



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 3

March 2022

Regular Features:

Dates For The Diary: This Page.
Letters to the Editor: Page 3.
Department of Health: Page 4.
Department of Corrections: Page 4.
A Division Blog: Pages 5 and 6.
Saturday Hockey Masters: Page 6.
The Balinese Bulletin: Page 7.
B Division Report: Pages 8 and 9.
Rules 'R Not Us This Month: Page 10.
Test Your Hockey Knowledge: Page 11.

Irregular Features:

New Divisions: This Page.
Colin Howell Steps Down: Page 3.
Registration And Fees 2022: Page 3.
Birthdays This Month: Page 4.
WMH Website: Page 7.
When Things Started: Page 9.
Vale Bill Williamson: Page 10.
New PHS Bar Manager: Page 10.
Welcome To New Players: Page 12.
Stop Press: Page 12.

New Divisions: As many of you already know, the work to move to our new structure is ongoing. Here is the latest advice from our President.

A Division: PHS1 11.30 till 1.30

The Blue, White, and Gold A Division teams are now in the final stages of being completed. There is a meeting this Wednesday (2nd March) with the existing captains to iron out the final draw from the squad of 48 A Division players.

The coordinator is George Bradbury and Tony Marshall will coordinate the goalies.

B Division: PHS1 1.30 till 4.00 pm

The new coordinator is John Chapman. Welcome John

There are 45 players in the squad, 20 coming from A to form the new B Division.

The teams will be Blue, White and Gold. The teams will be selected by the coordinator and the existing captains shortly.

John Harper will coordinate the goalies.

C Division: PHS2 1.30 till 4.00 pm

There are 36 members from old B Division moving to C, and 10 coming from old C Division to form a squad of 46, from which 3 teams, Blue, White and Gold will be selected shortly.

The coordinator is Adrian Gabriel and John Harper will coordinate the goalies.

D Division: PHS 2 4.00 till 7:00 pm

The new coordinator is Ken O`Driscoll who will be joining Tony Jones. Welcome Ken.

The old C Division will remain with 6 teams and continue with their playing format.

Ken O`Driscoll will coordinate the goalies.

Thanks Simon. Robin Bailey has ordered a stock of new shirts in anticipation. If all of us approach the changes with a positive attitude I`m sure that any problems can be overcome. Ed.

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.

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.

October 22nd: Proposed Saturday hockey winter season windup and AGM. Perry Lakes.

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

2024 To be advised: Masters Interstate Championships for Men. Home State Tasmania.

Time To Move On: Colin Howell used these words to head his email to the C Division captains which announced that he is stepping down from the Coordinator's role. Here is the email in full:

"With the advent of another grade in April and the distinct possibility that, if not then but not too much time later, father time will have caught up with me and I'll need to go to the "new" C Division it seems to me to be the right time to hand over the Grade Coordinator mantle to someone else.

Fortunately we have just the person, Ken O'Driscoll, ready waiting and keen to take on the role, so as I said, now seems the appropriate time for me to move aside. The latest reshuffle of players has happened, the Winter season is still some weeks away as is the move by Wednesday hockey to go to 4 Divisions so Ken will have a few quietish weeks to settle in before the changes take effect.

Can I say how much I've appreciated the help you've all given me during my period as Co-ordinator. I have had to do little of the mundane tasks because you guys have always been on top of things as they relate to your team and so my job has been relatively easy. It has been quite a period because we've graduated from a 4 team comp that played round robin games each week spread over 2 hours into the 6 team game type comp spread over 3 hours that currently exists. There were some hiccups but they were minor and this easy transition was in no small part due to your ability to coordinate your team effectively, so again thank you all for your support.

It would be also very remiss of me not to acknowledge the help and support I've had from Tony Jones. Many a meeting at pubs and coffee shops around the city nutting out the problems we faced and I think we got most right. Thanks TJ

Finally my best wishes and thanks to Ken for taking on the role. I'm sure you'll have as much fun as I had and get just as much support.

Cheers - Colin."

Comment from C Green captain Paul Cartwright: "Thank you Colin. Both you and TJ have made the C Div comp work smoothly and enjoyable."

