



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B Red

B White

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 White

Masters Matters

Issue No 6

June 2020

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Resumption Future: In late news we are hoping to restart play on both Wednesdays and Saturdays. The target dates are Wednesday 10th June and Saturday 13th June. Some restrictions will still apply, but please keep a close watch on your in-box.

Resumption Actual! A combined training session for 'A' and 'B' Divisions was held on PHS 1 on Wednesday 27th May. 'C' Division had a similar session afterwards. Due to the very tight restrictions a "Masters Matters" scribe was not permitted to observe from the stand, but thanks to Simon Thomson, Colin Howell and Peter Andrews for the reports which are included later in the issue. Also, many thanks must go to the WHM Committee who worked very hard to secure the turfs for the day, with special mentions to Colin Howell, Simon Thomson, Neil Patterson, George Bradbury, Adrian Gabriel and Tony Jones. *(My apologies if I've left you out)*

MM's supplier of limericks hoped that we all managed to obey orders.

When talking about our restart
 I think that it wouldn't be smart
 To be bloody fools
 And break all the rules

Although we might want to take part. *(The Saturday perspective by Bev Wright is on Page 3)*

Hockey WA Start Date: A revised programme for the season has been released. The first fixtures will be played on the weekend of Saturday 27th June. There is a bye for all grades except the 3 Premier Divisions on Saturday July 11th. No games are shown for Saturday 26th September, then on the next Saturday (3rd October) all grades except Premier Divisions play a grand final. At the elite level they will play a normal finals round of semi-finals, preliminary final and grand final over the 3 weekends of 3rd, 10th & 17th October. *(Thanks to Roger Partington/Jim Wright for this news)*

Dates For The Diary:

2020: June 10th: Resumption of WHM Wednesday play!

June 13th: Resumption of WHM Saturday play!

June 27th. Hockey WA start of season.

2021: July 23rd to August 8th. Tokyo Olympics.

Masters World Cups:

Australia, Southern Cross and Alliance.

O/35 and O/40 Men and Women - Nottingham, England. August 13th to 22nd.

O/45, O/50 and O/55 Men; O/45, O/50, O/55, O/60, O/65 Women; Spirit of Masters - Cape Town SA. September 18th to 27th.

O/60, O/65, O/70 and O/75 Men; Tournament Trophy - Tokyo, Japan. *Date yet to be decided.*

Mega Interstate Tournament:

Women: Newcastle September 23rd to October 2nd.

Men: Newcastle September 24th to October 9th.

Last issue we highlighted a clash between the dates of this tournament and the section of the World Cups to be held in South Africa. Since then there has been a clarification from Hockey Australia and Masters Hockey Australia - the full text of the statement can be found on Pages 11/12.

Saturday Hockey Masters and the Shutdown: *My apologies to the author for the shrinkage. Ed.*

The virus is coming and no more play
Can we fit in just one more day
The answer's "no", pack up the booze
Tell the others the very sad news

Sorry fellas, the dinner is off
Something about a virus, a temp and a cough
Nowhere to go, nowhere to travel
Our lives are set to slowly unravel

A new vocab rolls off the tongue
Important words for the old and the young
Isolation and lockdown, where have you been
On a boat !.....you're in quarantine

The old blokes are home twenty four/seven
A sigh from the wives, this isn't heaven
"Wherever I go he is right behind me
Can't you go and prune another tree"

The "better half" can find many jobs for us
Best to do them, without a fuss
But still there's time for a Netflix binge
My screen time hours make me cringe

The alcohol limits were finally lifted
Sadly the kilos have not shifted
To step on the scales was quite unnerving
I should have refused that extra serving

We need to flatten the curve of expanding waistlines
Make more distance between cheese and good wines
Isolate our snacks, put our drinks in hibernation
Read Masters Matters to ease our frustration

Emails were sent, stories were told
A flurry of jokes as "iso" took hold
The team kept in touch, with both humour and class
But nothing can beat a run on the grass

Saturday afternoons leave us pondering
As around the garden we go wandering
We miss our mates, our special "Men's Shed"
Where we have hockey and drinks, and even get fed

At last the news we have waited to hear
Community sport is getting quite near
To the local park to do some laps
Or start tomorrow, maybe..perhaps

The road to recovery will lead to the field
Fitness or otherwise will soon be revealed
We've weathered the storm, we're ready to play
Covid -19 ...you'll not spoil our day.

