



A Blue

A Gold

A Green

A Red

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B Red

B White

C Black

C Blue

C Gold

C Green

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 Maroon

O/65 White

Masters Matters

Issue No 2

February 2022

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Registration And Fees 2022: The following email from Colin Gee includes a link to the registration and payment process. In the vast majority of cases we should use the "Renew" rather than the "Registration" options. Over to our data base administrator:

I would appreciate if you could include the link to registration in your next issue

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/westernmasters/>

Please also mention that players need to take note that they enter their details correctly as there have been several instances where memberships have been duplicated because some details entered are incorrect. The system then gets confused and registration is rejected causing angst and dismay. *(To really foul things up requires a computer, as many of us know from experience - Ed.)*

Kind regards - Colin Gee

Proof of Vaccination: As I'm sure we all know, Perth Hockey Stadium will require all players to have been double vaccinated (at least) as from 31st January. To streamline this process our Captains and Divisional Coordinators are compiling a register of members. All that is required is that one of the proofs of vaccination is sighted, and that member is then recorded as vaccine compliant. Our Perry Lakes Saturday hockey is implementing a similar process. In both cases we are not keeping any copy of the certificates. Hopefully the register will make things a lot simpler at both venues.

The New App: Talking of proof of vaccination, how are you all going with the new Service WA app? It seems that different platforms encounter different problems - I was stuck for a week trying to get some joy from MyGovID. Then I could not add my vaccination certificate until I was given the tip to use Medicare Express (thank you Beth Wright). Doubtless all the younger generations in B Division and C Division are having no trouble.

Dates For The Diary:

2022 April 2nd: Saturday hockey summer season windup dinner - Perry Lakes.

April 6th: Changeover to four Divisions takes effect.

April 23rd to 30th: Australian Masters Games - Perth. Postponed from October 2021.

At a rough guess, this event is looking increasingly unlikely to go ahead.

June 25th to July 3rd: Wim van Noortwijk memorial tournament Barcelona. (Southern Cross will not be sending any teams in these times of Covid).

September 24th to October 8th: Interstate championships (Men) - Gold Coast.

September 21st to October 1st: Interstate championships (Women) - Cairns.

October 1st to 10th: WMH World Cup O/45 to O/55 men; O/45 to O/65 Women. Cape Town.

October 19th to 29th: World Cup O60 to O/80 Men plus Spirit of Masters. Tokyo.

2023 To be advised: Masters Interstate Championships for Men and Women. Home State WA.

Vale Russell Phillips: Christine has asked me to pass on her thanks to the funeral attendees.

A Thank You from Christine and Family

I would like to most sincerely thank members of the hockey community who came along to Russell's funeral. I am sorry for not writing a personal thank you but I do not want to miss anyone as I can remember seeing and speaking to people, both family and friends, however, we do not have attendance cards for all the people who came to the service.

I am sure Russell would have been pleased to know that you were there for him. His illness was a long and difficult one. We are so thankful that his passing was peaceful.

With many thanks for being there for us and the kindest of regards,
Christine

Vale Tom Crossen: We have lost another former player with the recent death of Tom Crossen. He was part of our competition when I joined in 2006, but gradually faded away. All I knew about him was that he'd played for Subs, was a coach, and had once represented New Zealand as a sprinter at a Commonwealth Games. Ken Walter was able to provide a more complete and succinct summary: "Hockey tragic, player, coach and administrator.

Lecturer in viticulture.

Undertook investigation for Red Gully wines prior to purchase of our Nannup property."

Thanks Ken. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his widow Marjorie and family.

Farewell to Jason: It was with regret that on the 19th we said goodbye to Jason de Wind who has been an integral part of our Wednesdays for about 10 years. He is moving onwards and upwards and will be taking charge of the Lemnos Turf. There is a possibility that he will occasionally be seen on our side of the bar at PHS. We gave him a thank you present for all that he's done for us.

