



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 Maroon

Masters Matters

Issue No 6

June 2018

Regular Features:

Dates For The Diary: This Page.
 Department of Health: Page 3.
 Letters to the Editor: Page 3.
 'A' division blog: Pages 5 and 8.
 From The Saturday O/65s: Page 6.
 The French Letter: Page 7.
 The Balinese Bulletin: Page 7.
 'B' Division Report: Pages 9 and 10.

Irregular Features:

WA State Teams Selected: This Page.
2019 Tournament Venue: This Page.
 Department of Corrections: This Page.
 WHM Organisation/Origin: Pages 4 and 13.
 'A' Division Umpires' Coordinator: Page 8.
 Test Your Hockey Knowledge: Page 11.
 Barcelona Absentees (revised): Page 12.
 'C' Division photos: Pages 13 and 14.

Dates For The Diary:

2018: June 7th: Sausage sizzle and wine tasting following play at PHS.
 June 20th / 30th. WGMA World Cup - Barcelona. } Australia and Southern Cross
 July 4th and 11th: 'A' and 'B' at Perry Lakes. 'C' at Hale.
 July 27th / August 5th: IMHA World Cup - Terrassa. } Australia
 September 21st / October 6th. Interstate Masters Championships - Lismore / Ballina NSW.
 September 26th and October 3rd: No play at PHS during nationals.
 October 10th: Combined games on one turf. A & B Div from 1:30 - 3:30 / B & C Div 3:30 - 5:30.
December 19th: Annual Hips / Knees match followed by WHM Christmas Party.
 December 26th: No play at PHS.
2019: January 2nd: Combined games on one turf.
September 20th / October 5th. Interstate Masters Championships - Bunbury / Busselton WA.
2020: World Cup - possibly Japan. } Australia and Southern Cross

WA State Teams Selected: The Hockey WA web-site as of 9th May shows all the selections from the O/50s to the O/75s. It is most noticeable that as the age increases the percentage of WHM members also increases - until it reaches 100% for the O/75s. Congratulations to all those named. Including only those in Colin Gee's current Wednesday team lists the WHM players going are:

O/50s: Robert Behets, Peter Bewick, Anthony Brittain.

O/55s: John Pestana, Jeremy Walsh, Noel Morrison (coach).

O/60s: Stephen Farrar, Fred Flanagan, David Elliott, Colin Howell, Graham Miller, George Naylor, Steve Pestana, Brian Robinson, Geoff Robinson, Russell Scanlon, Ian Simes, Peter Westlund, Russell Wood, Peter Kontor.

O/65s: Greg Allen, Ian Brown, Bill Campbell (manager), John Chapman, Dudley Evans, Peter Fogels, Keith Gilbride, Ian Kealley, Tom Long, Ron Mitchell, Ian Pestana (coach), Richard Staynor.

O/70s: Peter Andrews, Jim Balding, Scott Blackwell, Jim Banks (coach), Len Blyth, Heath Tyrrell, Ash & Chip Challenor, Simon Thomson, John Harper, Peter Wallis (manager), Alan Ledger, Keith Platel.

O/75s: George Bradbury, Graham Harler, Howie Herbert, Ian Hill, Peter Murray, Neil Patterson, Graeme Sansom, Don Smart, Ron Venables, Les Waldon (coach), Brian Soares (manager), Stan Balding, Rob Andrew, Bob Robinson.

Department of Corrections: Last issue's major errors were in the Barcelona numbers story. There were so many that the entire piece has been revised and is included here on Page 12.

My apologies must go to Keith **Platel** for adding an additional 'l'.

A poor word construction indicated that Ivan Wilson was going to take over managing the onions for our barbecues. Of course I meant that he's running the sausage sizzles.

And also an 'as' went missing from the Alan Bryce paragraph on Page 6.

S/W Interstate Tournament 2019: It's announced on Hockey WA's web-site that this is now official. The support of the WA State Government and the cities of Bunbury and Busselton was essential in securing the estimated 1800 participants between 20th September and 5th October.

Department of Health: In devastating news Janet Purdy has received a lung cancer diagnosis and has been undergoing radiotherapy during May. That has just finished, but further tests are due, and the therapy leaves after-effects. Bill Baldwin has had a setback in his preparation for Barcelona after both shoulders were damaged in a high-impact collision on the 23rd. He will have no more hockey until the Australian O/75s depart. Ham D'Souza just cannot be kept from playing hockey; before starting the spinal injections and between the two eye operations he had a run on the 23rd. For once he eased off (just a very little bit) but still managed lots of possessions and scored a characteristic goal. Ken Beer made a return to playing on the 26th and suffered the misfortune of a bad collision with a team-mate at the start of his first match before he'd even had a hit. The resulting head cut ended his day before it had started (and required stitches). Murray Sharp is reported as far from well, as also in late news is former co-coordinator of Southern Cross Mike Black who has been hospitalised with cancer now in addition to everything else. Best wishes from all at WHM to all of you.