(Many thanks to author Bev Wright)

Department of Corrections: As much of the previous newsletter was written by guest contributors there were few errors. The only mistake I found was mine - an extraneous “the” on Page 12.

Department of Health: Bob Bowyer has to endure quite a bit lately. At the time we closed this issue off he’s recovering from two operations as well as putting up with the lockdown. Hopefully a return to hockey might be possible later this year. Harvey Davies has had his bladder surgery and is now on a cycle of chemo-therapy. That is delaying treatment for a heart irregularity, which is due to start towards the end of June. He is keeping up his spirits with a little retail therapy and is not only looking for a new car, but also embarking on some home renovations. Brian Lester is still suffering after-effects from the radiotherapy, and needs to keep seeing his oncologist. Thanks to Mike Gottschalk for an update on father Vern Gooch. In our last issue he was in Fremantle Hospital with a fractured hip and shoulder. Since then he’s had an operation (or two), moved to South Perth Hospital for the post-operation recovery, and then transferred on to Attadale Rehabilitation Hospital. He’s done so well there that he was due to be discharged on the weekend of 30/31 May. Mike says that he’s looking and feeling well - and is able to walk short distances using a frame or short crutches. Even after visits are OK I’d suggest that you check first. I’m sure that there will be many more of us with a medical problem that I have not heard about, and wish you all a speedy return to good health.

Letters To The Editor: Our Clayton’s edition produced some reaction My thanks to Richard Osborne, Harvey Davies, Howie Herbert, David Lester and John Milner. I fully agree with Speedie:

Richard Osborne: “Thanks John for your latest Masters Matters. I am so pleased to have read the articles from Simon and Neil. Both have had many wonderful years with their hockey as well as their professional lives. And our Masters Hockey has benefited from their contributions. I am grateful that so many have given of their time and expertise to forge such opportunities for us to participate. I anticipate with keen interest our return to Wednesday afternoon hockey.”

Harvey Davies: “Before reading it (the May edition of MM), I wondered how an edition without hockey would be possible. It seems there are other interesting things in life besides sex and hockey (even if many are connected with hockey in some way).”

David Lester: “Thanks for the mention in the WHM. Yes, I do intend to watch from the side lines when the season starts. I’ve had a good ‘run’ over the years with Club, Veterans State representation and WHM. My cardiologist has said, it’s time, so I’ll hang up my boots.”

Southern Cross Red Teams: Those of you who nominated for the Southern Cross O/65s and O/70s for the Tokyo tournament (now in 2021) will be pleased to hear (and probably have already) that approval has been given for the SC second sides to participate. The Southern Cross executive is doing an excellent job of communication but MM will also try to keep you informed of developments. Not least of the actual tournament dates when they are set.

That Explains It: Thanks to regular contributor John Sanders for this one.

There are two main factors in the spread of Covid-19:

- 1) The density of the population.
- 2) The density of the population.

They Said It: American TV talk show hosts are spending much more time at home, leading to:
Jimmy Kimmel: “I learned that I have two young children, which is really something to find out.”
Jimmy Fallon: “My kids have already learned a valuable lesson: their dad is an idiot.”
My source was the London Review of Books.

Quotable Quote One: “The function of science fiction is not always to predict the future but sometimes to prevent it.” Frank Herbert (1920 - 1986) Author of the ‘Dune’ science fiction series.

From Saturday Masters: The long wait is nearly over and we are planning to resume semi-normal play on 13th June. This is still subject to approval from Town of Cambridge. It's also possible that post-hockey socialising (if any) will have to be alfresco with two square meters per person.

