

**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

Issue No 10

October 2013

Dates For The Diary:

October 16th: We play at Melville - start time 13:00.

November 6th: Barbecue at the Stadium?

November: Turf re-surfacing - fixtures by email / Revised age groups trial period.

December 18th: Christmas Party.

December 25th / January 1st: No hockey.

May 31st to June 15th 2014: World Cup (Men and Women). Kyogera Stadium - The Hague.

June 5th to 13th 2014: World Cup (40s, 45s, 50s, and 55s) Rotterdam Hockey Club.

June 3rd to 13th 2014: World Cup (60s, 65s, 70s, 75s) Hockey Club Klein Switzerland - The Hague.

September 27th to October 11th 2014: Interstate Masters Championships in Perth.

World Cups: There are three possible methods to play in the 2014 World Cups in the Netherlands:

If you wanted to play in the national teams you needed to nominate before the Sydney tournament, and be selected based on those matches (*you may be too late for this one*).

The Southern Cross sides will play in the second divisions of the 60s, 65s, and 70s. The website is southerncrosshockey.org, if you are not already on their mailing lists, or you might contact Mike Black (O/60 White team, or WA Country O/70s coach), who is one of the two national convenors.

Nominations close 28th October, 2013. Ask John Mercer or Mike Black for form and / or info sheet.

Alliance International Hockey Club, who too will play in Division Two of the 60s, 65s and 70s. The website is alliancehockey.net - or you could contact Col Benporath, the Australian coordinator.

Coverage of Sydney Tournament: Those of you who are interested in the full wrap-up will hopefully have signed up for the web-site. Masters Matters will provide a limited amount of facts and figures, mainly from the viewpoint of Wednesday Masters, and the sides we played in.

Sydney Finals Results: For the benefit of those who are unable to access the scores from the web-site the results of all the grand finals follow. Congratulations to all medal winners, and also to all Wednesday Masters who played in Sydney. The numbers (especially in the higher age ranges) rule out a detailed list here - for instance, every member of the WA O/70s is a Wednesday Master, and only three or four members of the WA O/65s are not on the Masters Matters mailing list.

O/35s: Tasmania 1 defeated Victoria 0.

O/40s: WA 4 defeated NSW 1.

O/45s Division 1: NSW 7 defeated WA 1.

O/45s Division 2: NSW 6 defeated Queensland 1.

O/50s Division 1: WA 1 defeated Victoria 0.

O/50s Division 2: WA 3 drew Queensland 3.

O/55s Division 1: WA 5 defeated NSW 3.

O/55s Division 2: NSW 3 defeated Northern Territory 0.

O/60s: NSW 3 defeated WA 1.

O/65s: Queensland 1 defeated WA Country 0.

O/70s: NSW 2 defeated Victoria 1.

Picturesque Speech: Attributed to Confucius by our contributor (Marty G) is this: "A joke is like sex. Neither is any good if you don't get it."

Sydney Best Players: Fairest and best trophies were decided as follows. Well done to all the winners - and it's great to see two Wednesday Masters sons appear in the list. (*Division 2 not included*)

O/35s: Andrew May - Qld

O/40s: Paul Armitage - WA

O/45s: Claude Matthews - NSW

O/50s: Geoff Horsley - WAC

O/55s: Terry Horne - SA

O/60s: Bruce Snape - NSW

O/65s: Keith Chay - Qld

O/70s: David Sinclair - Vic

Sydney Top Goalscorers: Masters Matters does not often include the scorers (*nothing personal - Ed*) - but this time we'll include those divisions and age groups relevant to WHM.

O/55s: Jos D'Silva - WA (13)

O/60s: Peter Aylmore - WA (9)

O/65s: Allan Lynn - WAC (4)

O/70s: Bob Bruce - NSW (5)

A Trial Need Not Be An Ordeal: During November both turfs at the Stadium will be re-surfaced and the Committee will trial revised age groups for our WHM competitions. The new set-up is:

O/50s: 3 teams - 2 games, duration to be determined.

O/60s: 4 teams - 3 games, each of 25 minutes.

O/70s: 3 teams - 2 games, each of 15 minute halves.

If implemented on a permanent basis, this will have flow-on effects for "Masters Matters". The cover sheet will need to be re-designed for a start. I also believe that we have acceptable coverage of O/60s only at present, and when there are three age groups playing some input from a variety of correspondents will be required to provide a better balanced overview.