Letters To The Editor: Correspondents following the May edition were: Jim Wright, Phil Anderson, John Halley, Kevin Dempster ('C' Division news!) and Rob Andrew. Thanks to all.

Phil Anderson: Will not be at hockey for a while as: "I will be away until early August on the annual lawn bowling / caravan trip that we undertake with mates from Safety Bay Bowling Club." *A lot of us down here are likely to be envious of your journey up into the warmth. Though I found bowls can be a dangerous game at times - if you have an occasional quick drink between ends.*

Phil (again): "Incidentally, I was looking back at that photo of the 1971 State Schoolboys side. There's a remarkable amount of success stories that have come out of that lot when you analyse it all. Not quite the same could be said of the 1961 side I was in, though three of us are still playing in Mal Horrigan, Alan Stewart and myself. I guess that's some sort of achievement." *I totally agree Phil. Pando will be able to receive "Masters Matters" while on his trip, and might keep us in touch. Ed.*

Read and Heed!: Many thanks to Colin Gee for this story, which comes from the Victoria Park Club juniors, but has obvious implications for us too.

Conversation between two parents watching a junior hockey game:

P1: "Which one is your lad?"

P2: "Why?"

P1: "I wanted to tell him how rubbish he is."

P2: "You can't say that. He's only a kid. How would you like it if I said that to your child?"

P1: "You've done it all game."

P2: "Why, who's your kid?"

P1: "The umpire."

The task of umpiring would be easier if we players did not make so many errors. And say too much.

The Two Rules: It was Vern Gooch who originally told me about these. To reiterate:

The umpire, when all's said and done

Needs only two rules more than none

They're in black and white

Rule One says he's right

Rule Two says refer to Rule One.

The actual words: Rule 1: The umpire is always right.

Rule 2: If the umpire is wrong, refer to Rule 1.

'C' Division: Many thanks to Kevin Dempster for some photographic evidence that the young blokes are there in numbers on Turf 2 while 'A' and 'B' Divisions enjoy post-match. See Pages 13 and 14.

Quotable Quote One: "An idealist is one, who on noticing that a rose smells better than a cabbage, concludes that it will also make better soup." *H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956).*

WHM Organisation: Our numbers have expanded in recent years, and not all the newer members may be fully conversant with the workings of Western Hockey Masters. So here is an overview, with contact details for the key office-holders.

Wednesday competitions are between semi-permanent teams in three divisions, roughly by age group. There are four teams in 'A' and 'C' Divisions, with three in 'B' Division. Any persistent imbalances between teams should generate a player re-shuffle. The Saturday competition is only for Over 65s and teams are selected afresh each week. Usually numbers permit three sides, though some weeks it has been necessary to go to four.

The usual venue for Wednesday is the turfs at PHS, while Saturday uses the excellent and well-maintained surface at Perry Lakes. Both competitions go year round with the only interruptions being the Christmas / New Year period, hockey tournaments and very extreme weather.

WHM is run by a management committee consisting of:

Chairman: Simon Thomson sthomson46@outlook.com.

Secretary: Bob Bowyer rbow6666@bigpond.com.

Treasurer: Steve Farrar WHM.Treasurer@iinet.net.au.

'A' Division representative: Colin Gee gee.colin@gmail.com.

'B' Division representative: Peter Andrews peter@realgrumpy.com.

'C' Division representative: Ian Pestana ianpestana@gmail.com.

Saturday representative: Les Waldon lawdent@westnet.com.au.

Uniforms Officer: Robin Bailey robin.b@bigpond.com.

Newsletter Editor: John Mercer johnmercer@iinet.net.au.

Turf Fixtures and Bookings: Roger Partington roger.p22@hotmail.com.

Social Secretary: Ivan Wilson kiwilson@iinet.net.au.

Data base Administrator: Colin Gee (*as above*)

The team captains function as a small sub-committee in running their division. Currently:

'A' Division: Colin Gee (Gold), Neil Scaddan (Blue), Roger Partington (Red) & Dave Horsley (White).

'B' Division: Peter Andrews (White), Graham Challenor (Blue), Bill Campbell (Gold).

'C' Division: Tony Jones (Blue), Mike Sputore (Gold), Stephen Pestana (Red) & Wayne Cutler (White).

Saturday hockey is run by its own committee, and has a separate bank account.

Since the beginnings of WHM in 1991 the competition has been conducted very informally. It has been decided that we need to incorporate, and work on this has begun.

A short summary of the history of WHM has been included here on Page 13.

Quotable Quote Two: "A committee is a cul-de-sac down which ideas are lured and then quietly strangled." Sir Barnett Cocks (1907 - 1989). *This is not intended to cast any aspersions on the office holders listed above, who all function extremely well. Possibly because we need very few general meetings, and everybody just does their job with a minimum of fuss. Much the same could be said of the Saturday committee.*

WHM Fees: The question of discounts has been aired recently and it would seem like a good idea to re-publish the fee structure for all players. Actually it was Simon's idea - that's why he's the boss.