Thanks to Keith Kessell for the early tip-off that there were three newly marked grounds at Perry Lakes. It seems that he is a regular walker/jogger there. As apparently is Rod Spencer - rumour has it that he has worn a track right round the perimeter of Aderbury Reserve.

The difficulty of staying fit prompted the following. Hopefully you've all done better than me.

When mentioning COVID-19
Our words can be rather unclean
 No longer well knit
 We can't stay match fit
No wonder we're sometimes obscene.

We thought it was just a nasal and throat swab

Picture from John Sanders



Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "If you have any doubts that we live in a society controlled by men, try reading the list of contributors to a volume of quotations, looking for women's names."
Elaine Gill, author.

Punology One: If the right side of the brain controls the left side of the body then left handers are the only ones in their right mind.

Balinese Bulletin No 51: *In this wintry weather it's good to hear from the Tropics.*

BALI LOCKDOWN. We are both OK ..Me ... I'm OK too. Now 18 months, or so, with my Mate Willy. Further improvement has somewhat stalled at the moment. The thing is I sleep really, really well each night with no discomfort. Sitting around during the day is comfortable & I have been able to make my way from where I sit in our outdoor covered living area to the fridge & back (some 10 - 12 m) with the aid of a walking stick ...not really a pretty sight, but nevertheless that is to be considered progress.

We are both in pretty good health, although I should let you know that about 4 weeks back Erin suffered a fall walking back from the front gate ...slipping on the slimy surface following rain. Managed to avoid a really significant injury but did gash her ankle badly & bruise her coccyx. The gash to her ankle became infected & looked quite "angry" & red. We asked Putu to buy a course of antibiotics which we renewed. We also bought a few new ointments & creme to dress the wound with. We think that after all this time that the ankle has at last recovered & that She is back to doing laps of the garden.

We have not stepped out of house & garden now for almost 4 months and are fortunate to have a number of local people who really care for us. Naturally Putu & Family but also those that deliver our non Putu weekly shopping items like Beer, Vodka, whisky, mixed cans, water, gas, cooked meals, dog food, fresh seafood etc. I should add that Erin has given up alcohol for around 3 months now is feeling good about it. She is a "better man than I Gunga Din"!

Some people are speculating that the reason Bali seems to have avoided the worst of this BVT (Bastard Virus Thing) is due to their strong sense of Karma & a deep attachment to their spiritual faith. I certainly would not argue that. They have done really well with their commitment to social distancing & wearing of masks when out. The reality, however, is that thousands upon thousands are really, really hurting financially & will be for some time to come. The Bali you might remember has gone ...streets & beaches are empty, hotels, restaurants & shops are closed or empty & many people have returned to their villages to wait things out. All we can do is to hope this will pass & the world we once knew will return, albeit slowly.

You might remember me saying the Bali Wet this year 2019/2020 was late in starting ...well it seems that we can expect a lot more rain than we would normally see for this time of the year. Generally by June we would be heading into a period of some 5 months of very little rain here in Bali. Long may it continue, however, as the gardens love it & it may help to wash this BVT away.

In closing you will, like myself, be delighted when the Footy returns on June 11th ...let's hope that it comes to pass. Well John I hope you & all others down there stay safe until the World has moved on to the New Norm.

Peter Hammond

Thanks again Peter. PH has said that he would be happy to hear from fellow hockey people should they feel so inclined. His email is phammon1941@hotmail.com.

Shakespeare Said It: "Leave off discourse of disability." "Two Gentlemen of Verona Act II, Scene IV. *It could have been said at the training sessions but will be even more applicable when play resumes.* "Quake in the present winter's state, and wish that warmer days would come." Cymbeline Act II, Scene IV. *We have just started on the 92 days of a Perth winter..*

"If I may trust the flattering eye of sleep, my dreams presage some joyful news at hand." Romeo and Juliet Act VI, Scene I. *In anticipation of the resumption of play.*

Grumpy Old Men Two: "I have suffered a great deal from writers who have quoted this or that sentence of mine either out of its context or in juxtaposition to some incongruous matter which quite distorted my meaning or destroyed it altogether." Alfred North Whitehead (1861 - 1947). He was an English mathematician and philosopher, but this could well have been Shakespeare on the way in which his immortal words have been misused by "Masters Matters."

