



A Blue

A Gold

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B White

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

D Black

D Blue

D Gold

D Red

D White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Gold

O/65 Green

O/65 White

Masters Matters

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Annual General Meeting: These meetings rarely take long, due to our Executive's ability to handle the seven Ps. These are "Perfect Prior Preparation Prevents Piss-Poor Performance." This one took less time than any other I can recall - 25 minutes. Some highlights:

- The change to the Committees was approved. We now have a **Management Committee** of:
 President: Simon Thomson.
 Vice-President: Tony Jones.
 Secretary: Dan Hill.
 Treasurer Tony Jones.
 General member: Colin Howell.
 General member: Michael Starling.

Competitions Sub-Committee: The responsibilities of this group include competition and fixture management, special events, venues, and bookings. The members will comprise the A, B, C and D Divisional Coordinators, Club Captain Saturday Hockey, Fixtures Coordinator, and the Uniforms Officer. Committee chairman to be determined.

Member Management and Communications Sub-Committee: This group will be responsible for the data base, website, communications and social events. Members include Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Controller, Masters Matters Editor, Membership Administrator and the Social Secretary. Committee chairman to be determined.

Saturday Hockey Sub-Committee: This sub-committee has been operating quite successfully since the initiation of our Saturday Hockey offset in 2013.

- **Bob Bowyer** has been awarded Life Membership of Western Hockey Masters. It is hoped to make the presentation at the Christmas Party. Congratulations Bob - very well deserved.
- Well done to Simon and Dan for producing a superb Annual Report. It reminded me of my long ago days as a member of an Apex Club. Thanks to all contributors.
- The last word goes to President Simon Thomson, who closed his report with: "I would like to thank our members for their continued support of WHM, who with our many volunteers make WHM the biggest and best Masters club in Australia."

Dates For The Diary:**2022**

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: Saturday hockey winter season windup and AGM. Perry Lakes.
 December 24th and 31st: No Saturday hockey at 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.

AGM Comment: Our new structure should streamline some of our decision making, though it may take a little time for a regular routine to be established. It is interesting to note that the average age of the Management Committee is dropping and this bodes well for the future of Western Hockey Masters. Congratulations to all those elected to the new Committee, especially to the first time member Michael Starling.

In my opinion, apart from the sheer size of our Committee the previous structure worked well, as everybody was able to carry out their respective functions without frequent requirement for meetings. Most major decisions were made by consultation, which had become a little unwieldy. Thanks to the good judgment of our Executive I am sure that our new organisation will be made to work just as well (if not better) than its predecessor.

For those who have not yet read our comprehensive annual report Dan has posted it to our site. Here again is the link:

<https://cdn.revolutionise.com.au/cups/westernmasters/files/kklrc0lmybg8fvha.pdf>.

Survey Results: From Dan Hill:

Thank you to all members who participated in the July /August Member Survey. The summary results for each Division have been published and are available at

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/westernmasters/news/member-survey-results/>

News From Southern Cross: Long time Uniforms Officer and former webmaster Peter Fogels has just announced he is stepping down from the Committee and has asked me to include:

“After eleven years in the job Peter Fogels is retiring from the Committee of Southern Cross Masters Hockey at the AGM which will be held at the Gold Coast Hockey Club on Monday September 26th at 18:00. At present the Committee has only two WA reps; Peter Fogels and Peter Murray. The chairman of Southern Cross Peter Hayes has prompted me to try to find a suitable WA person to take on the role, & expressions of interest are sought. First name of Peter is not a pre-requisite. 😊

At present the Committee of SCMH is very NSW/QLD centric and it would be of benefit to keep two WA Committee members for balance. Ideally the person would be from the younger (55/65) age group but keeping in mind that SCMH is supposed to be for 60+ men only at this stage, anyone younger than 60 (or probably 58) can't play until they are eligible for a 60s team.

My duties used to include website and uniforms but have now reduced to uniforms only and that only involves liaison with Hypersports (who also supply WHM). Gone are the days where I would collate and order all the uniforms and then send them all over the country - Hypersports have a web portal and players order their own kit and it is dispatched by Hypersports direct to them.

I'm not sure if the same role will be asked of the new Committee member, or not.

More information about Southern Cross Masters Hockey can be found on the website:

www.southerncrosshock.org.

Anyone interested should notify secretary@southerncrosshockey.org and attend the AGM if they are participating in the Masters nationals at Gold Coast.”

Thanks Peter. Good luck with finding a volunteer. Ed.