- All new members pay \$350. All new and existing members joining after 1st July pay \$200.
- Existing members pay \$300. *No exceptions for sabbaticals, holidays, cruises, etc.*
- Goalkeepers pay \$200.
- Players turning 80 in the year (or already over 80) pay 50% of the fee.
- Guest players pay \$20 for the day. *Guest means an invited player, usually from interstate, overseas, or the country and includes invited players for state team training.*

Grumpy Old Men One: "To die for an idea; it is unquestionably noble. But how much nobler it would be if men died for ideas that were true!" *H. L. Mencken (1880 -1956).*

'A' Division Blog: The goal totals for May were Blue (19), White (15), Gold (8) and Red (4).

May 2nd: We had not played an 'A' Division fixture at PHS since 11th April and the day felt like a new beginning. Welcomes were extended to Rob Andrew (Red), Peter Eastlake (Blue) and Greg Street (White); I think these allocations are not necessarily permanent. Roger Jewell was also back again. The disrespect for umpires does not seem to have improved (same old, same old). Some of the hockey was quite good, but the lack of a proper warm-up again had an effect. Blue scored 60% of the goals, with 20% each to Red (who had none against) and White (who let in 4), while Gold conceded 4 and failed to score. Tony, Bill, Colin and John in goal all had good days, with Bill and Colin outstanding. The Blue scorers were Jim Banks (2), Peter Dennis (2), John Ree and Peter Eastlake. Red's were Ron Venables and Bob Maley while White's were Roy Grant and Paul Robinson. Red won twice and drew once, Blue won twice and lost once, White won once and Gold drew once. Goal of the day was shared between Peter Dennis and Peter Eastlake. Our numbers were adequate in all teams for a change with the actual figures being: White (11), Red (11), Blue (10) and Gold (10). Those who have made the calculation will already be aware the day's goal tally was 10.

May 9th: Almost all of us have now given up smoking. Due to the controlled burns Perth has not and perhaps the grey smoke cloud we played under had an effect on the hockey. The second quarter's pace setters in Red and Blue both had bad days. Red failed to score with their best result a 0-0 draw against Gold. Even when they looked like equalising against Blue Phil Anderson scraped the ball off the goal line (save of the day). Blue's winner against Red was their only goal, though scorer Peter Dennis did his best to spark them up all day. Cellar dwellers Gold were undefeated with two one goal wins and the draw against Red, while White were the top scorers with Dave Horsley celebrating a return to the forward line with two good finishes against Blue (and the G.O.D. award). Perhaps we are still becoming accustomed to full sides, or newer players, or maybe this is the best hockey we can play. Most of our attempted hits went directly to the opposition. The occasional passages of play where we let the ball do the work with controlled short passing were a welcome change. Peter Eastlake (Blue after one game with Gold) and Rob Butler (White) joined us from WA Country and both had plenty of the ball. Harvey Davies unfortunately suffered a leg injury and had to stop playing early. Player numbers were: Blue (10), Gold (11), White (10), and Red (11). Total goals scored (6) .

On Wednesday the 9th we awoke

With Perth in a blanket of smoke

It seemed fit for play

And we were OK

Our hockey it was got the choke. *(I almost used 'bad joke' here, but it wasn't that bad - Ed.)*

May 16th: There was a lot not to like about the day. To concentrate on the positive, the weather was quite pleasant, the defenders and goalkeepers generally played very well, some fine goals were scored and our numbers were adequate. In addition to this new nonagenarian John Milner played a game with Gold (not being given any favours) with the Channel 7 cameras on the sideline. Grinding defence, turnovers and poor teamwork were the order of most of the day. Wins went to White (3), Blue (2) and Gold (1), while Red lost three times. Very good goals went to Bob Hotinski, David Pandher & Ash Foster but the goal of the day judges claimed they couldn't separate Jim Balding's corner conversion from a flick and John Ree's diving goal after an excellent team build-up and a good final pass from Peter Dennis. Save of the day went to Barry Rutter who denied Peter Stevens at the last possible instant. Scott Blackwell also saved on the line for White, ensuring that they did not concede a goal all day. Some players went into different teams, with Ash Foster (Gold) playing with White and Bob Maley (Red) playing with Gold. Numbers came and went a little, but the rough count for the teams was: Red (13), White (9) Gold (10), and Blue (11). Total goals (9). /8.

Punology One: Did you hear about the red corpuscle who was introduced to a white corpuscle and fell in love. Unfortunately it was all in vein.

Many people who hear this react with:

"Not another bloody pun!"

John, Cake, Card and Wine

Photo John Mercer



From The Saturday O/65s: The main news from May is encapsulated in the above photograph.

Many thanks to John Milner for agreeing to participate in all the publicity. It was suggested that it would be of considerable help in encouraging continued participation in active sport.