WHM History: The project has made some progress, but we are still very short of information about the early years from 1991 to April 1998. It appears that we will struggle to learn any more of this stage of our evolution due to the lack of written records. If any of our readers, particularly those who played at that time, have any memories they could share it would be of enormous assistance in presenting a properly balanced view of our past. *(See Late News on Page 12)*

The sum of the years is not vast
 The first 29 went quite fast
 Yet who can recall
 What started it all
 That's hidden away in the past.

In the last issue we requested copies of missing minutes. The only one of those still being sought is 18th September 2002. Though as the archives have expanded it has emerged that we also lack the minutes for 29th June 2005 and 16th August 2006. Can anybody help?

Hereunder are the inaugural team lists (October 1991) we currently have. Any update is welcome.

White Team : Peter Gardner (c), David Menzies (GK), Brian Stewart, Ray Cherrington, Harry Duncan, John Francks, Brian Young, Cecil Bogg, Fred Strother, John Gadsdon, Barry Angus, Kim Hawkins.

Blue Team Peter Gason (c), Bill Pickering (GK), George Winning, Ray King, Bill MacKintosh, Peter Hammond, Bill Williamson, Dudley Younger, George Orchard, Alan Blunt, Paul Robinson, T ? Blake, Tony Barley. *(See Late News on Page 12)*

'B' Division May 2020:

They said there would be nothing to report this month as we are in hibernation! Enter Simon and Gabes calling for those wanting to "train". After much organising and armed with a raft of health and training protocols, the 20th May was set as a return date only to be cancelled the day before due to a Hockey WA directive. What was the problem? Who knows?

After much reorganising and armed with more health and training protocols (as formatted by Hockey WA) the return date was reset to the 27th May.

Half asleep (hibernation does that to you!) I turned up at PHS with not much expectation that any meaningful training would be achieved. Each person was ticked off the attendance register and those that had just turned up were added. It was that simple! Hand sanitizer was available and as my hockey stick hadn't seen the light of day for 3 months I lathered some on the handle! We were back into it!

The training was great, we had 2 groups of about 16 to 18 on a half of PHS2 each. We miss-trapped and miss-hit quite often but the enthusiasm and endeavour were there after 3 months away! After 90 minutes or more we had had enough and decided to retire while we were still uninjured. This turned out to be quite a smart move as my body was very stiff and sore the next day!

The general consensus was that the training day had been very successful and that next week there would be an increase in numbers as players re-emerged from the wilderness or their back shed. Having just heard that we can soon restart games and competition I urge everyone to get on board the Wednesday express and get down to PHS for a hit!

Dudley Evans

Thanks Dudley. Hopefully we will both have some hockey to write about next issue. Ed.

Quotable Quote Two: "I didn't really say everything I said." *Yogi Berra (1925 - 2015) US baseball player, coach and manager who is famous for frequently quoted similar paradoxical sayings. For instance: "It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future." A couple more as a bonus:*

"You can observe a lot by just watching."

"Nobody goes there nowadays, it's too crowded."

Simon Thomson's Story: I was surprised that nobody attempted to identify Simon in our last issue's team photo; especially as my own guess was correct. So as a follow up I received the following from Simon: "A bottle (*of wine*) for the first correct identification." So please have another look at May's edition and send your answers to the Editor. (*I trust you all can find the May MM*)

Return to PHS: Thank you to Colin Howell and Peter Andrews for the following reports on that first day of non-contact, non-tackling training.

'C' Division: Ran two separate sessions due to the numbers restrictions.

We had (including the 4 keepers) 10 White, 12 Blue, 9 Gold & 5 Red down today.

That excluded about 6 guys from various teams who were very late withdrawals, a mixture of work & weather, so the turn up was quite good except perhaps for Red.

I haven't talked to the late group (5.00pm) but the White & Blue guys enjoyed themselves and all indicated they'd be back again next week so that's very positive.

