

**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**

**Insurance:** I have been requested to inform readers on the coverage we have – and have discovered that information is not easy to come by. WAHA has set up a scheme whereby all players who are club members are covered – and Wednesday Masters has obtained coverage for two teams to cater for our players who are not members of any club. One of the major questions seemed to be whether the Medicare gap can be reimbursed under the scheme – and the answer according to my reading on the web-site is definitely not.

Rather than me attempting to summarise a very complex situation for you, I'd suggest that all the interested readers do as much research as they need. Begin from the hockey association website – WAHA, and proceed by the following links: Publications – Insurance – Claims – FAQs. This should provide you with enough basic information to understand things a little better. I very much hope that none of us is ever in a position to have to make a claim.

**Wednesday Masters Internationals:** By now many of us will be planning another overseas trip to the championships in Hobart later this year in early October. Tasmania is not really a foreign country but can be reached by sea if desired - an experience I enjoyed once. "Masters Matters" is probably not the best forum for news on selections, but I will do my best to keep informed. The newsletter is available to captains and managers who want to make use of it.

**Editorial Corner:** Having read on the Vets web site that a trial match between the state O/65s and O/70s would be played on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May on Turf 1 at 12:00 noon a "Masters Matters" scribe attended the Stadium. We received not just one, but two match reports, which are printed in full.

The O/70s recorded a crushing victory over the O/65s who were conspicuous by their absence. The O/65s recorded a crushing victory over the O/70s who were conspicuous by their absence

**Coaching Corner:** It must be time I handed this item over to buyers of winning (*not George*) raffle tickets. No joy has come my way since April 4<sup>th</sup> – while Phil Anderson won two weeks in a row (9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May). Spider has slipped under the radar – but I'm sure if we were keeping a points table would be well in front for 2012. To add to this Barry Rutter won (yet again!) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Are any of you inclined to share your methods for success?

While we are talking wine the following quote indicates that its benefits have been known and appreciated for some time. "Why do strong arms fatigue themselves with frivolous dumbbells? To dig a vineyard is worthier exercise for men." Marcus Valerius Martialis: 40 AD - 103 AD. *Of course they didn't play hockey in those days – and he didn't make it into O/65s.*

I was not able to hear the names called out during the 60s wine raffle on May 30<sup>th</sup> – but noted afterwards that regular "Masters Matters" contributor Neil Mannolini was one of the winners. Another was 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrant Les Waldon. Not even this elderly curmudgeon would begrudge either a win. I also discovered that Bob Bowyer had been drawn twice – and had barred himself from winning. We've all been good recently - see "Headline News" and "Department of Expectorations." By the way, who wins all the wine in the 50s raffle?

**Helpful Hint:** In this day and age of international sporting fixtures being rigged by the bookmakers the following advice is not guaranteed at all. However: "The race is not always to the swift, or the fight to the strong, but that is generally the way to bet." My own method is not to bet at all.

**Whistle While You Work - with Neil Mannolini:**

Scenarios noted:

1. A player chases an opponent who's running away with the ball, BUT he (the chaser) has his stick above the opponent's head. Rule 9.2 makes it clear ..... Players must not lift their stick over the head of other players. Umpire rightfully penalises the "chaseur". (Happened more than once in the last couple of weeks!)
2. Ball passed to player (1) near the side line, and it glances off the back of opponent's stick and the ball goes over the side line. Couple of issues: (a) is it a hit to (1)? (b) as the ball went over the side line, whose hit and where is it taken?  
(a) no free hit as a glance is NOT "playing the ball with the back of the stick."  
(b) free to (1) as it went off opponent's stick AND must be taken where the ball went OVER the sideline – NOT anywhere else! Rules 9.5 and 7.3 respectively.
3. On a penalty corner a player receiving the ball stops it ON the line and immediately hits into goal, scoring. Decision? Goal or no goal? Rule 13.3 (j) states that a goal cannot be scored until the ball has travelled OUTSIDE the circle. So no goal as the "on the line" is deemed to be IN the circle.
4. A defender under pressure near the centre turns and hits the ball into his own goal. Decision? Rule 7.4 (c) has the answer! "If played intentionally by a defender, unless deflected by a goalkeeper or player with goalkeeping privileges, play is RESTARTED with a PENALTY CORNER.