The recent birthday week was a very big one for John, with several different functions for the many people who wanted to wish him well. I hope that he has managed to endure the exposure as he has featured in a lot of media. That means real media, not "Masters Matters."

The Saturday hockey group (*it does need a name*) had our event on the 12th May. Many thanks to Di Wallis for a wonderful cake, and to Peter for successful delivery. Well done to Jim Wright for some very special food, to George Bradbury for the card (signed by all), to Bob and Les for organising the whole event and paying tribute to John, and to Howie Herbert. John wanted to buy us all a drink and thanks to Howie's excellent organisation and collaboration with Di Crocker and the YM bar staff he did so. Thank you John from us all.

An extra well done to Bob and Les for inviting the Mayor of the Town of Cambridge Keri Shannon. Not only did she attend, but she also made a presentation to John.

Bob also made a presentation to John. He claimed that the wine was a very well-preserved vintage, just like its recipient.

John in his response claimed that a good speech should be like a woman's skirt - long enough to cover the subject, but short enough to keep things interesting. He succeeded brilliantly.

The selectors made it a little difficult for John on the 12th by including him in the side with all the Committee who wanted to make sure they had the bye in the last game. Unfortunately we were not strong enough to get the ball into the circle very often.

He more than made up for that the next Saturday with two fine goals.

Half the committee are going to Barcelona, including all the bar staff. Les, Bob and Jim have made their plans, and are confident that they can cope. Please give them a hand if they need it.

The French Letter No 42:

After the disappointment of losing the prospective sale as outlined in the last MM, it has been difficult to get back into the normal routines but needs must as there is always a lot to do with ground and property maintenance.

I have congratulated John Milner personally, but wanted to mention his 90th anniversary in this letter. John is someone of whom it can be truly said, "he is a gentleman of the game." The fact that he is still playing is quite remarkable. The only other person I ever came across who even came close was when I was playing for the Alliance some years ago. The player concerned was playing for Scotland and he was 89 and his 65 year old son was in the same team! I'm sure that doesn't happen too often. But back to John - still playing, still scoring goals and with unfailing courtesy and goodwill. Well done John and long may you continue.

As John Mercer has indicated that there will be no July issue of MM I take this opportunity to extend good wishes to all those making their way to Barcelona. Enjoy the hockey and the renewal of friendships that such tournaments inevitably bring.

Ian Purdie (*Thanks Ian - fathers and sons have played in Perth, but not at that age. Ed.*)

Shakespeare Said It: "It may be right; but you are in the wrong to speak" Measure for Measure Act V Scene I. *Would-be umpire advisors please take note. If the umpire is wrong refer to Rule 1.*

".. you go with me, and I will use your skill." Much Ado About Nothing Act I Scene II. *Lismore/Ballina coach on a recruitment drive. My coaches have identified my best skill - warming the bench.*

"Old folks you know, have discretion, as they say, and know the world." The Merry Wives of Windsor Act II Scene II. *As long as we know the world well enough for the return trip to Spain.*

Balinese Bulletin No 34: Random thoughts from 8.4 degrees south.

Hard Earned Acceptance

There he was, standing ahead of me, tail erect, back turned toward me looking down the road at someone or something. I must have made a sound, as he turned his head to look in my direction. Recognising me as someone familiar, he simply turned slowly to make his way off the middle of the road. Gaining acceptance from the lovely Balinese people is gained very early on but acceptance from the local Bali dog community is something else altogether. I should point that he was not alone on the road I take to walk down to my local "watering hole" The Bali dogs seem to treat the road outside & near their home as their territory & they gather early morning, only to return to their house of choice at early evening.

Try this in Perth.

Some of you may remember that back in 2011-2012 I had both knees replaced ..but then enough of that. Some months back now I was noticing that after having returned from local shopping "on foot" & carrying often heavy shopping bags that my knees began to feel pretty sore for several days after the event. The lovely staff where I generally shop (some 10-15 min walk) noticed a slight limp & questioned if I was ok. Explaining what I thought the problem was they came up with an instant solutionthey would transport my "stuff" on their motorbike & not accept any payment whatsoever. So now I simply walk down to shop empty handed & then having enjoyed a hard earned Bintang next door to the shop I turn back & walk home empty handed. My purchases follow some 20 min later. How good is that!!!

The Two Balis.

Having now lived here in our "Bali" for 5 yearsyeah, I know, flashed by ...it has occurred to me that the Bali most of you Bali-ites know is the "other Bali" to that where we live. Living where we do, set apart from the tourist Bali, we find ourselves on "Holiday" every 10-14 days. All we need to do is to call our friendly driver & then find ourselves in that other Bali within 20 min or so. The little time we spend on this Holiday of sorts is usually enough & we enjoy our return "home".

Peter Hammond (*Thanks Peter - I'm sure your weather is better than ours right now. Ed.*)

Umpire co-ordinator role for 'A' Division:

The news on the umpiring front this month has meant that I will not be trying to highlight any particular frequently transgressed or misunderstood rule. Instead, Greg Street has volunteered to take on the role of 'A' Division umpires' coordinator. The objectives: To schedule umpires each Wednesday to ensure that the games are played to the highest level possible.

