

Wednesday Hockey Masters Perth Est 1991

A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Red

C White

Masters Matters

Guide To Important Stuff: Where to find what I think you might need to know:

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Klein Switzerland results: Page 4.

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Perth tournament venues: See Stop Press on Page 8.

South Australia needs players for Perth tournament: Page 6.

Toast to Southern Cross as proposed by Tony Cohen: Pages 7 and 8.

Editorial: This issue will not feature very many Perth happenings from the month of June as I was not here for any of it. There were a number of emails concerning hockey in amongst all the spam clogging my in-box when I returned, but all I have been able to ascertain is that the Saturday hockey had a break while everybody was away. Also the interstate tournament had become a movable feast. As there were many news items from the Netherlands these will feature. Not least the amazing two days many of us had at the Kyocera Stadium supporting our national teams.

Department of Health: As we have heard very little more since the June issue, this is a much smaller piece of the newsletter. Wouldn't it be great if everybody was enjoying good health.

Roger Jewell: It was pleasing to attend Saturday hockey on July 5th and discover that Roger was back playing again - as well as ever.

Peter Livingstone: Was sighted having a drink or two at Perry Lakes on 5th July. Looked well.

Ken Watt: Was umpiring again on July 5th. Apparently had made a comeback during my absence and suffered another injury. Pleased to report he was playing again on 9th July.

Trevor Kerr: I was pleased and surprised to discover on the 2nd July that he's made a come-back. Has not forgotten how to play, even if not quite as mobile as formerly.

Dates For The Diary:

July 16th: A division at UWA - B and C divisions at Hale.

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

2015: European Championships - London. Southern Cross may be there.

2016: Next Grand Masters (O/60s and higher) World Cup - Newcastle (the Australian one).

2016: Next Masters (O/40s to O/55s) World Cup - Canberra.

Department Of Limericks: There is an element of truth in this one - based on anecdotal and hearsay evidence. As I personally did not dine at the nearby store the idea came when a team-mate used the rhyming words from lines 2 and 5 in the same sentence.

When we travel abroad what we fear

Is that maybe we'll get diarrhoea

Those who had it in Dutch

Shared just one common touch

For they'd all had meatballs at Ikea.

Punology One: Thank you to all the suppliers of puns - Bill Baldwin and Marty Greay amongst them. One of Bill's: "Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion."

Letters To The Editor: Thanks to the respondents to the last issue; Ray Norton, Peter Murray, Mitch Eastman, Jim Wright, Chris Morley and John Milner.

Ray says (in part): "Loved the descriptions of the different hockey players in the make-up of a team. All so true."

Chris offered "... one for the Department of Pedantry. On Page 7, Midfielders, the last word of the first paragraph should I believe be drivel, not dribble. Google dictionary tells us that both dribble and drivel can be used to describe a small flow of mucous from nose or saliva from mouth but only drivel can be used for meaningless talk or thinking, twaddle, childish or idiotic talk." *Corrections -Page 5.*

Rules 'R' Us: It's not unknown for cries of 'Flick!' to resound after an incident in the circle. So what does the rule say about when they can be awarded?

Rule 12.4: "A penalty stroke is awarded:

- a) For an offence by a defender in the circle which prevents the probable scoring of a goal.
- b) For an intentional offence by a defender against an attacker who has possession of the ball, or an opportunity to play the ball.
- c) For defenders persistently crossing over the back-line before permitted during the taking of penalty corners.

This all seems to be clear - so perhaps we may stop appealing to the umpire after every breach within the circle by a defender. Or perhaps not - Ed.

Punology Two: "With her marriage she got a new name and a dress." *(Also sent in by Bill Baldwin)*

Quotable Quote No 1: "The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief or bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing ... not healing, not curing ... that is a friend who cares." Henri Nouwen Dutch writer 1932 - 1996. We all (Southern Cross O/65 Reds) tried to be that kind of friend for team-mate Maurie Dobbin, who as most of you have heard tragically lost his wife Jill in Delft .

World Cup Kyocera and Greenfields: Before leaving home I saw a TV story on the conversion of the AB Den Haag soccer stadium to a 15,000 seat hockey arena (Kyocera). After returning home I found an on-line story on the construction of a temporary hockey stadium from scratch (Greenfields) - and was surprised to find it could seat 5,000. Construction was only completed on 18/04/2014 - in record time. Almost all the tournament village was also temporary construction only. It all seemed to work very satisfactorily on the days I attended - congratulations to the organisers.