The B guys seemed to have the same positive attitude so it seems to have been a success for both Divisions.

Colin

'B' Division:

Wednesday not quite forgotten; today is only Thursday

B Div "training" began at 2.00pm yesterday arvo with a turnout on 2 x ½ turfs with about 25 or so signed in by HWA 's Jason & Dana in 2 separate lots

First hurdle passed; no one sent home and we had the right numbers to keep everybody occupied White trained with Red and invitees under the eye of Bob Claxton Australian 70s Coach.

Dudley Evans ran the Blue-Gold attendees

Due to a Simon typo there was no Jane. Next week?

Taking part from White were me, Simon, Morgs, Roger & Heath

BT was at 'work'; the rest of you?

Not a lazy afternoon with a starting warm up, jog, sprint 50/50/50m x 7

The a hit up followed by several of Bob's hockey drills (which mainly I didn't follow as he could clearly see, nothing different really)

Besides being hit on a big toe and frozen by the unannounced sprinkler

Finally a no-tackle 3 on 3 which I think Speedie won! Enjoyed by ALL to finish off

We passed the C Div group waiting outside the gates as we all went home

Well organised by Simon, Neil and the WHM admin crew

And Thanks Bob; I'll be back next Wednesday

Arch

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

May's question was: The second time that Australia played Great Britain was during the:

- a) Tour of Australia 1948.
- b) Olympic Games Melbourne 1956.
- c) Olympic Games Rome 1960.
- d) International Tournament Ahmedabad 1962.

The correct answer is b) and it was a play-off to see who made the semi-finals. Australia lost.

June's question is: The fourth edition of the World Cup was held at the Polo Grounds in Buenos Aires in 1978. Australia won 6 out of 8 games. Australia's highest scorer with 12 goals was:

- a) Terry Walsh.
- b) Richard Charlesworth.
- c) David Bell.
- d) Ian Cooke.

Answer next issue.

I've Been Everywhere: (Harvey Davies)

1960 to 1961 I started hockey at Manjimup High School in year 11. The school played against Bunbury H.S and in the country high schools hockey week, held on grounds where QE2 hospital is now. I learnt a lot from our teacher coach Trevor Gallagher.

1962 I started doing a BSc (physics major) at UWA. I played hockey for YMCA,

1963 to 1965 I played for the Methodist (soon Uniting Church) Youth Fellowship hockey club with Jim Malcolm and Robin Bailey.

1967 I started in my first job, teaching maths and science at Sogeri High School, which was a boys' boarding school near the start of the Kokoda Trail. We had the same curriculum and textbooks as NSW. I was expected to teach trigonometry, etc. to all these Papua/New Guinea boys. I failed as a teacher of maths and science, but I did have success teaching them to play hockey. I was amazed at how quickly they picked up the skills, rules and tactics. We entered two teams in the Port Moresby Saturday men's competition. After a month, I had to demote myself from the A team to the B team because there were better players than me in the B team!

1968 to 1969 I moved to Hobart to work for the Research Branch of the Education Dept as a statistician and computer programmer. I played hockey for the university.

1970 to 1971 I returned to Perth to work for the Water Board as a scientific programmer. I was a part-time student in the Diploma of Computation (scientific computing) at UWA. I played hockey for Scarborough from 1970 until 1973.

1972 to 1974 The UWA Computing Centre became the WA Regional Computing Centre and I was employed as the training officer. I shared an office with Ros Fisher, who had captained the Australian women's team. I played for Old Modernians in 1974.

1975 to 1977 I moved to Sydney to work for the CSIRO Division of Computing Research. I played Saturday and Inter-varsity hockey for Macquarie University, where I was a part-time student in the *Master of Environmental Studies*.

1978 My wife and three children moved back to Perth. I followed them about six months later and marriage ended after about another six months.

I had about six months without a job. During this period, I wrote my master's thesis titled *Computer Simulation of the Formation of Photochemical Smog*, based on work I had done in Sydney.

I played hockey for Subiaco club from 1979 until about 1981. This club was in a mess. We went to the annual Bunbury Carnival, where most of the team got drunk on the Saturday night and refused to play on the Sunday.