Letters To The Editor: Many thanks to the previous issue's respondents, who included Bill Campbell, Peter Murray, Ric Denny, John Milner, Derek Jobe, and Ray Norton. A couple of extracts:

Bill Campbell (re Ken Watt's club history.): "I beat Ken Watt, I did 7 years at Graylands. Must say something about me I suppose." *There are Graylands players everywhere - my year at Perth Mod included Don Corbett, Dudley Cummiskey, and Syd Leonard. Ed.*

John Milner (as a footnote to other matters): "Very relieved to see that I didn't feature in the Aged Care Department." *Just the Letters to the Editor.*

Kontich Tournament: Last issue we included all results for the Southern Cross and Alliance teams, and omitted the finishing positions. Despite there being no complaints this should be corrected:

TT O/60: Southern Cross 3rd, Alliance 4th

TT O/65: Alliance 3rd, Southern Cross 6th

TT O/70: Alliance 2nd (only three teams)

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department: One of my Saturday team mates (*no names*) claims that "It is not totally correct to state that hockey is a non-contact sport - but marriage certainly is."

Whistle While We Work - With Neil Mannolini:

Neil has posed a very pertinent question while the tournament is still fresh in all our minds - "How did the umpiring in Sydney compare with our local 'unsung heroes', and what can we expect for 2014 considering WA is the 2014 host venue. As a volunteer whistler I would be very interested in any comments - were the umpires / more pedantic / better / let the game flow / fair in decisions / too card happy / etcetera, etcetera, and so forth.

So often the local guys seem to take us (the volunteer umpires) for granted, and I for one feel that a constructive (or otherwise) comment or comments would be appropriate."

Neil - volunteer umpire

I thought the better quality umpiring correctly went to the 35s and 40s. There were 365 Green cards and 113 Yellow cards across all ages. Advantage generally (but not always) was well umpired. Ed. Reader comments welcome for next issue.

Quotable Quote No 1: "One of these days in your travels a guy is going to come up to you and show you a nice new deck of cards on which the seal is not yet broken, and this guy is going to offer to bet you that he can make the Jack of Spades jump out of the deck and squirt cider in your ear. But son, do not bet this man, for sure as you stand there you are going to wind up with an earful of cider " Damon Runyon from "Guys and Dolls" The current betting scandal would not have surprised him.

Department Of Health: Best wishes for a quick recovery to Ham D'Souza, who did not make the Sydney tournament due to a catastrophic broken collarbone suffered on the last Wednesday before it started. Ham made it to the Stadium on October 9th - arm still in a sling. Similar wishes for a rapid recovery go to all those who were injured or sick in Sydney.

Department Of Viticulture: Wine winners in Quarter Three were Electric Blue (9), Red (8), Green (7), Gold (6), Blue and White (4), past players (3). Johns Mercer and Jeffreys led the individual honours. Electric Blue have done better in the bar than on the turf, as have the Red team.

Punology One: I claimed last issue that we can always go lower - as did the piano which fell down a mine shaft and produced A Flat Minor.

Department Of Limericks: The result of the game featured here (*Gold 5, Electric Blue 1*) has convinced me that the revision of the age groups is a very good idea. Youth prevails yet again. The Gold team now have Peter Dennis
In the circle he's rather a menace
And against us did score
Not just one goal but four
Is it time we EBs took up tennis.

I trust that Colin Gee has explained to his team what is supposed to occur after a hat-trick.

Strange But True: The WA Country O/70s must have read the stories in "Masters Matters" about putting goals past John Burt, and decided that we could do better. As many goals were scored for the opposition as for us, and in the finals-deciding game against Queensland we scored 2 goals to their 1, and lost the match 0-3. No wonder John B thought at times everybody was against him.

Sydney Numbers: Last year we included complete lists of all tournament attendees, but as stated earlier so many Wednesday Masters were in Sydney that another page would be needed. So:
WA O/50s: Division 2 (2). *Were there any Wednesday Masters in the O/50s Division 1?*
WA O/55s: (10). WA O/60s (13). WAC O/60s (7). WA O/65s (13). WAC O/65s (7).
WA O/70s: ((16). WAC O/70s (15).

By my (unreliable - as Rusty Phillips knows) count that's 83 Wednesday Masters in Sydney.

