



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

# Masters Matters

Issue No 5

May 2017

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**Dates For The Diary:**

<b>2017:</b> May 2nd to 6th: Trans Tasman - Whangarei.	} Australian 35s to 65s.
May 31st: Sausage sizzle - PHS.	
June 12th to July 3rd: European Tour - 4 Countries.	} Australian 70s
August 19th to 27th: European Cup - Glasgow.	} Southern Cross / Australian 75s
September 23rd to October 7th: Interstate Masters Championships - Hobart.	
<b>2018:</b> Masters World Cup - Madrid.	} Australia
June 20th/30th. Grand Masters World Cup - Barcelona.	} Australia and Southern Cross
<b>2020:</b> World Cup - possibly Japan.	} Australia and Southern Cross

**Vale Laurene Bailey:** Our condolences to uniforms officer Robin Bailey, whose wife passed away on 26th April after a long indisposition. Our thoughts are with you and family in your time of sorrow.

**WA State Coaches And Managers:** The WA Masters website indicates that most appointments have been made for the Hobart tournament. For the age groups relevant to WHM these are:

**O/50s:** Coach - Scott Macdonald, Manager - Paula Dick.  
**O/55s:** Coach - Rob Lawson, Manager - Astrid Miller.  
**O/60s:** Coach - Steve Pestana, Manager - Wayne Cutler.  
**O/65s:** Coach - Jim Banks, Manager - Bill Campbell.  
**O/70s:** Coach - Don Smart, manager - tba.  
**O/75s:** Coach - tba, Manager - tba.

As can be seen, there are still a few positions unfilled, though I believe that Lesley Rutter looks like doing the work for the O/75s again this year. Congratulations to all those who have taken on these tasks, and it is very good to see several members of WHM included again.

Last year in Adelaide severe disruption was caused by the abrupt ruling that a team manager was not permitted to be a player also. I would expect two of the managers named above to play in the tournament also, and would welcome any information on rule changes for Hobart.

**'A' Division Numbers:** The winter grass season has now started and our numbers have fallen to the point where only one team did not need fill-ins on the 19th. As mentioned in the match reports this means 100 minutes of hockey for the replacement players, and two extra games is 125 minutes. We may need to consider a return to 20 minute matches if these numbers become a regular occurrence.

**Hobart:** WA State team nominations are now open. The WA Masters web-site shows that their trials are on Sunday 28th May, and nominations close at 5:00 pm on the previous Friday, 26th May.

**Department of Health:** Phil Anderson is due to miss a few weeks having cut his foot on a rock at the beach. Ham D'Souza had plantar fasciitis (look it up), but returned on the 26th. Roger Jewell has now had a complete knee replacement (second half of February) and begun the recuperation. David Lester has made a comeback on Saturday 7th at Perry Lakes, and from my perspective the hockey went well. Hope the next morning did too. (*Must have, he was back again on the 22nd*). Peter Willett has had cataract operation number one - another one to go. Ken Watt has been incapacitated by "a nerve impinged in the back." Bob Bowyer has a very painful foot and actually had to stop playing on the 26th, which indicates the severity. Possible tendon damage is the initial diagnosis. Peter Fogels has had a coronary scare - see the 'B' division report. A speedy recovery to all.

**Department of Corrections:** 'Test Your Hockey Knowledge' appeared in the index as both a regular and an irregular feature. At least it was only in the text once, and it was on the indicated page.

**Letters To The Editor:** April generated much less feedback than its predecessor. It is starting to dawn on me that the way to generate feedback is to make errors or be controversial. The method used by the West Australian at times is to publish letters including errors of fact, but even 'Masters Matters' has to draw the line somewhere. Thanks to Jim Wright, Bill Baldwin, Ken Dyer, and John Milner.

Jim Wright: "Peter Blockley and I are starters in the back half for the No Meds .. Where are the rest coming from?" *If Nexium doesn't count I'm eligible too. Ed.*

**Caution - Learner Driver:** Talking of the West Australian it included a story on 5th April that Curtin University is to start trials of a driver-less bus. If we arrive on a Wednesday and find a bus parked in the middle of Turf 1 we'll know that there are still a few bugs to be sorted out. Possibly it might also be a good idea to keep well clear of any bus on a Curtin roadway.