President Simon makes the presentation to Jason



Department of Health: The January edition complained about a lack of information, but this one is almost as badly off. Stan Balding is still not able to play due to his knee's continued non-cooperation. Rob Ainsworth and John Mercer have both been sporting shin bandages which require plastic bags in the shower, and cause non playing. John Mercer also has sciatica. The MM notebook has failed to record any more ailments and injuries, and its customary backup of a perusal of the current team lists is now unavailable. Best recovery wishes to all, including those I do not know of.

Letters To The Editor: January's failed to generate the same response as its predecessor. Thank you to Simon Thomson and Neil Patterson for some kind words.

Nominate For Australia: The Hockey Australia website indicates that nominations are called for players, team officials and section panels for the 2022 World Cups. As they close for all categories on February 7th, anybody interested will need to move quickly. Here are the links:

Players: www.hockeyaustraliamasters.org.au/uncategorized/masters-world-cup-2022-player-nominations-open/

Team Officials: www.hockeyaustraliamasters.org.au/worldcup/world-cup-2022-coach-manager-expressions-of-interest-now-open/

World Cup Selection Panels: www.hockeyaustraliamasters.org.au/worldcup/world-cup-seletion-panel-expressions-of-interest-now-open/

O/45 to O/55 Men; O/45 to O/65 Women; Spirit of Masters. October 1st to 10th. Cape Town.
O60 to O/80 Men plus Spirit of Masters. October 19th to 29th. Tokyo.

Nominate For WA Country: WAC have opened player nominations for the Gold Coast tournament. Here is the link to the website:

<https://wachockeymasters.wordpress.com/documents/player-nom-forms/>

O/35 to O/75 Men. September 24th to October 8th. Gold Coast Hockey Centre.

Invitational Events: I have not mentioned these, due to the impossibility of attendance from WA.

Department of Corrections: We owe Nev Brown for that silly error in the goalscorers list. He was included in the scorers of at least 20 goals, but omitted from the Gold scorers of at least 10. The typist, proof reader and editor should all buy you a drink - that's only 1, by the way.

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercer@iinet.net.au.

Please let me (and Colin Gee) know if there are any errors or misspellings. We stress again that there is no compunction to buy drinks for the bar on either a Wednesday or a Saturday.

Happy February birthdays to all the following:

A Division: Colin Sanders (1941).

B Division: 11th Chris Morley (1950) 12th Roger Davey (1951).

C Division: 2nd Colin Howell (1955) 3rd Rob Tincey (1962) 6th Diarmid Burns (1963) 7th Bruce Taylor (1963) 12th Keith Harper (1958) 16th Rick Rodoreda (1957) 27th John Pestana (1960).

Saturday: 7th Don Smart (1942).

I trust you are all named in the correct WHM Division.

Welcome to New Members: We extend a warm welcome (what else right now) to Stuart Fogarty and Mark Pownall who have just joined us and will (I think) play in C Division.

Quotable Quote 1: "Seeing a murder on television. can help work off one's antagonisms. And if you haven't any antagonisms, the commercials will give you some." *Alfred Hitchcock (1899 - 1980). Very well known English movie director. Ed.*

'A' Division Blog: Those who took to the turf this month are even more aware now why hockey is a winter sport. I assure younger players that the older you get the tougher it feels.

January 5th: The 37° forecast kept most players away. This was despite the sea breeze coming in early and making conditions at PHS very playable. There were only 15 A Division players at 12:30 so we all went down to Turf Two and joined B Division. This produced sufficient numbers for three teams, who played each other twice in 15 minute games. Many thanks to Adrian Gabriel, Simon Thomson and the B Division captains who managed to establish three teams of equivalent strength and allocate two or three subs to each. No goalkeepers were present for either A or B Division - understandably. Bar attendance was a little disappointing given the playing numbers.