Comment from WHM President Simon Thomson: "I would like to thank you for initiating the growth of C Division over the last few years. You and TJ have done a great job in recruiting and growing your division. I hope you will stay involved in the running of WHM in some capacity."

Congratulations Colin, on a job well done. I hope you will be able to enjoy a few quieter games of hockey before another WHM role comes your way. Ed.

WHM Committee: All the best to Ken O'Driscoll for his time running the Cs with TJ, as well as serving on our managing body. And Fixtures Secretary Dan Hill has formally joined the Committee.

Registration And Fees 2022: Apparently there are still players who have yet to register and pay their fees. Our data base administrator Colin Gee says:

"Thank you to those members who have registered and paid their fees for 2022. There are a number of over 60 players who are yet to pay any fees or register; their ability to continue to play is greatly compromised if the fees are not paid.

The only way to pay the fee and register is through Revo SPORT

Any other method does not include you in the membership of Western Hockey Masters, Bank Transfer or cash are unacceptable for the clubs future.

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

Kind regards - Colin Gee"

Letters To The Editor: Thank you to Bob Claxton for an entry to "Test Your Hockey Knowledge." This was the only correspondence generated by February's edition.

Quotable Quote 1: "Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored." *Aldous Huxley (1894 - 1963). English critic and novelist. We are getting better at ignoring them, aren't we? Ed.*

Department of Health: The A Red team had a lot of injuries during February and were reduced to 5 players on the 9th. They are trying to bounce back and on the 23rd had a whole 7 starters. Ken Beer was out of action for most of the month with a strained calf, but made a re-appearance at Perry Lakes on the 26th. Bob Bowyer has returned from Green Head but is not able to resume play immediately as he's having some scans. Bob Claxton has had a facial skin cancer removed, but should be back playing soon. Rob Ainsworth and John Mercer have also both resumed, and Rob is playing well again. Wednesday 2nd February was the day for comebacks and the lengthy list of returning players includes: Gordon Jeffrey and Angelo Strano (Gold), Peter Trend and Jeff Kozak (Blue), Jim Banks and Ken Walter (Green). Perhaps this is why these three teams have lost (between them) only one match for the whole of February. Red and White have each lost 6 times.

Talking of comebacks, A Division Coordinator George Bradbury is recovering well from his hip replacement, and is hoping to return to the field during April. This will be just after the brand new A Division gets under way. In the meantime, he has been keeping his eye in by blowing a whistle on both Wednesdays and Saturdays.

And in late news Simon Williams was back on the turf on March 2nd after a long absence. He celebrated his return with a hat trick.

Would it be possible for anybody giving me information for this section to make it happen at a time when I can write it down as I can no longer check team lists to function as a reminder for my aging memory. Best recovery wishes to all, including the many unknown to me.

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmerc@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 Divsn: **2nd** Ivan Wilson (1941) **11th** Jim Banks (1944) **13th** Peter Jones (1951) **14th** Dudley Burress (1950) **20th** Greg Street (1951) **27th** Rod Spencer (1947) John Burt (1943) **28th** Ron Venables (1939).

B Division: **8th** Gary Plowman (1956) **20th** Peter Westlund (1956) **22nd** John Nettleton (1957).

C Division: **8th** Ken O'Driscoll (1962) **13th** Jeremy Walsh (1961) Stuart Burnfield (1961) Greg Ross (1963) **20th** Nathan Bridge (1970) **27th** Mark Bingley (1968) **29th** Gurdeep Singh (1968) **30th** Tony Jones (1963) Paul Mason (1964).

Saturday: **5th** John Smith (1950) **10th** Paul Huisman (1954) **13th** Bob Byers (1946) **26th** Eric Alcock (1940) **28th** Peter Stevens (1943) **31st** Mike Harris (1945).

I hope that you are all named in the correct WHM Division. Ed.

Nominate For WA Country: These will be open until 8th April so I have included the link once more.

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

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

Department of Corrections: The almost total lack of feedback from our readers would seem to indicate that there were no obvious errors in the February edition. The editor was so suspicious of this that he asked the proofreader to run a check. The proofreader reported back that he too had found no errors and asked for a pay rise. He was offered the same pay as the editor.