A reminder to all ... Rule 9.3 is simple but clear ... Players must not touch, handle or interfere with other players OR their stick or clothing. Unfortunately the biggest problem we see each Wednesday is the issue of "stick checks." If you cannot cleanly hit or play the ball, DO NOT chop or check the opponent's stick.

The sound of two clashing does not signify a "stick check." The FIRST player to get stick on the ball CANNOT be the offender. It is the late comer swinging late that is the culprit. So, if you cannot get a clean stick on ball before an opponent, pull back ... a team mate might intercept the opponent fairly!

Happy whistling

Neil Mannolini

**Reader Feedback:** Did you know that Jim and Beth Wright belong to an organisation called POOPS – which is "Pets Of Older Persons." They provide walking, feeding, and transport services to eligible older people, and are always on the lookout for more volunteers. Website is "[www.poopswa.org.au](http://www.poopswa.org.au)"

**Quotable Quote:** "If all economists were laid end to end they would not reach a conclusion." George Bernard Shaw. (*with apologies to Neil Patterson and any other economist reader*)

**Quotable Quote No 2:** "Economics is extremely useful as a form of employment for economists." John Kenneth Galbraith.

**A Personal Note:** Readers of the West Australian may have spotted a June 2<sup>nd</sup> article on the high cost of renting – featuring a photograph of a prospective tenant outside a rental property. The house in question is the one I sold and left last year – still needing a coat of paint. I lived there for 32 years.

**Department Of Limericks:** This one originally came from long time Scarborough Hockey Club secretary John Clayton, who used the anagram Tony Lac for published verse (including rhymes both on and for John Mercer). The original full back retired some time ago (*does anybody remember Jim Ashworth?*) – I hope that 60s readers will agree with my nomination as his replacement. I should also point out that “Masters Matters” does not believe in whacks – whether giving or receiving.

Big Dudley while playing full back  
In a clash copped a terrible whack  
“I’m so sorry, my error”  
Said the forward in terror  
But too late, he went home in a sack

By the way – John used to play full back.

**Department Of Insensitivity:** Much ado has been caused by an 18 year old impersonating a police officer for a month. I’m a 67 year old who’s been impersonating a hockey player since 1960.

**Best Wishes For A Speedy Recovery:** It’s been good to have Bala blowing a whistle at the Stadium on a Wednesday again – playing comeback soon. Paul Robbo is playing again and the White team are scoring points again – possibly no coincidence. Peter Gason is back too – and moving well.

**Headline News:** Something strange happened (*yes again!*) on Turf 2 in the O/60s. During a hectic passage of play in one of the attacking circles the ball was propelled by a player’s feet (or perhaps shin pads). As the umpire was unsighted play continued and a couple of seconds later the ball entered the net and he signalled a goal. What happened next is the unusual part – the player owned up and the umpire changed his decision. Well done Graham Harler and Bala Chandran.

“Dear umpire, it’s you I address  
For the ball hit my foot I confess”  
Said player G Harler  
To umpire C Bala  
And the Reds ended up one goal less

**Impertinent Question:** “Why don’t moths come out in the daytime if they’re so fond of the bloody light?” This was posed by Stephen Fry on a recent QI.

**Letter To The Editor:** Thanks to Stan Salazar for an article from online hockey magazine “Push” about his hockey collecting (and collection). Details of the link will be provided if I can locate them.

**Department Of The Olympics:** Here are some more of Stan’s Olympic Hockey Facts.

- ❖ The women’s teams of Spain (Barcelona 1992) and Australia (Sydney 2000) were the only women’s teams that won Olympic Gold on home soil.
- ❖ The longest Olympic match was played in Mexico 1968 when Netherlands defeated Spain 1-0 for 5<sup>th</sup> place. The match, with ten periods of 7.5 minutes of extra time, lasted 2 hours and 25 minutes. Kick Thole scored the winning goal for the Dutch team.
- ❖ The first ever Olympic hockey match was played in London in 1908.