January 12th: Again the early sea breeze had lowered the temperature to a pleasant 31° when play was due to start, but many players had either gone away or decided to stay away. There were eventually enough for three teams, but we only just had two to begin. Many thanks to Simon for getting a Blue, White and Red team (for the late arrivals) organised, who played each other twice in 15 minute games, with a volunteer 10 minutes scratch match to close. Perhaps we all had trouble becoming accustomed to new team mates, or goalkeepers Dick Osborne and Graeme Sansom were hard to pass, but goals were generally not easy to get. Though goal of the day has to go to Steve McEntee for a corner conversion which initially appeared to have been saved, but somehow just kept on going. Fair play award (inaugural) has to go to Dudley Burress, who when awarded a dubious free hit inside the attacking 23 metre line by an unsighted umpire just hit the ball over the backline.

January 19th: The forecast 41° maximum was exceeded and Perth sweltered in a balmy 42.1°. Some comments were passed that any players would also have to be barmy. Notwithstanding, Simon (who knows his WHM) had cancelled the Turf One booking, but kept the Turf Two one intact. B Division only needed 4 recruits from A Division to make up 2 teams, with 2 umpires and 2 resting players. There were even 2 spectators. So several brief games were played between a Blue team and a White team with hydration being paramount, and everybody (well, some of us) adjourned to the bar which Jason had thoughtfully opened for us. *(See also B Division report on Page 8)*

PS: Though the teams had been selected before I arrived I am assured that there is no truth to the rumour that the selection method was: "Englishmen to the right, mad dogs to the left."

January 27th: Due to PHS being closed on Australia Day interest was sought from those wanting a Thursday game, and the initial one turf booking was expanded to both turfs due to strong demand. Thanks to the organisers, who after adding the Green players to White and the Blue players to Gold produced three teams of roughly equivalent standard. Thanks also to goalkeepers John Burt and Richard Osborne who did not put a foot wrong all day despite the day's warmth.

A Division Comment: The suggestion has been made that life would be much easier on hot days if all A Division players arrived in time for the first game. This applies even more if it is known that teams are going to be low in numbers. If you arrive at 1:30 you may find that everybody has decided that numbers will be insufficient for play, and gone home. And if scratch teams are being selected it will be much easier to achieve proper team balance - something that has caused us problems in almost my entire time in WHM. Though to be fair, we have improved markedly in recent years; perhaps due to a flow-on effect from the Perry Lakes Saturday hockey where even sides are the selector's main aim. Hot days are becoming a greater concern for both Wednesdays and Saturdays so our limericist decided that he wanted to make a comment:

On playing days when it is hot

The question is action or not

Some claim we oughter

Make our games shorter

But others make answer "What rot!"

Quotable Quote 2: "I never resist temptation because I have found that things that are bad for me do not tempt me." *George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950). Irish dramatist .No wonder he lived to 94.*

From Saturday Masters:

We have played on every Saturday from 8th January onwards, despite there having been some high temperatures. The venue is ideal for catching the sea breeze, if there is one.

Thank you to Peter (Arch) Andrews, who donated the food on 29th January.

Our chained up goals seem to be working well so far, though perhaps it's been too hot for the soccer hooligans. Thank you to all the willing volunteers who assist with the pre-match set up and post game fastening each week.

We are still working on getting the drinks cold. The latest expedient is to put a padlock on the kitchen fridge and use that to store the estimated refreshments required for the next week. The back storeroom has now become precisely that as turning on the fridge would drive the temperature up to potentially dangerous levels and be a fire hazard.

Proof of Vaccination: Many thanks go to all players and social members, who have already sent or shown me their certificates. If you are one of the few yet to do so, please get it done as soon as you can. We are not storing copies of anybody's document, just establishing a register of all our players and social members who are fully vaccinated. This will definitely be required at some stage in 2022.

Thanks also should go to all our volunteer umpires. Each week several people who aren't currently playing turn up with a whistle. They include Len Walker (while injured), Neil Scaddan, Eric Alcock and Rob Ainsworth (while injured), George Bradbury (recovering from hip replacement), and Ken Watt (on hot days). This minimises the need for players to back up, especially on these hot afternoons.

Talking of hot days, we all need to make sure that we have plenty of water available out near our well-sited ground. In addition to this, it's not uncommon for Gorby to have brought an Esky loaded with ice along with him, but please ask nicely.

