

# Wednesday Hockey Masters Perth Est 1991

**Blue 60s**

**Electric Blue 60s**

**Gold 60s**

**Green 60s**

**Red 60s**

White 60s

## Masters Matters

**Blue 50s**

**Gold 50s**

**Red 50s**

White 50s

**Loss of Venue:** On 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April we have been turfed off the Stadium (*sorry*) and will be playing at Melville. Please note that for the 60s fixtures have been drawn to include both grass and turf games. This means that we do not have to start at the crack of dawn to give everybody enough matches – and will give many of us a practice run before the start of the Saturday season. The starting times for both grass and turf fixtures is 12:30 for 60s and 3:00 pm (turf only) for 50s.

Later this year (July 18<sup>th</sup>) there may be a problem obtaining an alternative venue to the Stadium. So far suggestions have included playing at Joondalup on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, or playing on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>. More details will be advised when they come to hand.

**Wednesday Masters Internationals:** The sixth Grand Masters Hockey World Cup will be held in Oxford (England) during August this year (15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>) for the older players (60s, 65s, and 70s), and younger teams (50s and 55s) will be travelling to the International Masters Hockey Tournament in Canterbury (NZ). Congratulations to all the following Wednesday Masters people (both past and present) who are also Australian players and officials:

**O/50s:** Cam Fairbrother (coach), Graham Miller

**O/55s:** Rob Lawson (coach), Dave Lockett (captain), Steve Pestana, Ray Norton (assistant manager)

**O/60s:** Rudy Keswick, Peter Morgan

Shadows: Peter Fogels, Ian Pestana

**O/65s:** Len Blythe (vice captain), John Harper, Richard Osborne, Simon Thomson, Ken Walter

Shadows: Peter Murray

**O/70s:** Peter Gason (captain), Bill Baldwin, Barry Rutter, Stan Salazar, Colin Sanders, Ron Venables, Les Waldon, Peter Willett

Shadows: Ian Hill, Derek Hoad, Peter Livingstone, Ashley Foster, Graham Harler

Thank you to Peter Gason for his assistance in providing me with details for the more senior teams. I have extracted from the Australian Masters Hockey website for the others.

Please let me know of any omissions or erroneous inclusions. I would also like to know more about the Southern Cross team (a second O/70s) who sound as though they include plenty of our Wednesday players. And as of 14<sup>th</sup> March I understand that there will be two more O/65 teams and another team of O/60s – but I don't know yet which Wednesday Masters players are going.

There also will be some representation from our line ups in the O/60s, O/65s and O/70s Alliance sides – the fixtures may not be fully operational in the 60s from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August to Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August inclusive as so many air, land, and sea routes lead to Oxford.

**Editorial Corner:** In an increasingly violent world it always pleases me that our sport continues to thrive. The game consists of arming twenty two people with a lethal weapon (twenty four if we include the umpires' whistles), then putting them into a confined space and forbidding usage of the sticks on each other. Perhaps we all need to be very special people. What do readers think?

To attempt to forestall questions (a forlorn hope maybe) as to whether the current newsletter editor passed the qualifying exam (*see Page 8*) the answer is that he did not. The examiners failed me on the Public Speaking question - the grounds being that Nhoj Recrem was too backward.

**Coaching Corner:** Readers who are worried that the newsletter editor is about to share his hockey knowledge with you can relax – this segment is included in response to the controversy generated whenever I'm fortunate enough to win a bottle of wine. This quarter nothing had come my way until the 14<sup>th</sup>, promptly followed up on the 21<sup>st</sup>. I can report that both bottles have gone to a good home – and would like to suggest to thirsty readers that the following method works for me:

- 1) Be in the bar when the tickets are circulated.
- 2) Buy (at least) three tickets.
- 3) Stay in the bar until the draw.
- 4) Good luck.

By the way I did include my hockey knowledge in the preceding paragraph. It's concealed between the colon and the "R" in the first line.