Christmas Party Hamper Raffle Baskets: Last issue we thanked Leo Welten who returned the basket containing his Christmas Party raffle prize. Jim Campbell (thanks Jim) has now returned his - could Sean Bunn and Neil Miller please deliver their baskets to Bob Bowyer or John Mercer at PHS.

Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "I'm all in favour of keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of fools. Let's start with typewriters" *Attributed to Solomon Short who appears to be totally unknown to Google. These days you would have to replace 'typewriters' with 'phones.'*

'A' Division Blog: Our numbers are still down, but improving.

February 2nd: For the first time in 2022 we managed to play the scheduled fixtures. Red and Gold's poor run in front of the net continued until White obligingly played Gold back into form, but Red went scoreless. Thank you to the three goalkeepers in Speedie, John and Harps who kept the forwards honest for most of the day. Blue, Gold and Green were all undefeated on a day which featured three 0-0 draws; so that left Red and White with two losses each to be the day's whipping boys. The goal of the day went to Peter Eastlake for a fine backline run. The results were:

Red 0 White 1; Blue 1 Red 0; Green 1 White 0; Gold 0 Blue 0; Red 0 Green 0; White 2 Blue 2; Gold 0 Red 0; Blue 1 Green 1; White 0 Gold 3; Green 1 Gold 1.

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, John Ree (3). **Gold:** Hector D'Rozario, Phil Metcalf, Rod Spencer, Angelo Strano. **Green:** Peter Blockley, Steve McEntee (2). **White:** Ray Domingo (2), Peter Wallis.

Team numbers at maximum: Blue (9), Gold (10), Green (10), Red (10), White (10).

February 9th: Red and White were again the day's easy beats. Red's five players had to become accustomed to a variety of different fill-ins each game, but White had no excuse other than editorial failure to convert opportunities. Green have finally lost a game, leaving Blue and Gold as the only undefeated sides for the quarter. Steve McEntee had a day out in the Green forward line, but life was made difficult for the scorer when he and Ken Walter claimed the same goal. After careful consideration it was awarded as per the note made at the time it was scored. It was good to have four goalkeepers again, and Tony, Dick, Colin and John were in the play a lot. Goal of the day went to Peter Eastlake (again!) for being involved in a great passing movement which led to him being on the receiving end at the finish. The day's results were:

Green 3 Red 0; White 1 Green 2; Gold 1 Red 0; Blue 1 White 0; Green 1 Gold 1; Red 0 White 0; Blue 2 Green 0; White 0 Gold 1; Red 0 Blue 1; Gold 0 Blue 0.

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, John Ree (3). **Gold:** Hector D'Rozario (2), Rod Spencer, Angelo Strano.

Green: Steve McEntee (4), Simon Thomson, Ken Walter. **White:** Ray Domingo.

Team numbers at maximum were: Blue (11), Gold (9), Green (12), Red (5), White (9).

February 16th: The forecast maximum was 38° and we were still a little short of two complete teams at the scheduled start time of 12:30. A few more drifted in and kept arriving up to 1:30. Many thanks to the sole goalkeeper Max Viner who managed to last several games before calling it quits for the final outing. Thanks also to the non-playing umpires George Bradbury and David Horsley. The playing arrangements were that a combined Blue and Green played a combined Gold, White and Red, which did not produce even games, but Max was assigned to the team which did not have Simon, and got a lot of play as a result (and made a lot of saves). The sea breeze did its very best to withstand the actual maximum of 39.3° and those of us who took a little time over our (cold) showers were able to enter the air conditioned bar before it opened and cool down some more.

Player numbers by team were at maximum: Blue (8), Gold (4), Green (5), Red (3), White (6).

February 23rd: Despite shortages we managed to play the scheduled fixtures, with most of our better players being asked to fill in repeatedly. It was a day for draws (8), with no less than 6 of them being 1-1. Goalkeepers John, Tony and Colin rotated all day and it was incredible how many times the ball reached the teeth of goal without actually going in. The games were more even than they've been for a long while, and Red scored their first official goals for the quarter, with good ones going to Ron Venables, fill-in Scott Blackwell and a volley to Bob Maley (goal of the day). We have only played the official fixtures on three Wednesdays, but it is noteworthy that after today's matches Blue and Gold are both yet to lose a game. A fair play award went to Les Waldon for confirming to the umpire that a goal-bound ball had hit his foot. The day's results were:

Blue 0 Gold 0; Green 1 Blue 1; White 1 Gold 1; Red 1 Green 1; Blue 1 White 0; Gold 1 Green 1; Red 1 Blue 1; Green 0 White 0; Gold 1 Red 1. White 2 Red 0.