**Parking Pains:** Obviously this is going to be an ongoing difficulty, especially as it's an area where we all find it difficult to be patient and tolerant. Perhaps we all should register for Cellopark as backup. If you don't have a mobile phone the Cellopark web-site has instructions for you too.

**No 2017 Rule Books:** Last issue included the news that the rules can only be found online. They may also be downloaded to either iOS or android devices. According to MM's limerick writer:

We Masters think that it's malign  
The rules must be accessed online  
Those with a smart phone  
May download their own  
I fear they will not fit on mine.

*Which counts as a Great Grand Master in the Samsung range - an S2. PS: Download attempt failed.*

**What's In A Name:** Regular readers hopefully may have noted that the preferred terminology in "Masters Matters" for our various team groups is division rather than grade. Equality, not ranking.

**Grumpy Old Men Part One:** "I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart." *e e cummings* (1894 - 1962). *US poet who never used capital letters.*

**From The 2017 Rule Book:** The FIH rules include a comprehensive guide on umpiring. I have chosen to print the section on signals following on from George and Shane's session at Perry Lakes.

### **3.6 Signalling:**

- a Signals must be clear and held up long enough to ensure that all players and the other umpire are aware of decisions.
- b Only the official signals may be used.
- c It is preferable to be stationary when giving a signal.
- d Directional signals must not be made across the body.
- e It is bad practice to look away from the players when a signal or decision is made, further offences might be missed, concentration can be lost, or this can indicate a lack of confidence.

## **4 Umpiring Signals:**

### **4.1 Timing:**

- a Start time: turn towards the other umpire with one arm straight up in the air.
- b Stop time: turn towards other umpire and cross fully extended arms at the wrists above the head.
- c Two minutes of play remaining: raise both hands straight up in the air with pointing index fingers.
- d One minute of play remaining: raise one hand straight up in the air with pointing index finger.  
Once a timing signal has been acknowledged no further timing signal is needed.

**4.2 Bully:** Move hands alternately up and down in front of the body with palms facing each other.

### **4.3 Ball out of play:**

- a Ball out of play over the sideline: indicate the direction with one arm raised horizontally.
- b Ball out of play over the backline by an attacker: face the centre of the field and extend both arms horizontally.
- c Ball out of play over the backline unintentionally by a defender: using right or left arm as appropriate, with the arm well below shoulder level, draw an imaginary line from the point where the ball crossed the backline to the point on the 23 metre line where the re-start should be taken.

**4.4 Goal scored:** Point both arms horizontally towards the centre of the field.

**4.5 Conduct of Play:** Signals for conduct of play offences must be shown if there is doubts about the reasons for the decision.

- a Dangerous play: Place one forearm diagonally across the chest.
- b Misconduct and/or bad temper: Stop play and make a calming movement by moving both hands slowly up and down, palms downward, in front of the body.
- c Kick: Slightly raise a leg and touch it near the foot or ankle with the hand.
- d Raised ball: Hold palms facing each other horizontally in front of the body, with one palm approximately 150 mms above the other.
- e Obstruction: Hold crossed forearms in front of the chest.
- f Third party or shadow obstruction: Alternately open & close closed forearms in front of the chest.
- g Stick obstruction: Hold one arm out and downwards in front of the body halfway between vertical and horizontal; touch the forearm with the other hand.
- h Five metres distance: Extend one arm straight up in the showing an open hand with all five fingers extended.

### **4.6 Penalties:**

- a Advantage: Extend one arm high from the shoulder in the direction in which the benefiting team is playing.
- b Free hit: Indicate the direction with one arm raised horizontally.
- c Penalty corner: Point both arms horizontally towards the goal.
- d Penalty stroke: Point one arm at the penalty stroke mark and the other straight up in the air; this signal also indicates time stopped.