International Appointment for Michael Henderson: The former Hockey WA President and current WHM player has been appointed as the inaugural chair of the World Masters Hockey Medical Advisory Committee for a four year term. To quote from the article: “The Committee will provide expert advice on the safety, healthy and well being of all matters relating to WMH and Masters Hockey.” Congratulations to Michael from all of us at Western Hockey Masters. Here is the link to the full story on the Hockey WA web-site.

<https://www.hockeywa.org.au/news/henderson-appointed-as-chair-to-wmh-mac/>

Quotable Quote One: “Do not worry about your difficulties in mathematics. I can assure you mine are still greater.” (Albert Einstein 1879 - 1955).

Letters To The Editor: The August edition elicited responses from Bill Baldwin (Cards in A Division / Duty of care), Derek Jobe and Peter Murray all the way from Berlin. Peter has kept in touch with hockey by having a hit with a 9 year old in Furstenberg. Thanks to you all for the feedback.

Tournaments and WHM:

At the time this edition closed off we are not playing our regular fixtures on the Wednesdays of 21st and 28th September and 5th October. Due to national team requirements only one turf (Two) has been booked for these dates with the Turf One booking from 1:30 to 4:00 pm being cancelled. Detailed arrangements for which age group plays when are still being finalised. Those of us who are not going to the Gold Coast will need to monitor our email in-boxes closely.

Department of Health: Terry Gaston was due for his hip replacement recently - hope it all went as it should. Mal Horrigan (I understand) has pulled out of the State side due to health issues. Ken Walter has been having a rough time lately, undergoing the 'flu, followed by Covid and then Achilles problems. I believe he's back on Turf One in recent weeks, as I think Chip Challenor is also. It is obvious that there are many ailments which I have not heard about, so best wishes from Masters matters to all the sufferers for a speedy and complete recovery.

Department of Corrections: In a rarity no errors have been detected in the August edition, either by the editor or our readers (if any). The proof reader and typist asked again for a pay rise, which was refused again by the editor as they are already being paid as much as he is.

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercercer@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 September birthdays to all the following:

A Div: 15th Ken Walter (1946) 19th Ian Hill (1942) 24th Ken Beer (1947) 25th Mark Faithfull (1945).

B Division: 6th Heath Tyrrell (1948).

C Division: 2nd Craig Boyce (1954) 9th Nick Pereira (1955) 11th Nigel Rayney (1958) 14th Tony Watkins (1957) Damian Cooper (1958) 15th Ric Staynor (1952) 21st Russell Scanlon (1957).

D Division: 12th Tim Reynolds (1963) Anthony Brittain (1967) 13th Andrew Rahim (1965) 28th Eddie Biggs (1962) Peter Bewick (1968) 29th Simon Kemp (1969).

Saturday: 15th Murray Matthews (1955).

Past Players:

I hope that you're named in the correct WHM Division. And there are no non-preferred names. Ed.

More Southern Cross News: Their AGM will be held during the Gold Coast tournament. The date is Monday 26th September at 6:00 pm in the Gold Coast Hockey Centre (northern club room upstairs). Four Committee positions are up for election. Here is a link where you can register your attendance: <https://www.southerncrosshockey.org/events/list/>

SX are expecting to be invited to send teams to several 2023 tournaments. These are:
European Championships and Spirit of Masters O65, O70, O75. Valencia 23rd June to 1st July 2023.
European Championships and Spirit of Masters O55, O60. Valencia 16th July to 23rd July 2023.

Nominations for these tournaments have just opened and will close on 11th September.

Asian Continental Cup. Hong Kong 20th to 26th November 2023.

If you've not been on a Southern Cross trip they are highly recommended for both good hockey and a very good time. Ed.

Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "I never cease being dumbfounded by the unbelievable things people believe." *Leo Rosten (1908 - 1997 BC). Polish borne American author. Ed.*

'A' Division Blog: The numbers went down during our month at Hale and have stayed down. Is this due to a combination of many injuries and ailments and holidays? The survey results did not show a lot of dissatisfaction, so I very much doubt that players are just not bothering to turn up.

August 3rd: The weather forecast was not encouraging, but President Simon's decision to play proved to be totally correct, with just a few drops during the games. Many Blue players were not convinced and we did not have the numbers to complete the fixtures. The day featured some notable comebacks, with Chip Challenor and Richard Osborne both appearing to get through the afternoon unscathed. Speed's colleagues Barry and Graeme also played extremely well and goals were at a premium, excepting for octogenarians. As John Ree scored 80% of the total haul, he has to be awarded goal of the day. As might be expected the results were affected by the quality of the fill-in players, but it was good to see variety in those asked to make up the numbers. The day's scores:

Gold 1 White 0; Blue 0 White 1; Blue 1 Gold 1; White 0 Gold 1; White 0 Blue 0. (No Game 6)

Scorers: Blue: Peter Blockley. **Gold:** John Ree (3). **White:** John Ree. Total goals 5.