Scorers: **Blue:** John Ree (3). **Gold:** Hector D'Rozario, Phil Metcalf (2). **Green:** Peter Wallis (sub), Ken Walter (2). **Red:** Scott Blackwell (sub), Bob Maley, Ron Venables. **White:** Ray Domingo, John Mercer, Peter Wallis.

Team numbers: Blue (10), Gold (10), Green (9), Red (7), White (8).

/6

Hot Weather, Cold Hockey: The summer of 2021/22 has produced many heat records, and created a lot of ill-tempered elderly hockey players. Or perhaps the pandemic has had a bit to do with the fire and brimstone sometimes apparent on Turf One Wednesdays. MM's resident limericist says:

On days when the weather is hot

The standard of play goes to pot

When it gets torrid

Hockey is horrid

And manners are sometimes forgot.

Seriously, it's time we all cooled down. Or our umpires start deploying cards. Ed.

From Saturday Masters:

It was with reluctance that the Committee decided that we could not go ahead with the summer season windup and WA Spit Roast dinner on April 2nd. It seemed very likely that the restrictions would be tightened further, which is exactly what has happened. We have deferred the dinner to coincide with our AGM, which is tentatively scheduled for 22nd October.

It can be difficult to hold social functions in winter due to the unavailability of the clubrooms. The Committee is investigating the possibility of holding a paella night on one of the 2022 general byes, which would make it either June or July. We will keep you informed.

To make sure that everybody knows what the fixtures should be with three or four teams they are included in full here. These are not absolute and can be varied to suit the weather.

Three Teams:

1) White v Blue.	}	
2) White v Green.	}	Games 1, 2 and 3 are 20 minutes
3) Blue v Green.	}	
4) White v Blue.	}	
5) White v Green.	}	Games 4, 5 and 6 are 15 minutes.
6) Blue v Green.	}	

Four Teams:

1) Blue v Green.	}	
2) White v Maroon.	}	
3) Blue v White.	}	All games are 20 minutes.
4) Green v Maroon.	}	
5) White v Green.	}	
6) Blue v Maroon.	}	

We are about to start work on our budget for the winter season. Hopefully the Town of Cambridge will neither increase our ground hire rate nor charge a small fortune for the new change-rooms and we will not have to increase the fees.

Social membership of YMCA: I hope that you're all having no trouble with the Revosports system. The feedback I have had from several members is that it's very easy and straightforward. Please try it soon if you are yet to click the link - which is included below.

<https://www.ymcchockey.com/registration/>

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.

The suggestion has been made that no-shows should be given priority on the roster to be the day's duty selector. Seriously, it does make achieving balanced teams very difficult, and uneven games detract from the enjoyment of our hockey for many of us.

Quotable Quote 2: "Boyhood, like measles, is one of those complaints which a man should catch young and have done with, for when it comes in middle life it is apt to be serious." *P. G. Wodehouse (1881 - 1975). And when it comes in later life, some of us think that we can still play hockey. Ed.*

Balinese Bulletin No 68: Feb. 27th

Not a lot of time has passed since my last note& not a lot has happened of note over that same time. Having said that, I should let people down there that Erin & I a couple weeks back both came down with Corona type symptoms. Was it Corona ...who knows! Many local people have been showing similar symptoms for many weeks now & simply choose to lay low, which was exactly what we chose to do. Both feeling ok now ...just very tired!

The Corona Omicron variant has taken a hold here with daily new cases averaging around 600 - 700. This has come down from an earlier daily average of around 1,500. The sad thing is that local Balinese avoid taking a test as they face a payment many just cannot afford. So staying at home seems to be the only option.

The Bali Wet is now in its final few weeks. We will need to get the hose out soon I guess.

I hope all down there are staying safe & well in this "Brave New World".

Not a lot I know, but it's all I have.