**Reader Feedback:** I hope that Wednesday Masters people and players are not too nervous about being mentioned in this section. If a count were conducted I feel fairly sure that the subject of most adverse mentions for 2012 (so far – this may change) is the newsletter editor.

Our Public Speaking question (*see Qualifying Exam for Chairman in Issue 3*) put Jim Wright in mind of the following quote: "As you know the human brain is a most fascinating and complex machine. It starts work the day we are borne and never stops until the moment we stand up to speak in public." (*see pages 2 & 8 this issue for more public speaking matters*)

Thanks enormously to Phil Anderson for this comment on the final choice of name: "I think the name choice of the newsletter is great because, **for all of us** Masters does very much matter!!" I concur completely Phil – hence this piece of self-indulgence (with occasional news flashes).

**Quotable Quote:** "The market can stay erratic for longer than you or I can remain solvent" - John Maynard Keynes. He hadn't met Gina, Clive, and Andrew who appear to be able to stay erratic for longer than the market can remain solvent.

**Quotable Quote No 2:** Argument for the re-election of Barack Obama from Vice-President Joe Biden: "Osama Bin laden is dead. General Motors is alive." (*succinct I think*)

**Department Of Limericks:** It is the considered opinion of the editorial staff that the newsletter has been very biased towards one team, and one team only. No prizes are available for guessing which one. Many readers would no doubt agree with the sentiments of this issue's 5-line doggerel.

We've heard all about the light Blue  
And it's time for an opposite view  
From Gold, Green, White, or Red  
Or the dark Blue instead  
We must aim for a wide range of hue

Let's hear from you if you agree- or if you disagree. Or play 50s!

**Department Of Insensitivity:** At the time I took up classical music in earnest a fellow computer worker was unkind enough to comment: "Don't mind John – his Bach is worse than his byte."

**Best Wishes For A Speedy Recovery:** Must go to Ian Hill – who I understand is recovering from a broken rib (or ribs). Many varied stories are circulating – the one thing they have in common is that the cause of the injury was a fall from a bar stool. I must confess to being tempted to ask our readers to submit their own bizarre explanations – but having suffered two broken ribs once (together) I'm well aware that they are no joking matter. Do we have any chance of printing the true story Ian?

While on this topic has anyone heard from Bala Chandran? Drop the newsletter a line if your shoulder is up to it Bala and let us know how your recovery is (I hope) progressing.

I had intended to include our Secretary here, but it appeared that he was playing again as of 14<sup>th</sup> March (and the Green team beat Electric Blue on the 21st). Hope you got through uninjured and surfaced in great shape the next morning (something which is now totally beyond me).

Best wishes also to Dennis Baker – our thoughts are with you.

As at 28<sup>th</sup> March Peter Gason is in hospital for tests. We all hope that the outcome is good news.

**Headline News:** Something strange seems to be happening on Turf 2 in the O/60s. Since 8 goals were scored on 22<sup>nd</sup> February all teams have suffered a mysterious malaise which has attacked our goal-scoring ability – as if mine was already not in serious decline. On 29<sup>th</sup> February only 2 goals went in (both in the last game after 3 scoreless draws), on 7<sup>th</sup> March the tally was 3 goals, and on March 14<sup>th</sup> the four games produced only one goal between them. That's 6 goals in 12 matches and 300 minutes of hockey (average .5 per game – or a goal every 50 minutes).

On Turf 1 in the same time frame the five matches produced 7 goals (29<sup>th</sup> Feb), 12 goals (7<sup>th</sup> March), and 6 goals (14<sup>th</sup> March). That adds up to 25 goals in 15 matches and 375 minutes (average 1.66 per game – or a goal every 15 minutes) I cannot come up with a rational explanation for this discrepancy as the same players seem to be able to produce differing results depending which Turf they are playing on. Hence drug testing goalkeepers (for performance-enhancing substances) and forwards (for performance-inhibiting substances) would seem to be of little or no value. I suspect that the ball may bounce more on Turf 2 than Turf 1 – but I possess little expertise, particularly compared to our Masterly readers. Can any of you with proper hockey brains offer a plausible rationale?