I played for Suburban until 1989. I coached junior Suburban teams containing my two sons. I played for an over-40 team with Brian Pope as captain and Vern Gooch in goals.

From about 1986 until 1989, I organised a mixed hockey team called the *Pink Galahs* (with pink shirts). Ros Fisher played a few games with us and recruited some classy first-division women. John Monkton, who was a state player in his youth, travelled from York. Both my sons played. It was lots of fun.

1979 Temporary work with *CSIRO Division of Land Resources Management* leading to publication of book: *On rational grounds: Systems Analysis in Catchment Land Use Planning*.

1980 Lecturer at WA Institute of Technology Department of Mathematics and Computing.

1981 More temporary work with *CSIRO Division of Land Resources Management*, this time doing computer simulation of waves and erosion along Perth's coast.

1982 to 1983 Computer Systems Officer at State Energy Commission.

1984 to 1987 Research Officer at Department of Marine and Harbours

1988 to 1989 Contract programming.

1990 to 2006 I got a job in the new CSIRO climate change project in Melbourne. I played hockey for three different clubs in Melbourne, but never found a comfortable niche. The only season of hockey I really enjoyed was when I played in a social men's grade where there were about as many women as men.

2007 to 2020 I retired from CSIRO and returned to Perth. I played hockey for Suburban until 2012, when we experienced an 11-0 thrashing by NCR. This humiliation led to formation of the Saturday competition at Perry Lakes in 2013.

In 2014, I played for Southern Cross at The Hague.

In 2007, I started playing for WA Country in the Australian Masters Championships. I managed the team from 2012 until 2019.

In 2016 I played for Wales in the World Cup at Newcastle, NSW. There were only four over-70 teams, Australia, England, Japan and Wales. We won bronze by beating Japan in a shoot-out.

Manjimup High School Hockey Team 1961



Grand Final winners of the smaller schools competition, played on the Hollywood Grounds

Thank you, Harvey. There is no prize for reader identification as I think that it's not too hard to pick - for once. Some of the others in the front row are quite interesting. Second from left is Cornelius de Munck (baritone), next is John Dunn, later President of MYF and (later) Uniting Churches and subsequently Moderator of the Uniting Church. Coach Trevor Gallagher will be well known to many of you and next to him is Neville Griffiths, a driving force in the Peel Hockey Association. In the long ago days we used to claim that IBM stood for "I've Been Moved" - Harvey certainly was. Ed.

Fake News: It is quite amazing how many untrue stories circulate nowadays. Apparently one is even doing the rounds about one of our players and concerns Ken Walter - maker and purveyor of Red Gulley wines. According to the rumour the demand for hand sanitiser has been so great that Ken is converting some of his stock. The story claims that it's his best ever vintage.

The Big Blow: Hope that you all made it through the high winds without too much damage. I have heard that Don Smart had a fence flattened down at Australind but that is the only news I have. As Howie Herbert has pointed out, at least we were not trying to play on Saturday 24th May.

Punology Two: Did you know that an air conditioner has a lot in common with a computer. Both of them lose efficiency as soon as you open windows.

National Championships 2021: May 16, 2020

Hockey Australia CEO Matt Favier and Hockey Australia Masters Co-Chairs Norman Same and Sue Briggs have released the following statement to the State Delegates and Member Associations in regards to the 2021 National Championships and World Cup Dates.

"Dear Member Associations and Masters Delegates, This letter seeks to address concerns following the public announcement last Thursday (30 April) on the Hockey Australia Masters Facebook page of the dates for the 2021 Mega-Masters Championships.

Firstly, the HA Masters Committee (HAMC) apologise that the dates were made public without providing all available information. Ideally, this information would have been communicated when confirming the dates. We appreciate that the revised dates of the Masters World Cup announced by World Masters Hockey (WMH) – specifically the event and age groups scheduled to be held in South Africa – now clashes with the dates of the Mega-Masters event. This clash of dates has sparked much conversation and questions among the HA Masters community that as a Committee, we recognise it is important to address. Please also note that we are still awaiting revised dates for the 2021 Masters World Cups that are due to be held in Tokyo.