Many thanks Peter. We are just tightening restrictions down here and expecting the peak of our Omicron outbreak in the next few weeks. A lot of us are very tired too.

WMH Website: I have been remiss in failing to draw our readers' attention to the new website for the combined body which now runs World Masters Hockey. The former IMHA site which belonged to the younger age bracket is now inoperative, but the WGMA site is still active occasionally. For those who would like to check out the WMH site, here is the link:

<https://worldmastershockey.org>

Shakespeare Said It: "Sure, sure, such carping is not commendable." Much Ado About Nothing Act III, Scene I. *Umpire receives player feedback in an A Division match and responds.*

"... my haste doth call me hence, and therefore here I mean to take my leave." The Taming Of The Shrew Act III, Scene II. *Ron Venables decides to take off down the field with the ball.*

"All my reports go with the modest truth; nor more, nor clipped, but so" King Lear Act VI, Scene VII. *A succinct summary of the 'Masters Matters' editorial policy.*

Charity Raffles 2022: Some rumblings have been heard in the bar about the poor representation of the current B Division in the winners. I can assure those of you who do buy tickets that they all go into the draw. It is possible that A Division players (in aggregate) buy quite a lot more tickets.

Well Dones for February: Wednesday's 'A' Division umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, George Bradbury, Dudley Burrell, Bob Claxton, Peter Eastlake, Peter Evans, Peter Galbraith, Terry Gaston, Colin Gee, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, David Horsley, Gordon Jeffery, John Jeffreys, Jim Malcolm, Bob Maley, Steve McEntee, Peter Murray, Colin Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Les Waldon, Ken Walter, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts and Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Eric Alcock, Michael Gottschalk, Neil Scaddan, Greg Street, Len Walker, Ken Watt. As is usual these days the preparation for the sausage sizzle was done by Ivan Wilson and the cooks were Peter Jones and Ricky Watts. Well done all.

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players February: Noted at PHS: George Bradbury, Ham D'Souza, David Lester, Barry Rutter, Simon Williams. Our spectator with the Welsh dragon on his mask is Martin Gallivan (thank you Robin Bailey). He says it's too hot for him to join us on the turf. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, Bob Byers, John Pierce, Neil Scaddan, Les Waldon, Len Walker, Ken Watt.

Punology One: A woman looked up from her newspaper and said: "There's a story here about a man in the next suburb who throttled his wife." Her husband replied: "Sounds like a practical choker."

'B' Division February 2022:

After the Xmas break and the searing heat of January most players were looking forward to February and some cooler weather. With players gradually appearing out of the woodwork and their private Covid burrows Wednesday hockey was almost back to "normal". Pretty much full teams were once again on the park and the hockey was much improved because of it!

A highlight throughout February has been the continued high quality and array of skills shown by our goalies. All have featured prominently in the outcome of each game with the general consensus that we are lucky to have them! I agree with that sentiment otherwise one of us may have to put on the pads and stand nervously in the goal!

This month's featured player is Stefan Olejko. Stefan has only been amongst the Wednesday Masters group for a few months but is already a regular at left half for the White side.

A Lifetime of Hockey by Stefan Olejko

In late 1963 my parents made the bold decision to leave the town of Accrington in Lancashire, England and to migrate to Australia. At that time I was 11 years old and had spent most of my life in Accrington- a town famous for its textiles and cotton industries, the hardest bricks in the world, the Accrington Pals (a WW1 regiment at the Battle of the Somme) and of course the Accrington Stanley Football Club (check out the infamous milk ad on YouTube).

During a wet and cold December we left England from the port of Southampton and arrived in Perth four weeks later to much warmer weather. The town of Narrogin was our next destination, a wheat and sheep farming district famous for its local brickyard industry and its Clinker bricks. I was enrolled at Narrogin Senior HS & after surviving those hot Summer months I wanted to start playing sport again but was disappointed to find out there were only two choices. There was 'Football'...but not the football I was used to. Try as I might, lunchtime kick-to-kick was just too difficult- kicking an odd-shaped ball, being allowed to catch and then punch the ball with your fist, or being called on to kick a 'torp' or a 'drop punt'....and don't get me started on those crunching rugby-style tackles!