**They Said It:** For some reason winning bottles of wine has become something of a conversational topic lately. Commented Ivan Wilson: "It's a good thing Ash Foster doesn't buy too many tickets!" *Given the record Ash has with Lotto I can only agree.*

Dave Horsley scored a brilliant diving goal for the Green team on the 23rd May – which gained his side a 1 - 0 win over the Blues (*another John Mercer match report*). Gordon Thomas commented from the sidelines – "We've got Bollywood waiting for you!"

"Readers want another John Mercer match report? Strike a light!"

**Picturesque Speech:** Some of you may remember when footballers who had misbehaved were said to have been "tired and emotional" – code words for blind drunk. Nowadays it seems that "wired for excitement" translates into "stoned out of his mind."

**Department of Corrections:** We should have known better than to rely on hacked voicemail (i.e. bar conversation) to cast aspersions on Gordon's raffle ticket selling. I am reliably informed (by GT) that winners on the day in question included Barry Rutter, Ham D'Souza, and Nigel Thomas – all of them sold by Gordon. That should cost me a drink (*a G & T? Gordon's Gin of course!*) in the bar after hockey – soon. I'm certain that Gordon would also want me to inform you that he sold Barry Rutter's winning ticket on 23<sup>rd</sup> May – refer to Coaching Corner on Page 3 for more wine news. (*Also Page 6*)

I should have known better than to talk about regarding my umpiring decisions with cynicism – having produced a shocker on the 16<sup>th</sup> May which cost the White team a goal (and the match). My thanks go to all players for their forbearance. It's the first time in 2012 I've managed to blow a whistle – and obviously it should be done much more frequently, or much better – or not at all.

I forgot to mention in my tribute to Neil Mannolini in the last issue that he had a few years as Stadium manager also – during which time things worked pretty well.

**Strange But True:** Thanks to John Halley for the mathematical revelation that four out of three people have trouble with fractions.

**Department Of Limericks Part Three:** This one was written at another time when I was also feeling that I'd got too old and useless for hockey – almost 30 years ago. No reader comments please.

At one time the half backs took rolls  
But these days they go and score goals  
I can no longer claim  
To keep up with the game  
Must be time that I started on bowls

As Peter Gason has shown, there is time to finish the game and beat the Spaniards too. In fact to beat everybody else but the English – if I read the South African World Cup results correctly.

**Department Of Expectoration:** What – no contenders? Are we all on a good behaviour bond?

**Thank You Very Much:** From us all to Dudley Younger for sausage preparation well above and beyond the call of duty on 6<sup>th</sup> June in the wet and cold weather. I hope that there are no ill-effects from all the standing around in the wind and rain. Thanks also to any helpers I missed.

The attendance seemed to be pretty good considering the weather – those I could count included 14 from the Green team, and 12 from both Electric Blue and Red. White brought 10 players up from Turf 2 – and I gather that the Blue team were the most depleted, while Gold suffered some attrition during the games. (*Computer people – so often we reduce everything to a set of numbers*)

Thanks must also go to each and every umpire who blew a whistle in the rain. I hope that we were all polite and respectful – as usual. Those I was able to note (all on Turf 1) were Neil Mannolini, Lionel David, John Lindsay, Roger Partington, and Ivan Wilson

**Happy Birthday:** To Les Waldon, who celebrated one of those birthdays with a zero on the end by buying a few beers in the bar on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations and best wishes from all Wednesday Masters – and also from the entire editorial staff of “Masters Matters.”

**Quotable Quotes Part Two:** Perhaps we should not have included a quote from the Ginger Meggs comic strip in the last issue (*“Hangover – the wrath of grapes”*). Readers of both may have noticed that they have quoted “Masters Matters” on 6<sup>th</sup> (*“Define the Universe and give three examples”*) and 7<sup>th</sup> (*“I’m not young enough to know everything”*) June. Just a coincidence – probably.

**Wave The Rules – Don’t Waive Them:** In the past there were occasions while umpiring when it came in handy having a rule book in the pocket. Any recalcitrant player could be shown the applicable rule - at the appropriate point (half or full time) in the match. I have searched the WAHA website to find out how to buy a rule book – but the best I can provide is a guide to an online copy of the 2011 rules. Start from the WAHA site, and progress via Publications to Rules. It looks as though future umpires will be waving their smart phones at arguing players.