*At least when umpires indicate the decision as above all players know what they are being penalised for. George Mullins and Shane Knapp provided an excellent example on Easter Saturday.*

**A' Division Blog:** The saga for April. Many missed opportunities are unmentioned - no selfies.

**April 5th:** The temperature was down and the numbers were too. All teams had one surplus player with the exception of Gold. Red were nearer full strength with the return of Mal Horrigan and John Jeffreys but took time to settle, having their usual trouble in getting the last touch. Goalkeepers were plentiful, with Tony, John, Bob, Colin and Bill all taking a turn at some stage. Blue fared best on the day and Red worst - even when JJ banged one in for them White managed to scramble two in reply. Gold's attack struck form, with good goals to Peter Gason, Mal Jackaman, Ian Lyon and two to Phil Metcalf. Phil creatively avoided a hat trick by rounding the keeper and missing; while Ian L's reverse stick deflection was on track to be goal of the day until an off-the-turf hit to the top of the circle was first timed into the roof of the net by Jim Malcolm of Blue.

It was definitely not one of our better days. Below standard were our passing, our tackling and our sportsmanship. Comment included elsewhere in this edition of "Masters Matters" (Page 11). Player numbers were Blue (11), Gold (10), White (11) and Red (11). Goals scored (12).

**April 12th:** The day began with a general advice that umpires were instructed to give cards for all bad tackles. The effect of this lasted for a few games, but wore off. Keepers again were abundant with Bob, Tony, Barry, Colin and Bill all in action. As usual some good hockey was played as well as a lot of not-so-good hockey. Good goals were scored by Trevor Kerr (3), Ian Lyon (2) and Jim Banks but the goal of the day is again a split award between Ron Venables solo run for Blue and Bob Bowyer's crash into the far corner. There were several sitters missed, but the perpetrator of the miss of the day is fortunate that the MM Editor has instituted a strict no-selfie policy. In one hectic passage of play at the White defensive end it was estimated that 8 chances were not converted due to some great defensive scrambling by Barry Rutter and his cohorts. The results were very even with all sides winning one match. Blue's forward line seemed to miss Peter Dennis and only got going in one match putting three past Red. In other games Red's scoring difficulties were ended by Trevor Kerr's hat trick. Numbers were down, and filling in for a 25 minute game means one hundred minutes of hockey. We may need to bear this in mind for the future. Player numbers were: White (10), Red (10), Gold (8) and Blue (9). 12 goals were scored.

**April 19th:** Players are no longer attending in numbers, but whether this was caused by the school holidays, warmer weather in the Northern Hemisphere, or the change of venue to UWA I will not speculate. Two sides (Blue and Red) had good days (being undefeated), and two did not, with Gold failing to score and White getting only one goal. Both sides had plenty of chances, but poor finishes and good goalkeeping from Bill, Colin, Bob and Tony denied both forward lines. In actual fact White players scored three goals, but two of them were while filling in for other teams. Some of the hockey was OK, but a lot was nothing of the sort, and at times it seemed that the unfamiliar turf was beyond our capacities. Goal of the day goes to Rob Butler for sneaking one in from near the backline. It was great to see Bill Williamson back after a long absence due to injury - the grapevine claimed he got tired of telling people about it. (*Tell MM*). As a footnote, I believe that the Blue captain's email not only mentioned UWA, but had it in bold. Two of his team still managed to be late arrivals, due to the little detour to Curtin they both went on. Player numbers were; Blue (10), Gold (8), Red (9) and White (9). Goals scored (9), 4 by fill-ins.

**April 26th:** We found ourselves on the now unfamiliar surrounds of Turf 1, which appears to have a higher bounce than Turf 2 and we had trouble with this for most of the day. Both Red and Gold were without several of their normal prime movers, and the results reflected this with Gold not scoring and Red only scoring two against Gold. Blue again did not concede a goal while White only gave up one. This was scored by a White player playing for Blue. In other games White welcomed the return of Ham D'Souza who sparked the forward line into scoring a few. There were no draws and Blue won three times. Goalkeepers Bill, Tony, Bob and Barry all played quite well for most of the day but the absence of full backs Les Waldon (Red), Colin Gee (Gold), Len Blyth (White) and Phil Anderson meant that lots of scoring chances were created. Goal of the day contenders were Ken Beer, Jim Malcolm, and Ham D'Souza, but the award went to Ivan Wilson for a cracking corner conversion. Numbers were: White (12), Red (9), Blue (9) & Gold (8). Goals scored - 13. *PS: Turf 1 much better for recovery.*

Tasmanian Hockey Centre

Photo John Mercer



**Nominations are now open for both WA State and WA Country.**

**From The Saturday O/65s:** This competition has just started on our fifth winter. Time flies.

# The winter season began on the 8th April and we are getting three teams most weeks. Unlike our bar YMCA charge differently for full, mid and light beers, but they have good pricing signs. There will be some weeks where no YM teams are there, and we will be doing our own bar again.