*Stop press: Five goals were scored on 21<sup>st</sup> March – four of them by Wolves players (Ken Walter and Peter Andrews two each). Has the drought broken?*

*Later stop press: Only one goal again on 28<sup>th</sup> March – in the last game after three scoreless draws.*

**Impertinent Question:** Can a cross-eyed school teacher make his pupils see eye to eye?

**Whistle While You Work:** In the absence of Neil Mannolini I include this question and responses in a Victorian umpiring examination. A quote from the Hockey Bulletin of 27<sup>th</sup> June 1964.

“Can you think of any means whereby relations between umpires and players can be improved?”

Candidate A: “Yes.”

Candidate B: “No.”

Candidate C: “Definitely not. I would not advocate it. Familiarity, I have found from bitter experience breeds contempt.”

**Letter To The Editor:** From Ken Dyer (*another Dear John letter – I'm used to it lately*)

Please ask your readership if anyone would like

- a) A Perth house-sitter in the next few months? And/or
- b) Have a property for rent as Exmouth / Coral Bay or Carnarvon.

I am keen to return to WA for an extended holiday, renew hockey friendships and contribute to the consumption of hot chips and alcohol at the Stadium

Ken Dyer (WA 70s) H: 02 9908 3981 M: 0409 868 370

**They Said It:** Anonymous Australian businessman to staff asking for a pay rise: "I'd like to pay you what you're worth as you request, but this country has minimum wage provisions."

"Champagne! In victory you deserve it, in defeat you need it." (Napoleon Bonaparte) Dave Horsley - did you buy some for the Green team on the 7<sup>th</sup> March after the three wins? Did the resultant hangover last until the (one loss, two draws) 14<sup>th</sup> March? Champagne again on the 21<sup>st</sup>?

"I inspected a box of Redheads. It contained 51 little sticks with a red blob on one end." Yet another example of a John Mercer match report.

Jim Wright : "Not questioning goalies' sanity but; there are 11 hockey players on the field. Ten are just running around chasing the ball – the goalie just waits for the ball to come to him. Makes you think eh?" (*Is all the panic worth it? Ed.*)

Anonymous global businessman anywhere in Australia – "Doing business with you is like using a contraceptive. One gets the feelings of pleasure and security while being screwed."

**Picturesque Speech:** A chocolate coated birth control pill is – "Inconceivably delicious."

**Spectators:** After consideration I've decided that the major reason I thought that we had none was because Electric Blue play most of our games on Turf 2, and all the onlookers go to the feature games up on Turf 1. Jim Wright's family watched the Electrics in action one recent Wednesday and took some action shots. The only one I've seen shows a newsletter editor behaving like a yahoo (it was the only goal on Turf 2 for the day) but is still not suitable for publication here – as even this editor must employ editorial discretion sometimes.

**Department of Corrections:** Apologies for referring to the function we have on the first Wednesday of the month as a "small sausage social" – and to Trevor Kerr who appeared in the same paragraph. Neither the sausages nor the social were actually small – and we hope Trevor will appear again – we mean in the bar of course, not necessarily in the newsletter.

PS: the sausage sizzle is on again this week – 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**Short Thought:** The only trouble about being a good loser is that you have to lose to prove it.

**Thank You To:** All our readers who have sent in contributions. I hope that you realise I cannot use everything immediately but have preserved those I could not use right away – and they should be appearing regularly throughout the 2012 year.

**Department Of Limericks Part Two:** This entry is in breach of my own policy but in view of the time span involved it had to be included. It does serve as a reminder that umpiring decisions are not based on a democratic voting system.