**Comebacks:** I noticed Bala having a run in the first match on Turf 1 yesterday (6<sup>th</sup> June). Hope all went well – and you did not attempt anything forbidden by your surgeon. I also hope that you did not over do it – and pulled up OK on Thursday morning. I can personally recommend the restorative properties of a dip in the ocean – perhaps because in winter it feels so good when you stop, and at all other times of the year it feels so good when you start.

**From The West Australian:** I liked Stan Salazar’s caption to the Inside Cover photo of John Worsfold – “If you make me smile or laugh, you will not be playing next week.” Hopefully this does not apply to hockey – and even if it did I need have no fears of missing a game on that score.

**We Can’t Stop Wining:** The 60s raffle on June 6<sup>th</sup> was drawn by a visitor to the bar – and the first winner was the parent of a state junior. (*Ab*) normal service then resumed, with Bill Williamson, John Mercer (*it’s been a very long time between drinks*), and Spider (*see Department Of Corrections*) all winning a bottle. John Mercer’s table neighbours reckoned that he’d taken the wrong wine – their reasoning being that the “Billi Billi” label belonged to Mr Williamson.



**Where Are They Now?:** Many thanks to the current Wednesday Master (*can you identify him?*) who supplied the photograph and gave us permission to publish. Also included is a future State player (*can you identify him?*), Terry Hayes (*the subject of a large article in the West about premature babies – on his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday*), and the Scarborough twins – with hair. Many thanks also to John Sanders for his technical assistance – Colin Barnett may have claimed recently that all the old people he knew already had computers; but that does not mean that we all can use them properly.

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders:** Here is the answer to last issue's question which was: Australia played Pakistan in a 4 test series in 1975 preparing for the World Cup later that year. The 4<sup>th</sup> and last game was suspended twice & finally abandoned by the umpires due to the hosts walk-offs. Which edition of the FIH World Cup was it & where was it played? An answer came in by return email: "1975 World Cup (3<sup>rd</sup>) at Kuala Lumpur. I was there with Wally Daly." Congratulations to Rusty Phillips – when will we see you at the Stadium?

This issue's question is: During the 1956 Olympic Games Competition, how many goals did Maurice (Maurie) Foley, ex CBC and WA, score? Was it 1, 3, 5, or 7?  
Answer next issue.

**Another Personal Note :** My hockey recently reminds me of P. G. Wodehouse's Russian novelist. "Vladimir specialised in grey studies of hopeless misery, where nothing happened until Page 380 when the mujik decided to commit suicide." He wouldn't have lasted 380 pages if he'd made a habit of scoring goals from total mis-traps.

**Grumpy Old Men Department:** "You can only be young once. But you can always be immature." This one comes from Dave Barry.

All news and other contributions to:

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

**What About The Workers:** If you have ever worked in data processing you may appreciate what this calendar could have done for you. Alternatively you may have wondered why the service you receive (or used to receive) from your computer section is imperfect – and speculate how the DP staff earn their money, and why they need all that time for sleeping and eating.

### Data Processing Calendar

Mir	Fri	Fri	Fri	Thu	Wed	Tue
8	7	6	5	4	3	2
16	14	13	12	11	10	9
23	22	21	20	19	18	17
32	29	28	27	26	25	24
39	38	37	36	35	34	33

- 1) This is a special rush job calendar, which has been developed for handling those top-priority, once-off jobs. All rush jobs are wanted yesterday, so with this calendar a user can order his work on the 7<sup>th</sup> and have it delivered on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 2) Everybody must have their job by Friday at the absolute latest – so there are now 3 Fridays in every week.
- 3) There are 8 new days at month end for those time consuming end of the month jobs.
- 4) There is no 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, so there can't be late delivery of those essential end of the month jobs on the 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 5) A "Blue Monday" or Monday hangover can't happen as all Mondays have been eliminated.
- 6) There are no bothersome non-productive Saturdays or Sundays, no compensatory leave or time off to worry about.
- 7) With no 15<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, or 31<sup>st</sup> no time off is needed for cashing salary cheques – in fact there is no salary cheque either.
- 8) An extra day was required in each week – and Mirday has been added for miracles