# Easter Saturday featured our keenly awaited umpiring special. Many thanks to Shane Knapp and George Mullins, who began by umpiring all matches (3 x 20 minutes and 3 x 15 minutes). Not only was this an excellent demonstration of signals and communication between umpires, but also the verbal communication and explanations with the players was invaluable. The games were followed by a seminar over a drink in the YM rooms where George and Shane went through our pre-prepared list of discussion points and took questions from the floor. The day was an unqualified success, and our thanks again go to Shane and George, as well as to Les Waldon who did the organising.

# There seems to be a fairly common belief that a scorer of three goals in an afternoon is obliged to buy for the bar. Since Saturday 65s began in 2013 I have not observed any trace of this. This despite there having been several notable tallies - including 6 in an afternoon and 4 in a quarter.

# The 22nd saw YM's first home fixtures of the season, and those of us responsible for opening the rooms, setting up the bar, and cleaning and closing up again were able to take it easy. Old habits die hard, and most of us were still there at quite a late hour.

# After a very poor day on the 22nd when only two goals were scored the goals flowed again on the 29th with several players managing two, including John Milner. Having only one goalkeeper helped.

# One minor complaint: When leaving the YMCA clubrooms could all players please stack their chairs to assist YM in their cleaning for the many groups who use them during the week.

**The French Letter No 30:**

Well, round one of the French presidential election is over and now Marine Le Pen and Emmanuel Macron face-off on 7 May. It will, in my opinion, be a very close thing. The polls show Macron emerging as a clear winner, but I am not so sure. The refusal of the fourth placed candidate, Melenchon, to endorse Macron to his followers is likely to be a significant boost for Le Pen as he got nearly 20% of the vote. Amazingly, he is polling his followers and offering them three choices, vote informal, abstain or vote for Macron. Although he doesn't support Le Pen his actions will undoubtedly favour her. Petulant, stupid or both!

There no doubt that policy-wise Le Pen would be a disaster for both France and Europe. Macron clearly offers a better path for the future. However, both of them will face the problem of how they are going to govern without any clear parliamentary majority as Le Pen's National Front has only two parliamentary seats and Macron's group has none. Obviously there would have to be various coalitions in order for the government to move forward. Good example of the issues lies in the appointment of the successful President's Prime Minister. The constitution provides for the President to appoint the Prime Minister, but it requires Parliamentary approval. Therefore the President likely ends up with a Prime Minister from the ranks of whoever can muster the numbers and it may not be a person he/she wants.

Well, enough of politics. Spring has so far been pretty cool temperature wise – today 26<sup>th</sup> was maximum of 11 degrees. However it has also been pretty dry – my rain gauge has only registered 3 mm for the month. This is posing quite a few problems for the farmers across France. My vegetable seedlings are thriving and I have planted out peas, beans and lettuce.

Joelle and I have done a lot of maintenance work in the extensive gardens. All the mowing, planting, pruning and digging is starting to pay off and the place is looking much better after the ravages of winter.

All the best - Ian Purdie.

*Thanks Purds. Going by recent election results Le Pen would have to be a shoo-in. Ed.*

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders:** April's question was: Which of these players played the most hockey internationals for Australia? a) Ray Evans. b) Julian Pearce. c) Pat Nilan. c) Don Smart. *No answers arrived this month - actual counts are: Evans (64), Pearce (59), Nilan (73), Smart (92).* May's question is: Who scored the most goals for Australia of these great forwards? (Clue - all of them scored in excess of 50 goals) a) Richard Charlesworth b) Terry Walsh c) Craig Davies d) Colin Batch. *(When did Craig Davies become a forward John?) Answer next issue.*

**Dummy Spit Of The Month:** The ban on selfies introduced by the editor last month has been very helpful in multiple sections of this edition. Otherwise UWA on the 19th would have to feature here. This month a general award goes to all those who dissented audibly from an umpire's decision.