The light blues all shouted hooray  
For Sharpy has scored one today  
First for forty five years  
Let's break out the beers  
But the umpire then took it away

**Mergers:** These are mentioned here as they are relevant to many Wednesday players. Suburban and Riverside Lions have created a new club which will be fielding teams this Saturday season with a revamped set of club colours. I believe that they will be known as Suburban Lions. Mods and Harlequins will be fielding combined sides this year under the two original club names and will be retaining the current administration structures. The merger is due to proceed further in 2013.

As a cautionary tale I quote from the Raiders Review of 1989 to show what can occur in the first year of a merger when one of the grounds is undergoing maintenance or renewal.

“LOST: On the evening of 3<sup>rd</sup> August, one hockey club. Finder please return to President Ian Purdie – who was at Charles Riley on his own while the rest of the club was training at Bennett Park. Goes to show what you can miss by going on honeymoon and not reading ‘Raiders Review’.”

Both “Raiders Review” and “Lightning Flashes” earned this editor such a reputation that people stopped talking around and to him – normal service has now mostly resumed. In the case of “Masters Matters” notoriety has not yet been achieved – but the editorial staff is working on it.

**Where Are They Now?:** Peter (Archie) Andrews is in the USA – Grand Canyon & West Coast I believe. Marty Greay is floating on the Murray River (the Eastern States one) and relaxing. John Bestall is now having a run in the 50s – welcome to Wednesday Masters.

**More Headline News:** Tom Crossen is known as an astute coach of interstate teams – and it was most interesting to observe that he also manages to use his head while playing (on the 21<sup>st</sup>). Ask a member of the O/60s Reds what happened. Hope there were no lasting ill-effects.

If any readers were involved in the Wally Foreman “incident” in the Monday / Thursday competition on the LR Connell Supergrass in bygone years (I arrived just too late to see it) then you will know what happened. I only found out by hearing the story told by Wally himself on ABC radio.

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders:** Here is the answer to last issue’s question which was: “Two players also made their debut for Australia in the 1960 Olympic Games. One was a defender from WA. The other was a forward, who represented NSW at the time but who later played Veterans for the ACT.”

They were Phil Pritchard (unanswered) and Errol Bill (answered correctly by Neil Patterson).

This issue’s question is: What do Ian Dick, Kevin Carton, and Brian Glencross have in common? Answer next issue.

**Time Goes On In The Bar:** The bar clock has been stuck on twenty to four for a long time now and Ricky Watts has been intending to bring in a battery. I noticed on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> that the hands were moving again, and that the time was accurate – thanks Ricky (I think). I'm sure that very few of us will be home earlier, but at least we'll know when we're going to be late.

**Department Of Expectoration:** Not all of you may be up to date with the latest developments in this area. After the Gold 60s team made allegations of an Electric Blue conspiracy following the non-presentation of the 2011 trophy at the Christmas Party a tasteful dummy was added to the spoils when the award was finally made on January 11<sup>th</sup> this year. Gold captain Colin Gee returned the extra item the next week – superbly turned into another Wednesday Masters trophy for “Dummy Spit of the Week.” This has not yet been presented as often as we would like – possibly because all the favourites (aka the usual suspects) have been behaving impeccably (where I can see them).

**Masthead:** Please bear in mind that this has been created by someone who cannot draw to save his life – and whose experience in designing computer screens all happened in the 1970s (yes they existed way back then!) 1980s and 1990s. Facilities and flexibility were very limited. However – do feel free to criticise the writing all you like.

**Distribution Problems:** I hope that by now everybody has received Issue #3 – but if you didn't it's most unlikely that you have received this one. Thank you to Bob Bowyer for letting me know that he had not received his copy – which initiated the proper corrective actions on my part. Hopefully this issue will not encounter any problems, as the distribution groups I have in place now meet the more exacting limits of my ISP – now only 30 addressees per email.