Make sure that you book in to play by responding to Jim Wright's email before 12:00 noon on Fridays. And if you've booked in and can't make it, then please let him know that too.

Shakespeare Said It: "He doth, indeed, show some sparks that are like wit." Much Ado About Nothing Act II, Scene III. *Masters Matters reader being kind to the editor.*

"It hath happened all as I would have had it, save that ..." All's Well That Ends Well Act III, Scene II. *"... the other mob scored more goals than we did." Tournament coach.*

"Who art thou that doest grumble there? Come forth!" King Lear Act III, Scene IV. *A Division umpire has had enough of the constant player backchat and decides to issue a card.*

Charity Raffles 2022: We have not had the numbers in the bar to even consider selling tickets most Wednesdays. That changed on the 27th and three A Division players have started their campaign to make the end of year report in next January's Masters Matters. Seriously, if you're able to get to the stadium why not stay on for a refreshing drink in the cool bar and do your bit for our charity fund. Your raffle prize does not have to be wine, as gourmet honey and chocolate are also available.

Well Dones for January: Wednesday's 'A' Division umpires were: Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury, Bob Claxton, Peter Eastlake, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, John Jeffreys, Bob Le Merle, Bob Maley, Steve McEntee, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ricky Watts and Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, Ian Hill, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Len Walker, Ken Watt. Well done all.

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players June: Noted at PHS: Rob Ainsworth, Robin Bailey, George Bradbury, John Mercer. At Perry Lakes: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, David Lester, John Mercer, John Milner, John Pierce, Barry Rutter, Neil Scaddan, Len Walker, Ken Watt.

Punology One: Roman Emperor Nero was discussing finances with his manager of the Colosseum: "We aren't making much money out of this place. Any idea why?" The manager's answer was: "The lions are eating up all the prophets."

Balinese Bulletin No 67:

I thought if I waited long enough leading up to your deadline I would have something meaningful to saybut alas not a lot "of moment" has happened but for what it's worth here is what I have to offer.

Life here in Bali just seems to drift along day by day by dayThe weather today, following an overnight thunderstorm & rain, is pretty much what you would expect of Bali late Jan early Feb. The expected maximum today will be around 30 degrees following an overnight minimum of some 25 degrees. The annual Wet will probably end soon & we will soon be complaining of the lack of rain.

The Covid new case numbers here recently had reduced to less than 10 on a daily basis but since Omicron has raised it's ugly head we find ourselves recording in excess of 300 new cases daily. We continue to home isolate, which we have pretty much adjusted to while the local Balinese continue to act in a responsible way, unlike many stupid expatriates who run around like imbeciles.

We have an illegal TV streaming service, which offers 1000's of international channels but is of little use because it is difficult to manage. We were able to watch a lot of the Aust Open leading up to & including Ash Barty's win. We did, however, lose sound following Ash's win & had to watch most of the Men's Final the next day without soundbit of a bummer, but we caught most of it. Is it just me but I think Kyrios is a Knob & has to come to terms with the fact that it is not just all about him.

In closing I can say that our Family animals are pretty much "Friends" & generally tolerate each other now. Our new lovely dog, Goldy, has become an excellent "security" dogsometimes a little too much so.

Well John, that is all I have to offer. Not a lot of substance I know but things may look up going forward.

Thanks again Peter. I always watch tennis with the sound off due to the player sound effects. That's when I can stand it, because the pre-serve ball bouncing gets to me too. Both have just one aim - to put your opponent off his or her game. Quite agree with you on Nick Kyrgios, and think that he epitomises the quote: "Growing older is compulsory, but growing up is optional".

Charity Raffles at the Christmas Party: If you were one of the fortunate winners of a hamper at our December party Bob Bowyer would like to have the basket back. Thanks to Leo Welten, who brought his to the PHS bar on 2nd February. Bob is currently enjoying a caravan holiday at Green Head, but the other three winners can return their baskets to John Mercer in the PHS bar on Wednesdays.