**Grumpy Old Men Two:** "Do not be fooled into believing that because a man is rich he is necessarily smart. There is ample proof to the contrary" *Julius Rosenwald (1862 - 1932). US businessman and philanthropist. Part owner and leader of Sears Roebuck.*

**Quotable Quote One:** "My problem lies in reconciling my gross habits with my net income." *Errol Flynn (1909 - 1959). Gross habits - 144 at a time?*

**Punology One:** Did you know that the best way to catch a bassoon is to use a clarinet. And as an encore: Lack of ram may preclude rack of lamb.

**Balinese Bulletin No 22:**

NYEPI 2017.

Another Day of Silence ...Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March. We shared this wonderful Bali religious day with a friend out from the U.K. who stayed with us for a week. All new to him, of course, but he seemed to enjoy the absolute peace & quiet. It's difficult to understand, if you're living in Perth ....but just imagine 24 hours without a single motor vehicle passing by, not a single person in the street, no TV, no music, no lights at night other than the odd small candle, even the Bali Airport is closed for 24 hours. Perhaps it should happen more often all over the world

40 YEAR REUNION.

Hot on the heels of "Nyepi" & following the return to the U.K. of our friend (above) we found ourselves seated at our Bali home playing host to two of our former close Jakarta friends ...Adrian & Jane O'Dell. The O'Dells shared our time in Jakarta back in the mid – late 70's & were in our part of the world as a result of their Son, Alex, who has been appointed CEO of Dysons in Hong Kong. They paid him a visit & then moved south to spend a few days in our company. The one & only time they were in Bali prior to this was back in 1975. From here they moved on to Jakarta to catch up with some Indonesian friends that worked for the same company as Adrian back in the day. The Balinese religious ceremonies of Galungan & Kuningan overlapped their time here which proved a little difficult. But then this is Bali ...

WATER PROBLEM.

We recently experienced a problem with our water pump which draws water from a deep well on our property. Not having a mains water supply it means that when the pump stops working ...there is no water ..for anything!! Several attempts over a few days providing us with a water pump that worked ..infrequently. Naturally enough this was unsuitable so eventually a new "part" was purchased & fitted. Thankfully we now have a much improved & efficient supply of water. Just thought you might like to know that!

BALI MYSTERY MALAISE.

Fever, diarrhea, vomiting, complete lack of appetite & extreme tiredness. Without wanting to go on "ad nauseam" these were symptoms that both Erin & I experienced at the same time about 4 weeks ago. We originally thought it may have been Dengue Fever ....but now that it has finally abated, thanks to a "truckload" of tablets the Doctor provided, it proved to be "something" else unknown.

FOOTY.

Thankfully we are finally into another AFL Footy Season. As it happens the ABC TV provide live telecasts of 6 of the 9 matches each weekend. So we are not exactly starved of watching Footy. For some unaccountable reason, so far this year, we have only been provided with one Carlton match ...not sure why that is ...maybe we will get to see more of them as the season unfolds!!!

In closing I would like to be able to report more interesting news ...but life here in Bali just seems to drift by sometimes with absolutely nothing newsworthy happening ...I guess that can't be all bad!!!!

**Shakespeare Said It:** "Pray you now, forget and forgive; I am old and foolish." King Lear Act VI Scene VII. *Would it work after a bad 'A' division tackle?*

"Masters, spread yourselves." A Midsummer Night's Dream Act I Scene II. *Sometimes the 'A' division captains are a little more organised than that. It does remind me of what allegedly happened in Allan Davidson's first game for NSW when captain Keith Miller's fielding instructions were, "Scatter."*