Actually being there for the last two days was a memorable experience. Many thanks go to Len Collier for organising the block tickets for Southern Cross. On the days when we were not there the telecast showed all matches - and could be viewed from the Klein Switzerland clubrooms, the hotel foyer, or the comfort of the hotel room. I believe that our ABC was very good about showing all Australian matches. The Dutch people we encountered were very keen supporters of their own teams, but were magnanimous in victory (Women 2-0) and gracious in defeat (Men 1-6). Strangers often spoke to us, and a common sentiment was that one each would be a fair result.

As a sidelight, the original colours of the Stadium appeared to be green and gold - surely a good omen for the Australian men. Other than the noise level (amplified 'music' - not spectators) I enjoyed everything - especially the result. The noise did not endure - hence Limerick #2. *(Page 4)*

Department Of Limericks Part 2: Was it good for you too?

One up, and the Dutch were so loud
 Three goals, would that quieten the crowd?
 Six straight from Ric's boys
 Did turn off the noise
 Each Aussie supporter felt proud.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Herewith the answer to last issue's question which was:

The 3rd Champion's trophy was held in January 1981. Which of these statements is NOT true:

- Despite scoring 5 goals we lost to the Netherlands 5-7.
- The competition was held in Bombay (Mumbai).
- Ric Charlesworth scored in four of the five matches played.
- Australia scored 2 or more goals in each match.

It seems that Rusty now has some real competition as a correct answer came in on the same day from Mal Horrigan. Mal pointed out the tournament was held in Karachi, not Mumbai. And on 4th June this came from Rusty - " 'b' is incorrect, it was held in Pakistan." Do we need harder questions?

This issue's question is: In which Olympic Games was the Kookaburras W-D-L record:

W-D-L-W-L-W-W-W-L. The last two matches were against India and Pakistan.

Was it a) 1964 Tokyo b) 1968 Mexico City c) 1972 Munich d) 1976 Montreal

Answer next issue. *(hopefully with another question from our Inside Cover historian and celebrity)*

Results From Klein Switzerland: These came from the official web-site, but as this has a serious error in the TT O/65s (Southern Cross Red defeated Alliance B in the shoot-out for 7th and 8th) I have reverted to my notes taken during the presentations.

Men's 60s: Australia (1st) Netherlands (2nd) England (3rd) Fair play Japan

Men's 65s: Netherlands (1st) Australia (2nd) England (3rd) Fair play Italy

Men's 70s: England (1st) Netherlands (2nd) Australia (3rd) Fair play England

Men's 75s: Australia (1st) England (2nd) Netherlands (3rd) Fair play Alliance Best GK: Bob Stidwell

TT 60s: LX White (1st) LX Red (2nd) Southern Cross Blue (3rd) Fair play Egypt

TT 65s: LX (1st) Netherlands A (2nd) Netherlands B (3rd) Fair play Southern Cross Red

TT 70s: LX (1st) Netherlands (2nd) Southern Cross (3rd) Fair play Netherlands

Oldest player was only 85 - I think John Milner should play in Newcastle, 2016.

Results From Rotterdam: Thanks to John Sanders for these final results. I've added 3rd places.

Women's 40s: Netherlands (1) Australia (1) Shootout (2-3) 3rd England

Women's 45s: Netherlands (2) South Africa (0) 3rd Scotland

Women's 50s: England (2) Australia (1) 3rd Ireland

Women's 55s: England (4) Netherlands (0) 3rd New Zealand

Women's 60s: England (0) Australia (3) 3rd Netherlands

Men's 40s: Netherlands (1) Australia (1) Shootout (1-2) 3rd England

Men's 45s: England (3) Australia (3) Shootout (1-2) 3rd Netherlands

Men's 50s: Germany (1) England (0) 3rd Australia

Men's 55s: England (1) Netherlands (1) Shootout (4-2) 3rd Australia

Congratulations to all the Australian sides for these results. Medals to all teams is a good outcome.

Shakespeare Said It: “Now is the winter of our discontent.” Richard III Act I Scene I. *For all those who dislike our Perth winters as much as I do. Ed.*

Department of Corrections: Our proof-reader has missed yet another typing mistake. At the end of the first paragraph on midfielders in Gil Voysey’s great piece we claimed that they talk ‘dribble’ at half time - which should have read ‘drivel.’ Something of a Freudian slip? Both proof-reader and typist say that they were too stirred up at the prospect of joining the Editor in The Hague. Many thanks to Chris Morley for pointing this out (see Page 3) - our typist and proof-reader will both have to lift their game. They have just been given a relaxing trip to Europe by the generous Editor.

Player Movements: Welcome to new members of WHM KY Lee (from Hale) and Paul Paino (from Melville). Mal Poole and Dave Herrington have re-joined, welcome back.

Well Dones: Thank you to all the unknowns who kept hockey going on Wednesdays and Saturdays while the World Cup travellers were away. The Lotto syndicate does not appear to have won?