Pertinent Question: There was only one response to last issue's pertinent question - serial umpire abuser John Mercer picked up a whistle on October 9th. Don't abuse the umpires unless you are prepared to be one. This month's question is different - suggestions were made that "Masters Matters" is the written equivalent of verbal diarrhoea - so we ask "what is the right word to describe this?" I promise to have an answer for you in our next issue - unless a reader is able to get in first.

Department Of Aged Care: Happy birthday to Ash Foster, who celebrated on 11th September. Now exactly which one was it? Actually there's nothing wrong with Ash's memory, or his pace. Masters Matters understands that fresh documentation has come to light which changed things - again.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: In keeping with the philosophy that what goes on tour stays on tour the flight home from Sydney generated the following. Of course there are exceptions - but all are subject to editorial discretion and/or indiscretion.

Many journeyed to far New South Wales
Returning with travellers tall tales
But this rag's golden rule
For those playing the fool
Over truths we will always draw veils.
Well, most of the time. Ed

Compliments To The Chefs: Thank you to the cooks on 4th September - for a change the weather was clement (a bit better than that actually). Gordon Thomas and Allan Ledger were the workers this time - well done to both of you. GT is still recovering from a hamstring strain.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Herewith the answer to last issue's question which was: In 1983 Australia competed in the first Azlan Shah Cup at the Tun Abdul Razak Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, winning every game. Australia's top goal scorer with 6 goals was:
a) Craig Davies b) Nigel Patmore c) Peter Hazelhurst d) Terry Walsh?
No answers were received (*not even from Rusty*) - the correct answer is a) Craig Davies.
This issue's question is: What do Eric Pearce and Jay Stacy's hockey careers have in common?
Answer next issue.

Department of Corrections: Apologies to Ric Denny for incorrectly awarding him the photographer hi-vis vest for the O/65s. The actual snapper was Peter Brien - from the same place he umpires.

Quotable Quote #2: "How much did that Pakistani bookmaker pay you?" Peter Livingstone, as yet another Docker missed an easy shot.

Poets' Corner: As none of our resident versifiers have been bombarding the Masters Matters in box with new Masters pieces, its editor decided that as he felt optimistic about the new age groups and their effects on this publication a limerick should result. Time will tell if it was only false optimism.

Wednesday Masters will add some more stages

In November we'll play in three ages

There'll be plenty of news

And divergence of views

Masters Matters may need some more pages

Sydney Impressions: As MM did for Oxford and Hobart here are some personal experiences. Hobart also produced a couple of reader contributions, and Sydney items would be welcome.

WA Country organised shuttle buses between the airport and our western suburbs accommodation (thanks Eddie Forrest). John Mercer discovered that he had been booked for two, while Roger Davey discovered that he had not booked at all. To the great relief of both of us RD managed to board the bus without having to travel as Mrs Mercer.

Temporary membership of Rosehill Bowls Club - where the buffet was plentiful, varied, and cheap.

A bad day on the turf - the NSW player I marked was awarded best by my team.

A worse day on the turf - lost 0-1 to a scrambled last-quarter goal, my taggee got best player again, and I lost blood in the car park after walking into our (hockey bags) hidden towbar on the team bus.

Oxford: old Masters playing hockey, Paris: Old Masters in art galleries, Sydney: Norman Lindsay's Springwood home which featured many young mistresses (both sculpted and painted).

Ferry trip from Parramatta Wharf to Circular Quay to have lunch and see "South Pacific" at the Opera House. Many thanks to Jan Horsley, who organised a party of 15 from the WA Country O/70s.

Also got to Sydney CBD for a Bach / Beethoven recital by pianist Angela Hewitt at Angel Place Recital Hall. The performance (excellent!), the venue, and its attached cafe impressed.

Playing 2 games on the main Olympic turf was quite a buzz.

The scoreboard on the main Olympic turf was not - as the team names were prominently displayed in green, while the scores and timing in red were invisible except from right angles on the field.

Met Ric Denny at the 3rd turf (Cintra). He has not yet moved into the Bowral home, but looked well.

Weather: Only 1 rainy day, a few windy ones, but otherwise fine and fairly warm (30C).

Queensland & WAC O/70s each played 3 games in 3 days all earlier than the day before. Dangerous?

Australian Selections: Congratulations to present and past Wednesday Masters who were named:

O/55s: D Lockett (vc), G Miller, N Morrison, S Pestana, R Lawson (coach).