- A combination of volunteer non player [NP] and player [P] umpires is recommended.
- No umpire to do more than three games.
- In each game one [NP] and one [P] umpire will officiate.
- The coordinator will schedule the umpires for each game before the beginning of play every Wednesday.
- Captains of the four teams will provide a list of suitable umpiring candidates to the umpires' coordinator.
- The umpires' coordinator may assist and help all umpires achieve a consistent standard.

This will only work if all captains, umpires and players cooperate fully with Greg. I think that it is an excellent initiative and extend congratulations and thanks to GS. If the pages of "Masters Matters" would be of assistance they are available. We are attempting a similar approach at Perry Lakes.

'A' Division Blog (continued): It was a five Wednesday month, which generated a lot of words.

May 23rd: The opening game of the day showed that scoreboard pressure is essential. Gold had Blue defending for the entire first half of the 25 minutes, but failed to convert. Blue then had their turn, and put three goals in at the other end. Red also have difficulty in this area, having scored one goal in the last three weeks (9th, 16th, 23rd). Today they went down 2-0 to Gold before their defence kept Blue and White to 0-0 draws. In other games White won twice and Blue once. Two goals were scored by Phil Metcalf (Gold), John Ree, Peter Dennis (Blue) and Bob Hotinski (White). Ham D'Souza had a game for White despite being between his two eye operations and scored one of the goals of the day after a characteristic run (he was taking it quietly, compared to normal). The other G.O.D. went to Bob Hotinski for a fine scoop finish after a good run. So much for the good news. There were only two goalkeepers, and after Bill Baldwin was cleaned up in a collision right at the end of the third game there was only John Burt. Thanks to fill-in GKs (aka KFBs) Len Blyth and Ian Hill.

My overwhelming impression of the day was that some of us now have little respect for one another, for the umpires, for the rules, and for the sportsmanship which made WHM what it was at the time I began. I urge our umpires to issue the appropriate penalty for bad tackles.

On a brighter note, our player numbers have now reached the point where all teams did not require fill-ins. Approximate numbers were Blue (10), Gold (11), Red (11) and White (10). Goals (11).

May 30th: Blue dominated play with three wins, six goals for and none against. Gold, Red and White only won once and there were no draws. Goalkeepers Barry, Colin and John rotated so that each of them played a game with every side. Peter Dennis (3), John Ree (2) and Peter Eastlake shared the Blue goals, several of which came after good build-ups. Peter Eastlake put in several fine crosses from the right side. Phil Metcalf was Gold's sole scorer, which was still good enough to beat White, while Bob Maley's last-gasp deflection from an excellent long pass by Peter Murray not only gained his Red team a win over Gold, but also the goal of the day. As can be seen from the report for the 23rd May, Red are not scoring a lot lately. We have one more Wednesday (June 6th) before most of our Australian players depart for the World Cup, while the Southern Cross and Alliance crew should all be taking it quietly on their last Wednesday (June 13th). Player numbers were approximately: White (11), Red (11), Blue (11, but lost Harvey Davies and Ian Hill), Gold (10). Total goals scored (10). As I do not return until July 21st I would really appreciate it if anybody could record a few details of the games played during my absence. I would also like to wish every travelling player all the best.

Officially an Official: Congratulations to regular 'A' Division and Saturday umpire Ken Watt, who has taken the trouble to obtain the Hockey WA Level 1 umpiring qualification. It's an example that a few more of us should seriously consider emulating.

'B' Division Report - May:

INJURIES: Rod Bickers returned to the game after a six month break. Apparently on a snow skiing holiday was trying to decide whether to jump a log or stop. The log stopped him resulting in severe leg and knee injuries and being out of the game for 6 months. Greg Allen, who returned this year after a knee replacement had the knee cap cracked and is out for 6 weeks. Whilst having the break Greg had some medical checks found a carcinoma on his lung and had half his left lung removed. Last reports indicate he will be back in 6 weeks from both events. Chip Challenor is edging slowly closer to a return to running as his back pain management is showing some signs of success.

VISITORS: Welcome to Damian Cooper regular player with John XX111. Damian has joined Blue and is providing run through the midfield and forward line along with other newcomer Geoff Robinson. Geoff has upgraded from the C Division and has also joined Blue.

LIFES LINGERING MOMENTS:

1. **Small Man's Disease:** Apparently there is now a solution to this horrific disease. A person who spends more than a year in space will grow taller & their hands will grow bigger. Even if it fails, it will have been a relief to have them gone for 12 months.
2. **Dying:** As she sat by him on his deathbed, the old man whispered, eyes full of tears, "You have been with me through all the bad times, when I got fired you were there helping me, when the intruder knifed me you were there by my side, when my business failed you were there supporting me, when we lost the house in the bushfires you stayed with me and now as my health fails you are still by my side". "We have had a long life". "You know what Martha?" "What dear?", she gently asked, smiling as her heart filled with warmth listening to her lifelong companion. "I am beginning to think you are bad luck!!!!"
3. **Buffalo Bullshit:** A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo, and when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells, but naturally it attacks the slowest and weakest cells first. In this way the regular consumption of alcohol eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That's why you always feel smarter after a few drinks.