**Wally Foreman Part 2:** Mentioning Wally Foreman earlier reminded me how much I miss him on the air. The “Raiders Review” in 1989 quoted him doing the commentary for a televised match between Australia and the Netherlands (*how times have changed for the worse*) and an accidental collision occurred between Ric Charlesworth and David Wansborough. Said the master; “I wouldn't have thought it would have been due to lack of talking.”

**Another Past & Future Master:** We've consistently forgotten to mention Phil Anderson in the list of past players who are regular post game visitors to the bar. Sorry about that – I've always thought of you as still being a current player Phil. The preceding lines were already in place when these words arrived from Phil: “Just keep thinking of me as a present player on sabbatical.” Will do Phil, and we all hope you manage to make a successful comeback soon.

**Grumpy Old Men Department:** The trouble with young people today is that they cannot spell. Many of them believe that recreation is spelled “wreck creation.”

**For The Newer Arrivals:** Not everybody I speak to seems to be aware how to access the fixtures online. The website is [www.wavets.org](http://www.wavets.org) and the site is very extensive and well designed. All the state teams back to 2001 can be accessed in detail. The fixtures (both 60s and 50s) can be accessed via the “Wednesday Hockey Fixtures and News” link. This also now gives you access to all past issues of this newsletter – thanks to Peter Fogels who has recently put them up.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer – O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: [johnmerc@inet.net.au](mailto:johnmerc@inet.net.au)

**Wednesday Masters Qualifying Exam For Newsletter Editor**

Instructions: Read each question carefully. Answer all questions.

Time limit is 30 minutes. Begin immediately.

**History:** Six kings of England have been named George. List them in order. (Hint – begin with George I and end with George VI)

**Medicine:** Does your nose run and do your feet smell? If so see your doctor immediately – you’re built upside down.

**Public Speaking:** Please stand up and pronounce your own name – both Christian name and surname. Were you correct? Congratulations.

**Biology:** Which is correct? – The yolk of an egg is white, or - the yolk of an egg are white?

**Music:** Who were the featured group on the album “The Beatles Greatest Hits”?

**Psychology:** Please answer “yes” or “no” – are you nervous? (Hint – there are two different correct answers to this question)

**Sociology:** Do you think that closing the stadium bar at 4:30 pm on Wednesdays would cause a problem? If your answer is “yes” you have no problem. Please go on to the next question. If your answer is “no” where else are you going to get all your news for the newsletter?

**Management Science:** Could you organise a Wednesday Masters Christmas Party? If “yes” then please see Simon next Wednesday after hockey for a job interview. You are below your level of qualifications in seeking to do the newsletter – have you thought about higher duties? If “no” then please attend the next one and take notes – you may find out how it’s done.

**Engineering:** Your car has a flat tyre. Do you:

- a) Change it.
- b) Call the R.A.C.
- c) Abandon the car.
- d) Trade the car in immediately.
- e) Drive on.

**Economics:** Can you afford to buy a drink after hockey next Wednesday? If “yes” you have no problem – see you in the bar. If “no” and you’re desperate then perhaps you could find out who is having a birthday – and see if you can score a free drink. Otherwise why not turn up anyway for a glass of water (or ginger beer) and some scintillating conversation.

**Political Science:** Did you vote in the last election? If “yes” you have passed this question, go on to the next. If “no” have you paid your fine yet? If “no” where do you live?

**Epistemology:** True or false? (There is no need to worry – this question has two correct answers).

**Physics:** Is this the title of a song sung by Olivia Newton-John? If “yes” would you like to get physiscal with Olivia Newton-John? If not, why not? Note: Female or gay readers may substitute John Travolta for O N-J – or just add him to the mix as desired.

**Philosophy:** Do you think? If so you may go on to the next question. If not, what do you think about this question? Please do not use bad language inside the examination room.

**General Knowledge:** Well, do you know anything? (Hint – another trick question as both “yes” and “no” are correct answers)

**Extra Credit:** Have you given a contribution to the current newsletter editor? If so, how many?