O/60s: J Chapman, P Morgan. Shadows: I Pestana, R Norton, T Long, P Aylmore, P Fogels.

O/65s: J Harper, S Thomson. Shadows: H Tyrell, G Challenor, H D'Souza, K Walter, A Challenor.

O/70s: L Blyth (c), I Hill, P Gason, B Rutter, C Sanders, L Waldon. Shadows: R Osborne, P Hearne, P Murray, P Willet.

O/75s: K Dyer (vc), B Chandran, A Foster, J Halley, R Venables, W Baldwin, W Williamson, R Stidwell. I Simpson (manager).

Medical: Lynn Dunnett and Debbie Oliver (from the WAC medical staff).

Shakespeare Said It: "Our revels now are ended." It's time to stop enjoying ourselves in the flowing traffic of Sydney and return to the grim realities of our own gridlock. The Tempest Act IV Scene I.



WA Country O/70s enjoy lunch at the Opera House

O/65s Good News: The games resumed on October 12th and will continue throughout the summer. We were only a couple of players short, with Bob Bowyer, Kenny Walter, and Paul Robinson all non-playing attendees. Robbo would have played (just after Sydney - there is a first time for everything) but he was jetting off to Hong Kong later that night. (*Contact Bob Bowyer to express an interest*)

O/65s Not So Good News: After Ian Purdie went down in the attacking circle he called "stroke!" As always Rusty Phillips was very helpful, asking: "Are you having a stroke, or do you want one?"

They Said It: Subs team captain to tardy player: "Why are you late?" The anonymous player's response is said to have been: "Because the game started before I arrived."

Teacher to pupil: "What is the chemical composition of water?"

Pupil: "H I J K L M N O."

Teacher: "Wrong! Where did you get that idea?"

Pupil: "You told us yesterday that water is H to O."

Thanks to a Subs player for these two.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: After an un-notified interruption lasting some hours to my home power supply the thought occurred that there is a direct relationship between the prices for electricity and women's swimwear. Both now cost more and more for less and less.

Something Completely Different Part Four: A final instalment from the “Washington Post” - where readers took any word from the dictionary and supplied a new definition.

9) Flatulence (n): Emergency vehicle that picks up someone who has been run over by a steamroller.

10) Balderdash (n): A rapidly disappearing hairline.

11) Testicle (n): A humorous question on an exam.

12) Rectitude (n): The formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.

13) Pokemon (n): A Rastafarian proctologist.

14) Oyster (n): A person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.

15) Frisbeetarianism (n): The belief that, after death, the soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.

16) Circumvent (n): An opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.

Single Men's Quarters: WA Country O/70s put all their 5 bachelors (confirmed and temporary) into a three bedroom apartment. My thanks for their tolerance go to my team-mates from Room 48/52. The number was changed during our occupancy, causing much confusion with phone call charges. Thanks also go to Bala from us all for a couple of gourmet home-cooked meals.

Punology Two: PMS jokes aren't funny. Period. (*From Jack Halley - some time ago*)

Comebacks: It's always good to see past players, and in September we saw Jim Boyce, Stu Calder, Mal Jackaman and George Winning. We are at Melville this week (16th October) but the fixtures are uncertain after that. If you don't get an email contact Bob or Simon for details.

Department Of Tourism: My apologies to anybody who sent me a voice mail in Sydney. I have not possessed a mobile phone since 1999, and managed to acquire one the day before we left. The set up of its voice mail was completed on October 10th, and I finally listened to all the messages then, which was a little late for a proper response.

Stop Press: As always thanks to the September umpires. I noted Peter Andrews, Bala Chandran, Lionel David, Ric Denny, Peter Ford, Dave Horsley, John Harper, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, and Ken Watt. I trust that you are sometimes thanked after the games also.

Late News: On Sunday October 13th my TV showed cars on fire in a heavily wooded car park - then I discovered that it was the Olympic Park Aquatic Centre in Sydney. Not good!

Where Was It Hiding?: The grape vine has produced the news that Adolphus found the back of the net no less than 4 times on September 26th. There were a lot of us in Sydney looking for the same thing, but we were obviously on the wrong side of the country. (*PS: Well done Adolph*)

Fixtures: Will be circulated by email during the re-surfacing of the Stadium turfs, starting shortly.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: johnmercercer@iinet.net.au