THIS MONTHS HOCKEY:

May has been a great month of hockey for the B Division. The grass season has got underway and fortunes are being decided, the weather has been great for playing hockey, the WA teams have been selected for the Nationals in Ballina/Lismore and the competition has been strong. Blue has been the dominant team for the month, continuing the good form of April and with the addition of 2 new midfielders runners. White and Gold played for second position each week but certainly on their days can be winning/dominant teams. The division has been well served by its 3 goalies who have been regular attendees Ross Easton, Richard Osborne and Graeme Sansom. Vern Gooch has been our only umpire well assisted by playing members Michael Gottschalk, Dudley Burrell, Steve McEntee, Geoff Robinson, Dudley Evans and others.

Week 1: And so it came to pass. Exactly seven days after the last Wed, another Wed occurred and we had another days hockey at Curtin. The weather was cool, slight breeze from the South West, 2 great umpires, 3 goalies and the 3 teams had sufficient players to ensure an enjoyable days hockey. But someone forgot to tell the strikers. Only 7 goals scored in the 2 hours of playing time completed. Whilst the defences were on top for most of the games, the mistrapping and mishitting of passes was the highlight. In front of goals Arch was able to miss the ball when he had the open goal in front of him, whilst Ted also missed the goal when the goalie was some distance away. Bob Le Merle showed the way with 2 cracking shots off the top of the circle one off a short corner and the second in general play to be the only multiple goal scorer on the day. Greg Allen opened the day with a strong heave from mid circle past the goalie followed a Peter Wallis back stick drive to give White a 2-0 victory over Blue. White and Gold then played a lacklustre 0-0 draw and Blue defeated Gold with

a drive from Keith Platell. Steve McEntee then drove the nail into White with the only goal in the Blue v White rematch whilst Bob Le Merle's 2 goals either side of Leo Welten's penalty hit saw Gold beat White 3-0. Blue & Gold finished the day with a 0-0 draw.

Week 2: The State teams have been selected, the pressure is off (or over) and an enjoyable day for hockey. Vern was back in position (assisted by playing and non playing team members), another cool and breezy day so the games began. Blue got out of the gates pretty quick and won the first two games, courtesy of a dominant midfield led by 2 new players Damian Cooper and Geoff Robinson assisted by the old hacks Graeme Nicholls and Dudley Evans. Although Shane Williams scored first for White in the first game, Blue then followed with 4 goals in succession, 2 against White and 2 against Gold. Steve McEntee firm hit from the middle of the circle was followed by a typical Keith Platell right wing manoeuvre. Graham Harper scored a blinder latched onto the ball at the top of the circle and gave the keeper no chance, then Steve McEntee hit one out of his arse, not even looking at the goals. White then defeated Gold with another Shane Williams goal separating the teams and White and Blue had a nil all draw. Gold after their break then played the best free flowing forward play seen for some time to win the last 2 games beating Blue 3-1 and White 1-0. Whether it was the move of Glenn Mihala to centre half or Bill Campbell taking himself off, the forwards Peter Fogels and Leo Welten (with afterburners) ably assisted by Adrian Gabriel and Phil Hewton opened the game right up with quick movement of the ball from the backs to the forward line. The passing from the defensive 25 to set up these pacy forwards was a delight to watch. Peter Komysan scored first for Blue in game 5 and then Gold scored the last 4 goals one to Glenn Mihala and 3 to Leo Welten. It could have been worse if goalie Richard Osborne had not positioned himself so well. For the day Blue and Gold won 2 each, White won 1.

Week 3: Another warm autumn day and a great day for hockey. Good competition eventuated with strong ball movement, interspersed with excellent running and intercepts. Overall it was great days hockey again controlled by Vern Gooch and the supporting players with the goalies Graeme Sansom, Ross Easton and Richard Harper giving plenty of cheek and support to the teams defences. Neil Miller scored 2 goals in game 5 against Gold, as Blue continued a strong run on the day. Neil has just returned from hip surgery and was delighted to score twice. He promptly left the arena and went home (no doubt to celebrate). Blue won 3 games (& a draw) for the day, followed by Gold with 1 win and a draw and White were humbled to 2 draws and 2 losses. Neil headed Blues goal scoring with 2 followed by individual goals by Steve McEntee, Graham Harper, Keith Platel and import (for the game) Dudley Burress. Gold were again well served by Leo Welten and Peter Fogels for their goals, however their defence held the team together. White scored 3 goals courtesy of Captain Arch, Fred Flanagan and Peter Wallis however their defence leaked goals for the worst record of the day.

