

Gordon Gray (Box Hill Church of Christ) – 1930 to 1954

Gordon Gray made his debut for the Box Hill Church of Christ in 1928-29 and proved to be one of the competitions most durable opening batsman for over twenty years until he retired after 1951-52, returning briefly for a couple of games with the second XI in 1953-54. In his career within the Reporter/BHRDCA Gray made 6807 runs at 30.66 with 8 centuries and 33 half-centuries. With the ball in his career (on record) he took 212 wickets.

When Gray started at the Box Hill Church of Christ, they were playing in the Eastern Suburbs Churches Association before they moved to the Churches of Christ association in 1929-30. After one season, they came across to Reporter and remained there. Club records show that Gray made 619 runs in his first two seasons.

On joining Reporter, Gray made 537 runs including scores of 110 and 102 not out. Gray made over 250 runs per season for the next six years, culminating with 380 runs in 1935-36 as the Box Hill Church of Christ won the 'B Grade' Premiership over Vermont, with Gray making 30 in the Grand Final.

The Box Hill Church of Christ won three consecutive 'A Grade' flags from 1938-39 to 1940-41 and, with players such as Morrie Nielsen, Keith Nielsen and Bob Pettifer in the side, Gray moved into the middle order. In 1938-39, Gray made 345 runs followed with 269 runs in 1939-40 a season in which he made 74 in the Grand Final against Blackburn.

In 1940-41, Gray made 53 in the Semi Final and 51 in the Grand Final against Mitcham. He ended the season with 365 runs and 25 wickets, including figures of 8-33 against St. Peters which included a hat-trick.

Gray continued during WWII and in 1943-44 he moved back into the opening spot. This season he made 529 runs and took 28 wickets, which was followed by 502 runs in 1946-47 which included his highest score of 116 against Vermont and he also made a double of 64 and 52 against Templestowe. Gray's last big season was in 1950-51 with 466 runs before retiring the following season.