My card sir: The wrong World Cup must have got to both Howie Herbert and Gordon Jeffrey. HH’s little kick was worth a penalty corner and a green card (inside the 25), while GJ’s (circle) cost a stroke and a green card. Howie must be settling up in old age - I believe it was his first card ever.

World Cup Impressions: As for Oxford, a few of my own thoughts. Reader contributions welcome. Flight does not get any shorter - either going or coming back.

Netherlands pictures show bicycles, canals, and windmills. That’s what’s there - plus wind turbines.

Delft: Great place, great people, great food, lots of history. Very few tourists at night beside us.

Klein Switserland: Beautiful setting, picturesque clubhouse, access very difficult by bus or car. Two water-based turfs and three sand ones. Also a sand warm-up area.

Dutch people: Friendly, helpful, and courteous. English is taught as a second language to all.

Beach party: Terrific little oompah band on the sands. All dancing on dance floor was Australian. Our chairman’s red wine glass seemed to be large enough to swim in - adjacent North Sea not required.

Greatly impressed with all the green areas between the buildings - was told this is deliberate policy throughout the entire Den Haag area.

Dutch people: Many of them are very, very tall!

Walking (about 20 minutes) in to Delft twice a day - very healthy.

Westcord Hotel Delft: Limited room storage; single beds too close together for same sex sharing. All else was very good. Staff most co-operative and friendly - any problems were addressed and solved.

Smoking is much more visible in Europe, especially in restaurants.

Food and drink were much cheaper than here. In Delft milk, bananas, and 20 tea bags cost less than half the same amount of just bananas and milk in my local store here.

Europeans are all very courteous - they must be accustomed to ignorant and stupid foreigners.

The disparity in dress among couples was amazing - I saw numerous examples of very smartly clad women with men in grotty t-shirts and jeans. The most extreme case also added sandals.

My WHM numbers were wrong - Dudley Evans played for NZ. That’s 57 Wednesday players.

I hope that you all had as good a time as I did post-hockey. Just one short item this issue.

I’m told that Loch Linnhe is not named after Allan Lynn - it’s just a homonym.

Transport to Australia 1748

If you found the flight too long, and the hotel rooms cramped then visit the Maritime Museum in Amsterdam. The picture shows the Dutch East Indiaman "Amsterdam" and the duration of the voyage to what is now Indonesia and the 'luxury' accommodation for the 5 paying passengers was amazing. Even the captain's living space appeared very Spartan by today's standards.

They Said It: A few more original comments and statements were made recently:

Tony Cohen: "I trained for this tournament by walking across an entire country." Quite true, from border to border, only the country was Monaco.

John Mercer: While sharing an airport queue with the Indian hockey team and their coach Terry Walsh: "It's a pity Charlie is retiring - it seems as though he's just getting the hang of it."

Bob Robinson: Went one better - the coach and team in his airport queue were Ric Charlesworth and the Australian gold medal winners. A well-timed and pleasant conversation ensued.

Barry Faulks (S/C 65s Red team-mate): "Ric Denny is in the NSW O/65s team for Perth."

Situations Vacant: South Australia still needs a few players for most teams in the Perth tournament. If you are still uncommitted, and would like to do your bit for WA tourism contact Ric Roberts. He can be reached on ric.roberts@iinet.net.au. Or go via the 'Masters Matters' editor.

Grumpy People Department: The front page of our state's only daily newspaper proclaimed this morning (9th July) that WA is "The Grumpy State." Where our premier leads we all must follow.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: For a repeat ask any member of the Australian O/65 team about buses, or their semi-final fixtures. Simon Williams has an on-line blog on the tournament which your search engine should be able to locate, and obtain a team member's perspective on the strange events.

Toast to Southern Cross: Those who attended the dinner at the Westcord Hotel, Delft, have heard Tony Cohen deliver this address. Those of you who were not there but know Tony can imagine the superb delivery of the following words. The rest of you will just have to read - and enjoy. So many diners have expressed a wish to read this that I speak for a large number of people in thanking our Southern Cross chef-de-mission for sending the complete transcript to 'Masters Matters.' He was even kind enough to waive all royalties.

“And the elderly warriors gathered in the wet green fields and the sandy grounds known as Klein Switzerland , and they were dressed in their traditional battle colours of green and gold.

Some bore the scars and wrappings of earlier fierce conflicts on faraway battle grounds in such places as Western Australia where the streets are paved with gold; South Australia where the time zone is unusual; and Tasmania where everyone is apples. They had also fought in Victoria where the weather changes hourly; in the ACT where everyone is politically correct; & in Queensland where it is beautiful one day ... and others had fought in NSW where life is perfect. But these previous battles were now but a distant memory.