Week 4: Playing hockey in Autumn is good, another fine day and another group of keen Masters hockey players ventured onto the field. Numbers again were strong with all 3 teams having sufficient players. White changed the trend of recent weeks with an improved defensive effort and won 3 of their 4 games scoring 4 goals for the day with only 1 goal against. Jim Campbell broke his recent drought with 2 goals with Peter Wallis and Fred Flanagan also scoring. John Chapman (C Division) made a guest appearance for White, was on the ground for 2 minutes, received a crack on his stick hand and left immediately to have several stitches inserted. Really impressed his Dad who came to watch. Graham Cooper, Graham Harper and Dudley Evans provided the scoring power to allow Blue to win 2 and draw 1 of their 4 games whilst Gold's only goal came from Colin Murray Smith as they salvaged 1 draw for the day.

Thanks to Gordon Jeffery - good to have you back.

Grumpy Old Men Two: "Moral indignation is jealousy with a halo." *H. G. Wells (1866 - 1946). Taken from "The Wife of Sir Isaac Harmon 1914.*

Welcome to New Players: The month of May has added several players to our roster, and we extend a welcome (or a welcome back) to:

Rob Andrew: 'A' Division.

Damian Cooper (JTA): 'B' Division.

Peter Eastlake (WAC): Will be playing with 'A' Division on a casual basis before Barcelona.

Bob Hotinski (WHM Saturday): 'A' Division.

David Lockett (YMCA): 'C' Division. (*Welcome back after a lengthy break*)

Our best wishes to all for your Wednesday matches with Western Hockey Masters.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: May's question was: Which Women's team made the most referrals to the video umpire at the 2018 Commonwealth games? Australia, New Zealand, England or South Africa. *This one has stumped everybody - the answer was England with 7 (with 5 upheld).* June's question is: Place these teams in order of the number of substitutions made at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, Women's Competition: Australia, Canada, Malaysia, and India. *Answer next issue.*

Well Done: 'A' division umpires: George Bradbury, Ash Foster, Col Gee, Ian Hill, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, John Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Greg Street, Les Waldon and Ken Watt were the May whistle blowers - thanks to all. The 'B' division umpires have been acknowledged by Gordon in his report and the 'C' Division umpires remain elusive. Thanks to Saturday Perry Lakes umpires during May, who included: George Bradbury, Peter Brien, Ash Foster, Colin Gee, Vern Gooch, Ian Hill, Bob Hotinski, Peter Murray, Roger Partington, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Les Waldon, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. The MM notebook malfunctioned on the 26th due to the weather, sorry if I missed you. Thanks also to the PHS cooks on the 30th, who appeared to be Bob Bowyer and David Evans. And finally well done to all the Perry Lakes Saturday rostered caterers.

Punology Two: Thanks to John Sanders for a visual one



WHM Barcelona and Terrassa Attendees: The story from the last issue was first prepared several months before it saw the light of day. Obviously work stopped before it had been completed, and the pre-publication check was not done properly after the delay. There were so many errors that the editorial committee of "Masters Matters" has decided to reprint the entire story.

'C' Division: **Australia O50s:** Rob Behets.

Australia O55s: Tony Jones (c), Craig Burgess, John Pestana.

Australia O60s: Wayne Cutler (vc), Graham Miller, Stephen Pestana, Brian Robinson.

Australia O65s: John Chapman, Rudy Keswick, Richard Staynor.

Southern Cross O60s: Steve Farrar.

Japan: Kevin Dempster (*as umpire and liaison officer*).

Total attendees from 'C' Division: 13 (9 at Barcelona, 4 at Terrassa).

'B' Division: **Australia O65s:** Peter Fogels, Peter Morgan.

Australia O70s: John Harper, Simon Thomson, Heath Tyrell.

Australia O75s: Richard Osborne.

New Zealand O65s: Dudley Evans.

Southern Cross O65s: Mike Robinson, Leo Welten, Graham Wood.

Southern Cross O70s: Peter Andrews, Ash Challenor. (*Wendy Looi - manager*)

Alliance O65s: Neil Miller.

Total attendees from 'B' Division: 12.

'A' Division: **Australia O70s:** Len Blyth (c).

Australia O75s: Bill Baldwin, Howie Herbert, Ian Hill, Ron Venables.

Southern Cross O70s: Scott Blackwell.

Southern Cross O75s: Peter Murray (c), George Bradbury, Julian Gardner, Dave Horsley, Neil Patterson, John Ree, Brian Soares. (*Irene Simpson - manager*)

Alliance O70s: Terry Gaston, Colin Benporath.

Alliance O75s: John Mercer, Peter Stevens.

Management: Bill Williamson (manager Australian O75s).

Total attendees from 'A' Division: 18.

Total attendees from WHM: 43.

A breakdown of these names by the Wednesday teams in Colin Gee's data base produces:

'C' Division: Blue (3), Gold (2), Red (4), White (4).