The other choice was another game that I had never heard of. A game with an odd-shaped stick curved at the bottom that was flat only on one side. I could not understand why they didn't just make both sides flat to hit that rock-hard ball with. Surely both sides of the stick being flat would be easier... Luckily hockey did have similar rules to English Football: 11-a-side, offside rules, goalies, and getting whacked in the shins. I made my decision and never looked back!

Since I was enjoying hockey for school sport I joined a Junior Club: the Warriors. We played against the Olympics and the Riffs, as well as teams from smaller regional towns like Pingelly. I became very adept as a Left Inner and enjoyed the thrill of scoring many goals whilst playing on the unusual surface of clay. Another strength of mine was the 'roll in'. None of this pushing or hitting the ball from the sideline like they do today!

Towards the end of my first season Narrogin nominated for the Upper Great Southern Junior Hockey Carnival where teams as far south as Albany and as far west as Bunbury competed. Narrogin nominated two teams and to my disappointment I was not selected in the No1 team, though I was made captain of the No2 team and I played as Centre Forward. We won our first two games 5-0 and yours truly scored all 10 goals, but I didn't score in the next game and we went down 3-1 to the team that won the championship. Despite the disappointment of not being champions I was delighted to win the trophy for leading goal scorer of the carnival.

I continued to play hockey throughout high school and in my final year our coach, Mr Lewis, decided to nominate a team to play in the A-grade Men's competition. This was quite a challenge as we were pitted against physically stronger and more experienced players. On top of that, after years of playing on clay, we had to get used to playing on a brand new surface called "grass". However, thanks to our coach's experience we developed into a very competitive team that made it all the way to the grand final. Sadly we lost by a narrow margin, but still gained the respect of the much older teams. This was my first year playing as a Half Back and enjoyable as it was I missed the many opportunities of playing in the forward line.

/9

After finishing high school, teaching beckoned as a career so I moved from Narrogin to Perth to attend Claremont Teachers College in the early 1970's. I only played hockey occasionally, filling in at the Fremantle Hockey Club (Fremantle Park these days, next to the Aquatic Centre). In my final year of teacher's college a team was put together to play in the A-Reserve Metro Comp and we were coached by Bryan Rourke, our PE lecturer. I believe he was playing for The Old Mods and went on to represent WA and Australia. This was another great learning curve because most of our team was brought up in regional areas so each Saturday there would be people missing who had travelled home for the weekend. Also, as our coach had his own hockey commitments we would often be coaching ourselves. My most vivid memory would be the day it was my turn to fill in as goalie as we didn't have a regular in that position. Despite being a few players down the first half went well- we played a very defensive setup and I made a couple of spectacular saves (Not bad for a part-timer...) so that we went in to half time nil all. During the second half we tired and the flood gates opened; their shots were relentless and they took out the game 5 - 0. Since that day 50 years ago I have had the utmost respect for anyone who pulls on the goalkeeper pads whether at Junior or Senior level!

For the following 40 years I played a variety of sports: Basketball, squash and indoor cricket as well as coaching basketball at club and state level. As a primary school teacher and PE specialist I also coached inter-school teams in every possible sport or athletics program that a school can offer. I also maintained my interest in hockey throughout the years, playing for Madora Bay in the Mandurah League, Rockingham Redbacks Vets on grass, and the mid-week comp on Garden Island Naval Base (Pre-9/11 of course, sadly you can no longer pull up and yell out "Hockey mate" and be waved through). In the last decade I've been fortunate enough to play state hockey for WA Metro in Canberra and WA Country in Bunbury, and now, thanks to meeting Dudley at a Pilates class, I have joined the Mighty Whites in the Curtin Vets competition. I've enjoyed so many memorable hockey games across Western Australia over the years and look forward to many more to come!

Thank you Dudley and Stefan. The differing paths we took to WHM are fascinating. Ed.

When Things Started: Thanks to Ron Venables for this piece from "The West Australian" newspaper, August 1980. It was prompted by the first ever Vets Interstate Tournament in that year.

"The great thing about hockey in Western Australia is that you can play it until you are almost geriatric. (Colin Nicholas is the most senior player, aged 49).