With the release of the Masters World Cup dates, HA and HAMC reviewed the landscape and discussed at length the impacts on the 2021 Mega-Masters. In review of the situation and all known factors, it was determined that we would continue to plan for a 2021 Mega-Masters event to be held in September/October.

As you would appreciate, this has been a very fluid and complex matter to navigate which continues to present challenges across the coming phase as we all attempt to implement plans amidst what still remains to be a great deal of uncertainty.

Outlined below, are the key areas that have been considered by the HA Masters Committee in arriving at the current position.

1. Players not being available for 2021 Mega-Masters due to Masters World Cups in South Africa

- There is some initial work being done on designing a draw that will facilitate participants (players, team staff and officials) returning from South Africa and directly attending the Mega-Masters (should they choose to).
- Where this is not possible, we understand that some new players may be given the opportunity to represent their States/Territories.
- This may mean there is a reduction in team entries in these age groups in some circumstances.

2. Selection for Australian Masters teams from the 2021 Mega-Masters event

- Our existing selection policy allows for consideration to be given where players are not available to attend the National Championships due to national representative duties.
- This will be reviewed and strengthened if required to ensure that no player is adversely affected.

3. Why couldn't the dates be pushed back 12 months and the same timings kept?

- There are many factors to this, including contractual agreements with funding partners to deliver this event in 2021, as well as current timelines for the completion of construction works at the Newcastle International Hockey Centre that would not support a July delivery.
- There still remains a high degree of uncertainty concerning international travel into 2021 and while we hope that travel will be possible, it remains unclear as to when this may be possible.

In summary, with typically over 80 men's and 35 women's teams attending our National Championships (totalling over 2,300 participants) there are many factors to consider and no perfect solution. We will continue to do everything we can to support our nationally selected teams (Indoor and Outdoor) and guarantee the future of our National Championships (Outdoor) and Indoor Challenges (Indoor).

We trust this information provides greater context for this decision. As with everything surrounding COVID-19, we will continue to monitor the situation as developments occur. Meanwhile, HA and HAMC look forward to engaging MA's and Delegates in plans to confirm 2022-2027 dates and locations over the coming months for advance planning.

Kind regards, Matt Favier, Norman Same & Sue Briggs.

Travel in 2020

Picture John Sanders



Late News: Thank you George Winning who passed the last MM on to original player John Francks:

“I am in receipt of Issue number 5 per courtesy of George Winning. Who requested I contact you if I could add to some of the history of Vets Hockey. I am pleased to say that I played in the original season of Vets with the then Old Wesley Hockey, which as we are all aware became Wasps. Starting in “A’s” eventually retiring in the “C’s” along with many other hockey stalwarts.

Gardie Marshall Day We played in this day for some years as Old Wesley and I think that this is the team that Mike is referring to. I cannot recall Fremantle ever fielding a team.

Wednesday Vets I was also one of the original players which enjoyed the run on the Stadium. The original two teams were Blue and White and it was not too long before other teams joined in this great afternoon. There are a few changes to the line up as listed in the issue. Barry Angus and Kim Hawkins played for the Blue Team and John Gadsdon never participated.

Best Quote. Came from Richard Aggiss. Who was the then Coach of the Australian Team. They were waiting to have a training run after the Vets had finished. Richard lent over the rail and called out for us to put in more effort as the Astro Turf was growing quicker than we were running. Created a good laugh for all.

Cannot add much more only to say the growth in truly amazing and adds to the quote “ From little Acorns Oak Trees grow.

Kind Regards, John Francks” *Great to hear from you John, and many thanks for the update.*

Masters Matters No 100: This issue marks a milestone for the current version of our Wednesday hockey newsletter as it brings up a century. Many thanks to all those who have been kind enough to offer contributions and words of encouragement since it began in January 2012. I am not sure how long we might be able to continue, but we will do our best to carry on.

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. Email: johnmercer@inet.net.au.