'B' Division: Blue (2), Gold (2), White (5), GK (2) Woody (1).

'A' Division: Blue (3), Gold (1), Red (5), White (6), GK (2), Regular Esperance visitor (1).

My apologies go to those who I left out of the previous issue - especially to those who went without recognition despite having gained national selection. Thank you to all who advised me that there had been omissions. April definitely was not a great month, even if it generated:

Our modern world could be designed

To generate absence of mind

My World Cup brain fade

Has left me dismayed

Too few national teams did I find.

Stop Press: In very late news Ash Challenor has had to pull out of the Southern Cross O/70s; my informant said due to work pressures. But Wendy Looi has committed, and is still going.

WHM Numbers Comparison: The figures above show that WHM will have 43 players at the 2018 World Cups. According to 'Masters Matters' for May 2016 we had 50 at Newcastle and Canberra. In the Netherlands in 2014 it was 57, and there were 40 at Oxford in 2012. It seems that the restriction on second teams in an age group for Southern Cross and Alliance has had an effect.

The Origins of Western Hockey Masters: Currently there are 4 hockey teams with players over 50, 3 teams with players over 60 and 4 teams with players over 70 playing all year round on Wednesday afternoons at the Perth Hockey Centre in Bentley and up to a further 4 teams of players over 65 playing at Perry Lakes each Saturday afternoon again all the year round.

The origins of the Western Hockey Masters club go back to 1991 when 2 senior players approached Hockey WA for use of the Perth Hockey Stadium. They had been selected in the Australian team for the Pacific Rim Tournament in Singapore and were looking for some turf time. They were able to put together two teams to play on Wednesday afternoons. The initial cost per player was \$5 per day.

This article appeared in the 29th May 1993 edition of the WA Hockey Bulletin:

“There is a dedicated band of 25 vintage hockey players enjoying a friendly Wednesday afternoon hockey match at the stadium. They have been enjoying the pleasure of each other’s company on a Wednesday afternoon since October 1991. The games are played on the main turf and are followed by much discussion about the recently completed game and hockey in general in the stadium bar. Games start at 2:30 pm and if you are interested in joining this merry band of fit men give us a call.”

A third team was started in 1994.

Originally the uniforms were subsidised by firms in the finance industry. At one stage different coloured uniforms were sponsored by County Natwest, Potter Warburg, Barclays Bank and Macquarie Bank. These were followed for about 3 years by Jardine Fleming when the Champions Cup was introduced. The cup, which later became the George Winning Trophy, was awarded at the end of each 3-month season to the most successful team. The George Winning trophy is now an annual award to a person who has contributed significantly to Wed/Sat Masters Hockey and is applicable to all members of WHM.

The Saturday competition commenced with 2 teams of over 65 players on Saturday the 13th April, 2013 at Perry Lakes Alderbury Reserve and has now also expanded dramatically in numbers.

There is an annual National Masters Hockey competition between the states and almost all of the members of the senior teams representing WA are WHM club members and WHM club members are heavily represented in Australian teams competing in international tournaments.

Bob Bowyer, WHM Secretary.

‘C’ Division at Rest

Photo Kevin Dempster



Two Thousand Words: It's said that one picture is worth a thousand words. Many thanks to Kevin D for this input from the young blokes in 'C' Division. Given John Milner's fine example it would appear that you all have long hockey careers in front of you, even before you reach 'A' Division.

'C' Division in Action

Photo Kevin Dempster



Guide to Further Information: Newsletter No 5 of 2014 contains a somewhat expanded version of the piece on Page 13 on the origins of WHM. Issue No 3 from the same year has a piece from the late Peter Kennedy on the start of Vets hockey in WA and No 4 from the same year includes a story from Mike Gottschalk on the Gardie Marshall day which was instrumental for the start. All these can be accessed via the same web-page that linked you to this issue.

The Second Last Word: "Inspiration is wonderful when it happens, but the writer must develop an approach for the rest of the time ... the wait is simply too long." Leonard Bernstein. Though if this principle is taken to extremes it produces an issue the size of this one.

The Last Word - Masters Matters Publishing Schedule: The editor is treating himself to a holiday (Amsterdam to Budapest) after the Barcelona tournament and there will be no July edition. The August issue may be late as all the contents will have to be created after 21st July. Though there is every chance that the World Cup will provide a lot of material. During this time does anybody fancy a spell as the blogger for the 'A' Division? The pay rate is not great.

Another Last Word: The July issue is the first time since "Masters Matters" began in January 2012 that I have missed a month. In fact we have been one newsletter in front ever since two issues were produced in April 2012 - the explanatory note from then says that the second one came out before Barry Rutter's prediction of a Page 27 cartoon came to pass. So I am going to claim that we are now all square, and enjoy the Rhine and Danube Rivers. By the time the next issue is due the World Cup results will be old news, and everybody will be busy preparing for Lismore / Ballina.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:
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