None of the other States have a Veterans competition but we are hoping they will be launched after this tournament. Anybody over 40 years is considered a veteran with the average age being 44. Each team can have two members 35-40."

Ron's subsequent comment: "Who would have dreamt that several of those who played in the inaugural carnival would still be playing in their 70s." (and now 80s - Ed.)



NATIONAL VETERANS CARNIVAL 1980
WA — Metropolitan Team

Rear: John Metcalf, Graham Sims, Alan Blunt, Tony O'Connell, George Winning, Wally Daly, Harold Rayney, Ray Ransford
Centre: Don King, David Gasmier, Bill Harris, Richard Tridgett, Trevor Mullings, Kim Hawkins, Des Cain, Graham Ruthven, Phil Thunder
Front: Ralph Ten Seldam, Pat Bentley, Neil Bardsley (Assistant Manager), Jack Evans (Captain), Graham Stainton (Vice Captain), Fawcett Bestall, Harry Duncan (Manager)
Ground: Neville Bullock, Colin Sanders, Pat Kirwan

Vale Bill Williamson: WHM has lost another of its inaugural players with Bill's recent death. WHM members were present at the funeral mass in Rossmoyne and the Karrakatta graveside. He enjoyed a very long association with hockey, and herewith a brief summary of his record:

Club hockey from 1949.

WA U/21s in 1956.

Played in national championships from 1985 to 2016.

Played for Australian Masters 2005/06/07/10/14.

Manager WA O/65s 2005 to 2008.

Manager WA O/70s 2009 to 2015.

Player and manager Southern Cross O/70s Oxford World Cup 2012.

Manager Australian O/75s Newcastle (2016) and Barcelona (2018) World Cups.

He had a very long association with what is now Western Hockey Masters as an inaugural player in the Blue team of 1991, and captained the O/50s Red in 2003

Many of us thought that he had been a member of Old Mods all his career, but he also spent a lot of years at Aquinas .

Our deepest sympathies are extended to wife Maureen and Bill's family.



Thanks to John Sanders for the photograph. It includes several current and former WHM members

Rules 'R Us: Space and editorial time are both short this issue. Next one should include a piece on taking a 16 yard hit and the circumstances when this can be done anywhere in the circle.

New PHS Bar Manager: I nearly met Jason's successor on the 2nd March, but did not realise who the stranger in the bar area actually was. According to the board behind the bar his name is Nathan Bell. Best wishes to you from us all at Western Hockey Masters - we hope that you enjoy your time at Perth Hockey Stadium in this vital (for us) role.

Punology Two: A hospital patient who was a distinguished teacher of English literature received a note from one of his students which began: "Dear ill literate"

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: February's question was:



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:

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

Thanks to Bob Claxton, who says that the top 2 boxes are Emily Chalker, middle two are Ash Wells and the lower two are Edwina Bone.

March's question is about the famous Pearce brothers:

Join the squares with the correct information. Note that the number of caps and the number of Olympics are not linked to one another. Each entry in each column can apply to any Pearce brother.

Cec	59 caps	4 Olympics
Mel	44 caps	0 Olympics
Eric	3 caps	1 Olympics
Gordon	56 caps	3 Olympics
Julian	5 caps	3 Olympics

Answer next issue.

Green With Envy: Bob Bowyer sent a few pictures from his recent getaway to Green Head. He did suggest in his email that this might make its recipients jealous, and it did for at least two of us. It looks like an ideal spot for WHM Secretaries to recuperate after long service.

Dynamite Bay - Green Head



Bob says that the early settlers wanted sailing ship access, and blasted their way in

Welcome To New Players: Welcome to Stuart Lamont and Leon Wende who have just joined WHM. As have Stuart Campbell and Gavin Scally who have recently registered with C Division. We extend a warm welcome to all - best wishes for your time with us.

Grumpy Old Men and Women Two: "The reason why so few good books are written is that so few people who can write know anything." *Walter Bagehot (1826 - 1877). English economist and journalist. This has no applicability to 'Masters Matters' of course. 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: johnmercer@iinet.net.au.

Stop Press: I had hoped to bring you all details of the new Divisional teams, as the captains have been meeting this week to finalise the lists. However, they have not been forthcoming so this edition was closed off without them. They will be circulated promptly when made public.