I've Been Moved: All the best to George Bradbury, who while recovering from a hip replacement has organised a sea change move from the Perth hills to Falcon. I'm sure that those sea breezes will be very welcome in the WA summer that we are currently 'enjoying.' By the way, there was a time when George was employed by IBM, hence our headline.

He Looks Familiar: I was watching the Channel Nine news with the sound off on the 24th January when Ian Brown appeared on my TV screen. Before I could turn the volume up he'd gone again, but it was evident that he was a spokesman for the Port Beach Polar Bears in relation to the recent shark attack and the banning of fishing on the beach. Brownie said most of his comments were edited out, as he was not offered a bleep facility by the news crew.

'B' Division January 2022:

The hot searing sun beat down upon us, a scrap of shade nowhere to be found, brains fried and eyesight distorted by the shimmering air. A replay of Burke and Wills suffering in the Simpson Desert? No, this was Wednesday afternoon hockey in January as brave souls battled the elements and peered inward searching for the resilience and fortitude shown by their famous forefathers. As temperatures hovered around the 40 degree mark how long would they last? Usually about an hour or shortly thereafter before it was announced, "Beer o'clock!"

A cold shower and a cold beer later everyone agreed that Burke and Wills were tough as teak and that next week conditions would be a lot cooler and their ability to run, trap and pass would be much improved. Each week these hopes evaporated like well thought out Covid plans as the forecast came in the same, "extremely hot and sunny"!

And so January came and went in a blaze of glory, the new year was upon us and Western Hockey Masters had once again soldiered through! Why do you do it? quizzed an innocent bystander. "Because we can!" was the chorused response. Other more suitable responses were quietly dismissed.

Dudley Evans - *Thanks Dudley. B Division appear to be more heat resistant than the As.*



Beer O'Clock? Our WHM Treasurer tells me that our finances are not in such dire shape that he's had to start a fund raiser. Though Steve has a personal email under the name "Feral Farrar."

Rules 'R Us: The original editorial intention was to include the penalty stroke rule as soon as possible after Ken Watt awarded one at Perry Lakes which seemed to provoke some player dissent. Space did not permit its inclusion in the bumper Christmas edition, but to start the New Year here it is:

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. If the ball hits a piece of equipment lying in the circle and a probable goal is prevented, a penalty stroke may be awarded.
- b) For an intentional offence in the circle by a defender against an opponent who has possession of the ball or an opportunity to play the ball.

It was evident from the sideline that Ken's stroke was awarded under Section b) and the push against a forward in the circle was clearly apparent.

Don't hesitate to request the inclusion of a rule under this heading. If consulting the latest rule book online does not produce a definitive answer our readers include several experienced and very knowledgeable umpires. Ed.

Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "Laws alone cannot secure freedom of expression; in order that every man present his views without penalty there must be spirit of tolerance in the entire population." *Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955).*

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: The question for January sounded like John S, but reached me from a different email address and name. JS tells me that he was staying at the home of a family member at the time, which led to my confusion. I'm easily confused.

January's question was: Sixty years ago this month an Australian hockey team (Kookaburras) competed in an Invitational tournament held at Ahmedabad, India.

Which of these statements about the competition is false?

- a. Games were held at the Ahmedabad Police Stadium
- b. Australia did not play Indonesia
- c. Both Gordon and Julian Pearce scored a total of 4 goals
- d. Des Piper scored a team high total of 7 goals.

This month we did not receive an answer. John says: "In fact Julian scored 4 goals from left wing in the 15-0 win v Indonesia, prompting his offer of positional advice to the rested Don Smart!"

February's question is:



This trio, who amassed 588 international matches between them, each reached the decision to draw the curtain on their Hockeyroos career over the summer break.

