II		
1944	WORLD WAR :II		

1943	WORLD WAR :II		
1942	WORLD WAR :II		
1941	WORLD WAR :II		
1940	WORLD WAR :II		
1939	•	•	•
1938	•	•	•
1937	•	•	•
1936	•	•	•
1935	W. GUY J.PATTERSON	•	•

**DFNC MULTIPLE BEST & FAIREST WINNERS  
IN SENIOR, RESERVE & THIRD GRADE XVIII  
1935-2022**

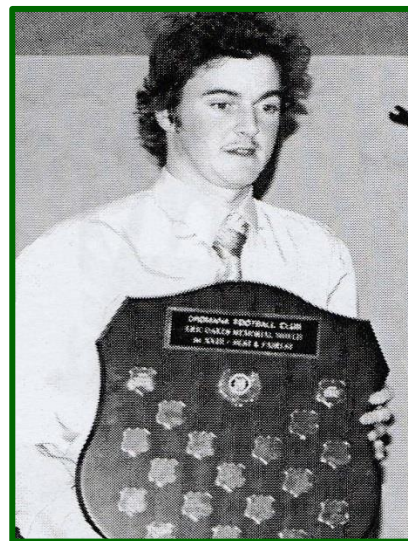
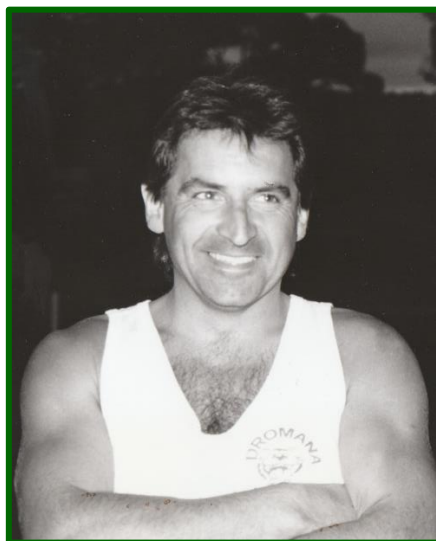


Glen Kendall won four DFNC Best & Fairest awards. He also won five Best and Fairest awards when playing with Dromana Junior FC teams...Under: 12's (1977-78), Under:14's (1979-80) and he also won the Under: 16 trophy in 1983. It was little wonder that he was drafted to St Kilda in 1989 (Pre-season draft pick 37). Glenn coached Dromana in 1994 and 95; and in all amassed 139 Senior XVIII games with DFNC (1985-2001).

The list of multiple winners (as shown below) highlights some of the talented DFNC players since 1935 (i.e. when such awards were introduced).

<b>MULTIPLE CLUB BEST &amp; FAIREST WINNERS</b>			
<b>TIMES</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>SEASONS</b>	<b>GRADE XVIII</b>
<b>4</b>	GLENN KENDALL MICHAEL HUNTER RIKKI JOHNSTON	1985-86-88-89 2003-04-05-08 2007-09-10-11	SENIOR THIRDS & SENIOR SENIOR

<b>3</b>	RAY FYSON	1967-70-81	SENIOR
	DAVE JORDAN	1994-99-2000	SENIOR
	ADAM HUNTER	2006-08-12	SENIOR
	NOEL ORMESHER	1995-2002-03	RESERVES
	GARY FERGUSON	1981-83-85	RESERVES
<b>2</b>	WALLY GUY	1935-46	SENIOR
	KEN COY	1950-51	SENIOR
	BOB MOOREHEAD	1953-54	SENIOR
	RAY BRINDLEY	1961-62	SENIOR
	TREVOR CLAY	1964-65	SENIOR
	STEVE JOLLEY	1968-69	SENIOR
	JASON CLARKE	1991-96	SENIOR
	CHRISTIAN ONGARELLO	2015-16	SENIOR
	TERRY WHEELER	2013-18	SENIOR
	BILLY GEURTS	2021-22	SENIOR
	TOM AUBURN	1966-67	RESERVES
	BILL PEAGRAM	2010-11	RESERVES
	MATT CHAMBERS	2019-21	RESERVES
	DALE MINCHINGTON	1998-99	THIRDS
	TRAVIS SHEEAN	2004-05	THIRDS
	JAY HUTCHINSON	2007-08	THIRDS
REECE WILDE	2014-15	THIRDS	
TIM MACDONALD	2021-22	THIRDS	



**THE FAMOUS NUMBER: 9 JUMPER:** Dave Jordan (above left) won three DFNC Best & Fairest awards in his 164 game career. David was selected in the 'Team of the Era' (1946-2015) and captained the club for seven seasons. When David stepped down in 2002 he presented his number 9 jumper to young Michael Hunter who went on to win four Best & Fairest trophies. Two other players who won multiple DFNC Best & Fairest awards wearing number: 9 are Ray Fyson and Christian Ongarello.

### THE RESERVE XVIII GRADE BEST & FAIREST RECIPIENTS

- Noel Ormesher (1995-2002-03) and Gary Ferguson (1981-83-85) have won the Reserves XVIII award on three occasions.
- Tom Auburn won the Reserves Best & Fairest in 1966 and 1967.
- Matt Chambers (2019 and 2021) and Bill Peagram (2010-11) are others who have won the trophy twice.