They rode to the battlegrounds in large chariots pulled by horses which lived inside them. All carried funny sticks of various colours which they brought in long cloth bags adorned with strange writings and symbols. A few carried larger bags which contained special armour which when adorned covered their whole bodies as well as an iron mask which hid their faces. These warriors appeared simple and detached from reality. The other braver warriors appeared to have no armour except for small shields which for some religious reason they stuck to their legs and even smaller armour which they put in their mouths, presumably to ward off evil spirits. One of the warriors, the bravest of them all, wore no armour at all.

In order not to alert the enemy of their coming the chariots discharged the warriors many miles from the battleground. The warriors then passed through green forests, climbed up and down many hills and forded several streams in order to reach the appointed place. Some warriors were accompanied by their handmaidens who cried out loudly that they did not appreciate the long walk.

Once at the appointed place, in a ceremony handed down from their forefathers before them, they began a strange ritual of lining up on the green or sandy battlegrounds in a strict formation which had previously been determined by each tribe's witch doctor whom the warriors referred to in hushed and reverential tones as 'coach.'

One of the warriors who was standing nearest to the enemy then tried to hit a small white ball with his funny stick. After this they all did the same thing many times, sometimes keeping the ball on the flat green pastures but at other times hitting it into the wicker fences which surrounded the battlegrounds. Some hit the ball to warriors wearing similar colours to themselves but many hit the ball to enemy warriors wearing colours of orange, white, or blue.

There was absolutely no obvious pattern to where the warriors hit the small white ball. Very occasionally one of them would hit the little white ball into a small net which had been constructed at each end of the battleground. When this happened all the other warriors wearing the same colours cried out loudly and ran round in excitement like deranged women often striking the upraised hand of their comrade with their own hand. Meanwhile the enemy warriors wearing other colours sank to their knees and cried heatedly. Many would shout and abuse those of their own clan, especially he who wore the special full body armour and who stood for much of the battle between two white posts and in front of the net but who never seemed to move.

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During the battle many of the warriors made strange sounds and spoke words which their mothers had not taught them. Some remembered earlier times when they thought they always hit the little white to a comrade and never to the enemy. At times a warrior would forget he was carrying his funny little stick and he would kick the little white ball with his feet. When this happened a whistle blew from a distant part of the battleground, probably in appreciation, and all of the warriors on both sides stopped running and hitting the little white ball so that they could admire that warrior's skill and daring.

When a warrior wearied of the battle or when the enemy had struck him down he would retire to a small and poorly constructed hut adjacent to the battle grounds. Many of these warriors were then attended to by comely wenches who appeared to rub important parts of their bodies which should not be mentioned. For some reason many of these warriors appeared reluctant to leave the small hut and rejoin the battle. Other warriors were attended to by large hairy men and these seemed more anxious to return to the fields.

Whilst the battle raged a man dressed in special clothing unlike the warriors stood on both sides of the battleground. Why they were there was not exactly clear as their movements suggested they were unfortunately short-sighted or even partially blind. Occasionally they almost became involved in the battle itself when one of the warriors approached them for a pleasant discussion on how the battle was going.

The warriors continued this strange ritual of running and hitting until at a pre-ordained time known only to them a horn sounded from a distant place and they stopped punishing their little white ball, smiled, and clasped the hand of another warrior wearing different battle colours. They and the observers then departed the fields and strode purposely up to the palatial temple overlooking the wonderful land on which they had fought.

They re-emerged at a later time garbed in a beautiful cloak and each was holding a vessel of amber liquid. They laughed and joked with each other and recounted the adventure and journey they had undertaken, and as they supped more of the amber fluid their tongues became looser.

And there were other elders there who wore the badges of rank and who believed themselves wiser. They observed all that had happened and nodded sagely, and said "It is good, for the ritual has been celebrated."

Gentlemen, would you please be upstanding for the toast. "To Southern Cross Masters Hockey - long may it continue." Thank you gentlemen - dinner will now commence.

Thank You: To all connected with the organisation of the Southern Cross touring party. This includes managers, coaches, accommodation, team nominations and entry, uniforms, and the buses (it would have been a double-change journey on public transport). It was the most enjoyable hockey trip I've ever had. Special mention to Ric Roberts for the incredible workload he shouldered.

Next Issue: There were many more stories and events from the World Cups which did not feature here. With the proviso that 'what goes on tour stays on tour' some may make it into the next MM.

Stop Press: The Perth tournament will be played at PHS and a second venue - yet to be determined.

All news and other contributions to:

ohn Mercer - 'A' Reds. Email: johnmercer@inet.net.au