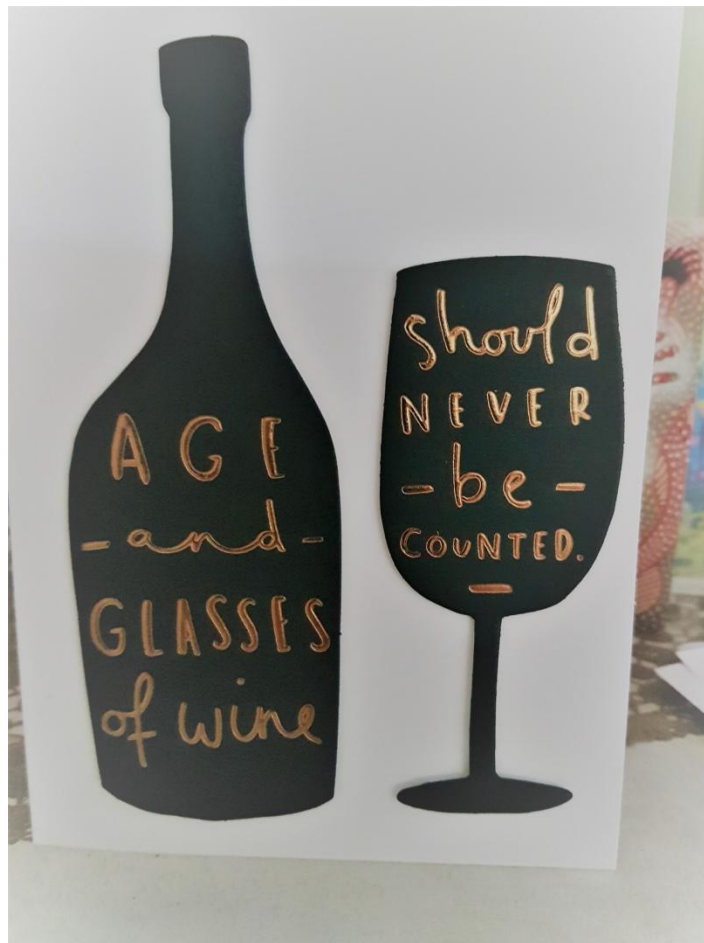
Connect the right boxes:

<p>Edwina Bone</p>	<p>A livewire striker, the Tokyo Olympics proved her swansong as she retires after 11 years in the national program.</p>	<p>Heralding from Crookwell in country New South Wales, she captained the Hockeyroos for a period of her tenure.</p>
<p>Emily Chalker</p>	<p>She said "I think what meant the most to me was being around the group and doing something I love,"</p>	<p>Regarded by many among the Hockeyroos as the ultimate team player, played 123 internationals since her debut in October 2011.</p>
<p>Ashlee Wells</p>	<p>She ended up in the Hockeyroos' leadership group in the months leading up to and during the Tokyo Olympics.</p>	<p>She competed at the 2016 and 2020 Olympics and made her Hockeyroos debut in 2013 at the age of 24.</p>

Answer next issue.

Punology Two: Did you hear about the scientist who managed to decipher the language of ravens. With eager anticipation he listened in to the group near his home, and the first sentence he heard was: "Bred any good rooks lately?"

Birthday Blues? If any of you are feeling your age more and more as each birthday rolls around, this card may help cheer you up. It certainly worked for me.



Gala Day: Most of you will already have received the notes from the post-event review meeting. For what my opinion is worth, I think that there is merit in all the proposed problem solutions. It makes good sense to separate the Christmas Party and the Gala Day. Having our “medical” games in Seniors Week is also an excellent idea. I’m not totally certain about a Saturday. MM’s limericist says:

The planning is now under way
For this year’s improved Gala Day
 To improve the gate
 We might change the date
A Saturday could be OK.

Grumpy Old Men and Women Two: “The fact that a great many people believe something is no guarantee of its truth.” *W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965). English author. From “The Razor’s Edge” 1943. Still true in today’s “Through The Looking Glass” world where it seems to be required to believe 6 impossible things before breakfast on a daily basis. Ed.*

Change of Details: In the event of any change to your email address and other details you should notify Colin Gee. Colin is our data base administrator and his email address is gee.colin@gmail.com.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:
John Mercer: A Division White team. Email: johnmerc@inet.net.au.