### THIRD XVIII GRADE BEST & FAIREST RECIPIENTS

According to the available records, the multiple Best and Fairest winners in the DFNC Thirds have been:

- Dale Minchington (1998-99),
- Travis Sheean (2004-05),
- Jay Hutchinson (2007-2008)
- Reece Wilde (2014-15)
- Tim MacDonald (2021 -2022)

### LEAGUE HONOURS

The following table lists the Dromana players who have league Best and Fairest awards in Senior, Reserve and Third Grade competitions. From what can be comprehended there were no competition awards until the early1930's.

DFNC LEAGUE HONOURS BEST & FAIREST PLAYER THE LEAGUE		
NAME	YEAR (S)	GRADE XVIII
REECE WILDE	2015	THIRDS
RIKKI JOHNSTON	2012	SENIOR
JARRYD HUNTER	2008	RESERVES
ADAM HUNTER	2006 & 2007	SENIOR
NOEL ORMESHER	2002	RESERVES
JARRETT LEAH	1997	THIRDS
ANTHONY SMITH	1996	RESERVES
GRANT HITCHINER	1993	RESERVES
GARY ZAMMIT	1988	RESERVES
DARREN GUEST	1984	SENIOR
MARK RENDALL	1981	THIRDS
MICHAEL JAMES	1981	THIRDS
STEPHEN JOLLEY	1961	SENIOR
WALLY GUY	1946	SENIOR
SAM MCLEAR	1934	SENIOR

### EARLY HISTORY OF LEAGUE AWARDS

From researching the early newspapers, the first league award for a best and fairest player was introduced sometime after 1932. The idea to publically present a trophy to the best and fairest player was first raised at the PFL's meeting at Kirkpatrick's Hotel in Mornington on October 10<sup>th</sup> 1932...

*"MEDAL FOR FAIREST PLAYER...Mr Noble suggested that the League should present a medal for the best and fairest player in the competition, to be presented each year... Similar to the conditions of the Brownlow Medal..."*

*Source: 'Frankston & Somerville Standard' October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1932. Page: 6*

**NOTE:** The Brownlow Medal was introduced into VFL football in 1924.





This recently found photograph was taken 77 years ago and shows Dromana's champion, Wally Guy, receiving the MPFL Best & Fairest award from the President, Jack Gloury, in October 1946. Source: 'Frankston Standard' October 17<sup>th</sup> 1946. Page: 1.

### **DROMANA AND OTHER LOCAL PLAYERS TO FEATURE IN THE LEAGUE AWARDS IN THOSE EARLY DAYS INCLUDED:**

- Sam McLear won the Whitlock Medal in 1934 (see above). Sam should not be confused with James (better known as Jim) McLear who played with Essendon in 1919. His brother, George, played with Richmond prior to World War: I.
- Dromana's Bert Aust came third in the Whitlock Medal in 1935 with 16 votes. Fred Volk (Red Hill) won the award that season and polled 30 votes.
- Well known and former Coburg player, Percy Berryman, of Balnarring FC, won the award in 1936. It is not known if Percy was related to Bill 'Bull' Berryman who played with South Melbourne and also represented Victoria at the Australian Championships in 1927.
- Hec Downing of Rosebud FC took out the Whitlock Medal in 1938. As a point of clarification, Wally Guy played with Sorrento in 1938 and came third in the Kirton Medal with 12 votes.
- It appears that the Whitlock Medal lapsed after World War: II; and the Best & Fairest player award in PFL 'B' Grade PFL became known as the Klein Trophy after 1945. Mr Klein was the owner the Peninsula Manufacturing Company, which was established in Mornington; and he was known to be an active member of the Carlton FC.
- The winner of the MPNL Division: 2 Best and Fairest player award receives the George Osborne Medal. The award is named in honour of DFNC's eminent football administrator George Osborne.



**Bob Moorehead won the club's Best & Fairest on two occasions in 1953 and 1954. On both occasions he tied in the count with a team mate. In 1953 it was with Jack Duncan; and the following season he shared the award with the club's 1st XVIII Coach Ken Brown. Bob played 251 senior games with Dromana FC; and was a member of the 1950 premiership team. Bob played in the 1948 MPFL Inter-league team and was chosen in the DFNC Team of the Era (1946-2015) in the forward pocket. Bob also coached the Reserves in 1954.**

### **ARE THERE ANY ERRORS IN THE ABOVE TABLES?**

Would any readers who believe that errors exist in the above tables please contact Roger. Any assistance on this important historical data will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

A list of all club Best and Fairest winners, in the three grades, can be found on this website at:

<http://www.dromanatigers.com.au/newsite/football.html>

### **CAN YOU HELP REGARDING CONTACTING TREVOR CLAY?**

DFNC History Committee would like to contact Trevor Clay. Trevor won two Best and Fairest awards (1964 & 65) while playing at Dromana FC; and had an impressive career in suburban/ country football. If possible, the club would like to speak to Trevor to confirm his playing history.

Any reader who can assist is kindly asked to contact Roger or Graham. Thank you.



### **REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION**

Sources: DFNC archives, MPNFL history files and personal notes.

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