**'B' Division Report - March:**

**INJURIES:** After a period of time suffering knee soreness Greg Allen has decided to have a knee replacement in June. Hope all goes well and that we will see him back on the park. Ray Norton has decided to hang up his sticks as his body was unable to cope with the game. Sorry to see him and his great skills leave the game. Good to see Rob Campbell back on the hockey field after a many years break, unfortunately he lasted one grass game and 2 minutes on turf before damaging a quad. Will be out for several weeks. Peter Fogels, returning home to Northern suburbs after Wed hockey at UWA was compelled to stop at St John of God's Subiaco (which he was just passing) with chest pains and breathing difficulties and was admitted immediately with a heart attack. After tests and 2 nights in hospital prognosis is good at this stage. Good to see Chip Challenor back on the field coming off his prostate removal. Don Sanders is trying out his legs to see if they will now last the distance

**VISITORS:** Welcome to the Australian O'70s team who have spent the last week in Perth for their training camp and played the B Div on Wed as well as games on Thurs and Fri. And reverse visitors Dudley Evans has headed to New Zealand for training etc with the Kiwi team whilst Heath Tyrell has headed to Ireland to play in the 4 Nations Celtic Cup. Best wishes to both.

**LIFES LINGERING MOMENTS:**

1. Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he topped himself.
2. We are all serving a life sentence and good behaviour is our only hope for a pardon.
3. Ireland 's worst air disaster occurred early this morning when a small two-seater Cessna plane crashed into a cemetery. Irish search and rescue workers have recovered **2826** bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the night.
- 4.

**THIS MONTH'S HOCKEY:**

Blue were the team of April with 5 wins and 6 draws in their 14 games for the month, followed by, but not far behind, White (2 wins & 9 draws) and Gold (3 wins & 7 draws) at equal 2nd.

**Week 1:** 1967 what a year that was!!!!. Some of us remember it with delight, others do not have fond memories and some have no memories at all. Singapore Airlines reminded us of the year with the flypast over the Swan River celebrating its time flying in and out of Perth and we were alerted by the roofing contractors on top of Perth stadium. The contractors made some considerable noise having viewed the plane from their vantage point to the detriment of full backs and the umpire who whilst busy studying the surrounding skies for the Airbus A350 a deadly thunk on the backboards

indicated a goal had been scored. Classic forward play. Blue was the team of the day with two wins and two losses, whilst Gold and White had one win and two draws evidence of a tightly fought day of hockey. Each team scored the same number of goals for and against with White being the misers with only two goals (inc the aircraft one) admittedly they scored no field goals with a short corner and a penalty flick their only scores. Geoff Riley and Steve McEntee were the only multiple scorers of the day with two goals each. Other scorers included Jim Campbell, Keith Platel, Graham Harper, Roger Davey, Peter Fogels and Adrian Gabriel.

Umpires: Lionel David and Ian Pestana supported by players. Goalkeepers: Richard Osborne, Graeme Sansom and Andrew Robertson.

**Week 2:** What a week. Gas used in Syria, Trump defies Putin, Scaffidi defies Premier, Dockers and Gold Coast win (Eagles lose), ARU in turmoil over team numbers and Gold are the top team for the week with 1 win and 3 draws. In a week of tight defences and quick ball movement the goalkeepers were supreme with only 4 goals scored for the day. Richard Osborne and Graeme Sansom dominated the play for the day with many fine saves and adroit kicking they managed to keep the forwards frustrated. Those who were less frustrated included Colin Murray-Smith ( a strong goal after deft movements in the circle), Leo Welten (whilst playing for Blue), Roger Davey and Alan Ledger. With the school holidays both White and Blue were short in numbers, but Gold had sufficient to make 3 teams.

Umpires: John Lindsay and Vern Gooch. Goalkeepers: Richard Osborne and Graeme Sansom.

**Week 3:** Blue again were the dominant team for our week at the UWA turf, with 1 win and 3 draws, Gold also had a win whilst White had 3 draws and a loss. The turf at UWA proved to be slower and took some time for us finely tuned athletes to alter our passes to accommodate the turf. Leo Welten did it best of the forwards with 3 goals including a deflection by a defender whilst Graham Harper continues his hot form with another 2 goals. Good to see Ash Challenor back on the score boards and Brian Thomas took advantage of a flattened defence to score his first goal (and a most welcome goal at that) for some time. Other scorers included Roger Davey, Ray Domingo and Adrian Gabriel. Umpire: John Lindsay Goalkeepers: Richard Osborne, Graeme Sansom and Andrew Robertson

