

FROM THE ARCHIVES
DROMANA DEFEAT SEAFORD
1930
Reference: 2023/2



1930 DROMANA DEFEAT SEAFORD

In 1930, the Peninsula District Football Association comprised the following nine clubs ...Dromana, Flinders, Frankston, Langwarrin, Mornington, Red Hill, Rosebud, Seaford and Tyabb. While it is recorded that Henry McLear was the captain in 1929, it is known that in 1930 Michael Nolan was appointed as the coach of Dromana FC.

Other family names listed in match reports during 1930 Included: - Gleeson, Hewson, Farrel, Wilson, Skillen, Patterson, Singleton, Guy, Clydesdale, Griffiths, Rudduck, Mirabella, Gray, Evans, Birch and Langholtz. Note: Bert Aust was playing with Mornington that season but returned to DFC in 1931.

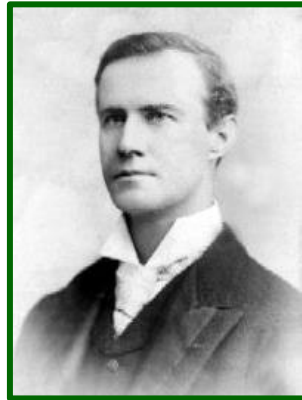
The club had made an impressive start to the season with three victories from four outings; and the team travelled to Seaford for the Round: 5 match. The Dromana FC scribe, known as 'Spectator', provided few details about the game itself; and his main comments focused on the standard of umpiring that day. His remarks about the umpire were scathing and would have caused a deal of comment 'around the traps.'

'Spectator' didn't waste words in his match report; and in his brief description of the game, simply wrote that Dromana won by eight goals. There were no final scores or goal kickers provided but the best players were listed as: - W. Grey (perhaps meant to read Guy), Murphy, Nolan, Clydesdale, F. Gray, W. Evans, G. Ruddick, R. Birch and W. Patterson.

With that victory, Dromana sat on the second rung of the ladder with four wins. Frankston held top position; and while at the end of ladder Flinders was winless at that point of the season. In Round: 6, Dromana was drawn to meet Mornington in an all-important clash in the race to the finals. Things at Dromana FC must have been running like 'clockwork' in 1930 as it was stated in the 'Frankston-Somerville Standard' (June 7th 1930) that... *"A big number of people followed the team to Seaford on Saturday. At the present time football is booming at Dromana."*

It was indeed an accurate statement because the club went on to play finals that season; and in 1931 Dromana FC defeated Somerville by 61 points to 'break the ice' and win its first-ever pennant.

A QUESTION REGARDING DFNC LIFE MEMBER EDDIE MOULE



In September 1880, **William Henry Moule** (shown above) played in a Test match for Australia against England at The Oval. William was selected to replace the legendary Fred Spofforth who had suffered an injury on that tour.

William performed creditably; and took 3 wickets for 23 runs; and compiled 34 runs in the second innings as Australia fought grimly to avoid defeat. It was William's only game for Australia. William was better known as a judge on the Victorian County Court; and he also served as the Member for Brighton in the Victorian Parliament from 1894-1900.

Can any reader assist in confirming that Judge William Moule was related to DFNC Life Member and former committeeman Eddie Moule? Eddie gave freely of his time and energy in assisting the club; and was a very popular character around the town. It is well known Eddie made a name for himself as a pitcher in Australian baseball (see below).

The Moule family was very involved in the life of the club as volunteers, officials and players. Eddie passed away in 1985. The award for the Most Determined Player in the Reserves is named in Eddie's honour; and, in 2022, young Tim Stepanavicius was a most deserving winner for his resolute performances each week for the team.



The above group photograph shows Eddie Moule (on the extreme left) with his team mates celebrating winning the Claxton Shield in 1948. On that day , Victoria defeated South Australia and Eddie was the pitcher for Victoria. Source: 'Sunday Times' August 15th 1948. Other highlights of Eddie's impressive baseball career included playing against an American team at Fawkner Park in 1950, pitching against a touring Japanese side in Brisbane and representing Australia in a demonstration match against the USA at the Melbourne Olympic Games in 1956. Eddie also represented Queensland in 1954.



The Australian Baseball Team at the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. Eddie Moule can be seen on the extreme left of the front row. After a lengthy search , it was finally established that Peter Box is also to be seen in the back row (third from the left). Peter Box played football for Footscray and won the Brownlow Medal in 1956. Peter was a member of Footscray's first-ever VFL premiership in 1954.



REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION

Sources: "Frankston-Somerville Standard" (1930)-National Library of Australia-DFNC records-personal files-Australian Baseball website-AFL websites (Western Bulldogs).

Article reference: 'From the Archives': Reference: 2023/2 v Seaford 1930.

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