**Week 4:** Australia came to Perth this week and provided B Division with a diversion, Australia's O70's that is, captained by Ian McDonald from South Australia and including those well known West Aussies as Len Blyth, Chip Challenor, Goalkeeper John Burt and seagulls Simon Williams, Peter Andrews and Ken Walter. It should also be noted that Simon Thomson was in the selected side as captain but withdrew for personal reasons. The cosmopolitan team included as well as the West Aussies (on my count) 4 Queenslanders, 3 New South Welshmen 2 Victorians, 2 South Australians and 1 from Canberra. This being their first match practice training run it was going to be interesting to see how they gelled. Blue and Gold played the first game, although quite spirited ended in a goalless draw. The next game Gold took on the O70's and in a fairly lacklustre encounter the 70's defended resolutely to salvage a 0-0 draw. Jim Campbell and Peter Wallis both scored in Whites highest score for several weeks as they denied Gold in a 2-0 win. Blue played all over the 70's and won the game 2-0 with goals to the fleet footed Ray Domingo and Peter Komysan. Again the 70's had trouble giving the opposition goalie a kick. Blue continued on their merry way to then defeat Gold 1-0 with a flick short corner hit from Graham Harper. Harps thought it went at the speed of light, others related it to the speed of the moon passing through the night sky. White had been smelling the sausages for 2 games and played accordingly, whilst keeping the 70's in defence for most of the game, the 70's broke free in a forward frenzy managed to score a goal. It was a tad unusual as Simon Williams hit the ball first, Tony Cohen had several goes and Kenny Walters claimed to have hit it last along with the claim that it may have passed the goal line 3 times before the umpire awarded a goal. The 70's won 1-0.

Umpires: John Lindsay, Lionel David and Ian Pestana. Goalkeepers Andrew Robertson, Richard Osborne and Graeme Sansom.

*Thanks again Gordon. 'B' division plays more hockey in 25 minutes than 'A' division. Ed.*

**'A' Division Changes?** During recent weeks an effort has been made to eliminate some of the bad tackles and body clashes which detract from our Wednesday afternoons. At times it seems that the more things change the more they stay the same. We will only achieve permanent change if all of us make a real attempt to end the bad habits which a lot of us have fallen into. My last club Eastern Blades has a Senior Member's Code of Conduct and I believe that some of its provisions are very applicable to us. See what you think

1. Learn the rules of hockey and play by them.
2. Always act responsibly and avoid injury to yourself and others.
3. Never argue with an umpire or an official. If you have a problem, discuss it with your coach or manager (*captain for us*) and allow him to take the necessary action.
4. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of, or deliberate physical interference and aggression towards opponents will not be tolerated.
5. Respect the time and effort put in by your coaches, fellow players and other Club and Association officials. They deserve your support and full commitment. *For us this means the captains and Committee members. They actually are not seeking self aggrandisement.*
15. When representing your Club (WHM) you must do so in such a way as not to bring the Club into disrepute. This includes your behaviour at any Club or Association function, Carnival or Country trip, particularly when exposed to public scrutiny. *Bad habits are hard to shake.*

A recent email from the current Club president sums the code up beautifully. "In summary this policy outlines that we show **respect** to officials, coaches, fellow players and opposition players when we represent our Club as a player, official or spectator."

Simon's demonstration of tackle infringements on the 12th was most informative. I trust that we all have remembered that tackling from behind or from the side will lead to an infringement.

Above all, we need to remember that we are playing for fun. There are no points at stake, and we are supposed to enjoy the games. Let's all (me too) lighten up a little.

**The Umpire Is Always Right:** Even if he's wrong. Especially when he's wrong.

If players who let out a bellow  
 Were all to be given a yellow  
     Their team mates could groan  
     Or have a quiet moan  
 Not sing "You're a jolly good fellow."

**Past Players & Non Players:** It is always good to have the company of Jeff Godfrey, Brian Lester, and George Winning, with this month being no exception. We also saw Ric Denny, over on a visit from Bowral. Rusty Phillips and Ken Watt were at Perry Lakes on the 29th, though only Ken umpired.

**Well Done:** Thank you to 'A' division April umpires: Adolphus Abrahams, Jim Balding, Greg Black, Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury, Peter Gason, Col Gee, Vern Gooch, Graham Harler, Neil Mannolini, Peter Murray, Barry Rutter, John Sanders, and Neil Scaddan. Thanks also to those who umpired in the 'B' and 'C' divisions. Thanks to the Saturday umpires included: Rob Ainsworth, Bob Bowyer, Peter Brien, Rob Butler, Peter Gason, Colin Gee, Graham Harler, Shane Knapp, Bruce Mercer, John Mercer, George Mullins, Roger Partington, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Peter Stevens, Roger Veary, Les Waldon, and Ken Watt. Thanks also to the cooks at UWA on the 19th (Bob Bowyer, Brian Lester and Ivan Wilson) and the PHS sausage sizzle on the 26th (Dave Evans, Ian Brown and Gallows).

**Australian O/70s:** Well done to all those who organised the billets and the games during their recent Perth training camp. The organisation even extended to allowing Tony Cohen and Bill Osborne to have a win in the wine raffle. I hope that both the hockey and the socialising went well.

*Health Warning: The groan factor on this pun is very high. Proceed at your own risk.*

**Punology Two:** An upper crust Englishman was on a country walk and decided to take a short cut across a fenced field. There being no gate where he was he just climbed over the fence and set off. He had only travelled a few steps when a large dog appeared from nowhere and rushed at him, growling fiercely. He darted back over the fence, losing his expensive bowler hat on the way and the dog promptly pounced on this and tore it to shreds. At this point he noticed a countryman leaning on the fence and said to him: "If you own that dog, then you need to reimburse me for that hat." The response was: "I think, zur, you pay for it yourself - you climbed over the fence." This prompted an angry "I don't like your attitude, my good man!" from the hat owner. The local had the last word, which was: "Oh, twern't **my** 'at 'e chewed."

**Wine Winners 1st Quarter:** For the first time in a while I've analysed the winners by playing division and team. The results are fascinating, and indicate that the White teams are spending more time in the bar than their counterparts. Or maybe are having all the luck. The winners by team and division: **'A' Division:** Blue (6), Gold (7), Red (3) and White (11). Total 27.

The Red team figures include Rob Butler and Barry Rutter - to make them look better.

**'B' Division:** Blue (2), Gold (5) and White (10). Total 18. The numbers do not add up, as Ian Bromell appears to have won a wine before being allocated to a team. The priorities are right in 'B' division.

**Other winners:** Umpires (2), Past players (2), Bar staff (1) and Stuart Burnfield from the 'C' division managed to win one. The biggest individual winner will not be named due to MM's selfie policy.

**How to Win(e):** A very long time ago "Masters Matters" included advice on winning the wine raffle. If memory is serving me correctly it was along the lines of: "Go to bar after hockey; buy at least three tickets; stay until the draw." So the MM limerick writer now says:

Some players may think it's not right  
Wine winners are mainly from White  
Take five from your jar  
And come to the bar  
Buy tickets and only drink light.

*A win is not guaranteed, so the process may need to be repeated, repeatedly. Ask Graham Harler.*

**Quotable Quote Number Two:** "Grown-ups never understand anything for themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and for ever explaining things to them." *Antoine de Saint-Exupery (1900 - 1944). From "The Little Prince 1943 Written before the computer age too.*

**New Players:** Welcome to Rudy Keswick who has just signed on. All the best from MM for your time with WHM, whether that's in 'B' division or 'C' division.

**Back On Turf Two:** The defibrillator from Turf Two was back in place on Wednesday the 5th. It's very reassuring to know that it is there, even if we all hope its use will never be required.

**Retirement:** I was sorry to read the email from Bill Campbell announcing that Ray Norton has retired from hockey. Best wishes to Ray for whatever is going to come next from all at WHM.

**Fees For 2017:** By now all of us should well and truly be financial for Wednesdays, and the winter season at Perry Lakes (for those participating). If you haven't yet paid then please talk urgently to your captain (Wednesdays) or George Bradbury (Saturdays).

All news and other contributions to:

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