Team numbers at maximum on the day: Blue (6), Gold (9), White (9).

August 10th: The weather was sunny, three goalkeepers were there, but when play was due to start numbers were sufficient for only two teams, two umpires and two spare players. A few more came in at various times later. Coordinator George Bradbury decided to begin with the scheduled Blue versus White match, and continue in those colours through the day, with players swapping in and out from the Gold side. Five matches out of the scheduled six were played before everybody had enough. The standard was not great for some of the time, with plenty of air swings and mishits, but there was also some excellent play and well executed flat hits. Scrambles in the goalmouth were frequent, but as the pads being worn by Barry, Richard and Tony did not have any holes very few resulted in scores. The judging panel awarded goal of the day to Terry Gaston for a very well executed one on one with the keeper at the edge of the circle, followed by a push into the open net. The day's scorers and team numbers were:

Scorers: Blue: Nev Brown (2) John Ree. **White:** Peter Dennis, Terry Gaston, David Horsley, Ron Venables. The total for the day was 7.

Team numbers at maximum were: Blue (9), Gold (8), White (10). Plus new member Ken Eliot.

August 17th: Blue again paid the price for having a full complement. Even after Ken Beer transferred to Gold for the day they still had a spare. White added Ken Eliot and Gold added Alan Osborne to complete their numbers. The goalkeeping ranks included four good keepers in Barry R, Graeme S, John B and Richard O, but they all had to work very hard for once, perhaps due to the imbalance of the sides. Peter Dennis, Ron Venables and John Ree made the most of the situation, all scoring a hat trick. However, the goal of the day judges, after a lengthy discussion, decided to make the award to Colin Sanders for a superbly placed shot after a practice swing. The results were:

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

Scorers: Blue: Col Sanders. **Gold:** Alan Osborne, John Ree (3). **White:** Peter Dennis (3), Hector D'Rozario, Ron Venables (3).

Team numbers (regular players): Blue (12), Gold (8), White (9). Total goals 12. Plus Alan Osborne.

August 24th: Something appeared to be happening with State teams up on Turf One, as our White team ranks were a little depleted. Robin Bailey and Ken Beer transferred into the White side. For some reason the level of the hockey was generally poor, and a field day for goalkeepers Speed, Graeme and Tony ensued. It appeared that the only way we could score was to get it near the goals and hope, with all scores coming from close range. Blue failed to win a match and failed to score. Goal of the day has to go to David Horsley, who slotted 2/3 of the day's tally. The day's results were:

Gold 1 Blue 0; White 0 Blue 0; White 1 Gold 0; Blue 0 Gold 0; Blue 0 White 1; Gold 0 White 0.

Scorers: Gold: John Ree. **White:** Dave Horsley (2). Total goals 3.

Team numbers at maximum on the day: Blue (13), Gold (10), White (7 + Ken Eliot).

/6

Grumpy Old Men And Women Two: "Bureaucracy defends the status quo long past the time when the quo has lost its status." *Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988). He of the Peter Principle.*

From Saturday Masters:

The end of the winter season is fast approaching and we will be asking you for our summer season fees quite soon. This will be after the budget has been set; we know how much the grounds will cost (already booked and paid) but there is an ongoing issue with the showers, which are for this summer the sole property of the cricket club.

Our August weather left plenty to be desired but there were always plenty of players ready to turn out for a game and we always managed two teams plus spares or three incomplete sides. Spring may bring warmer and less damp climates and we look set for a good summer season.

Thanks to our 2 members who donated the post-match food during the month. Your benevolence is really appreciated.

We trust that by now all members have set aside the 22nd October for our post-hockey AGM and WA Spit Roast dinner. We managed somehow without showers last year while the new rooms were still under construction, and although we'd prefer not to do it again, at least we know how.

We will be running our own bar again quite soon, possibly even as soon as 10th September. Those of us who have been paying by card will need to remember to bring some cash. I did investigate the acquisition of a card machine, but thought that it was prohibitively expensive.

In late news Peter Dennis made it onto the field for our first match on 3rd September, but limped off during proceedings with what appeared to be a hamstring injury. Best wishes for a rapid recovery from us all Peter.

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

'A' Division Blog (continued):

August 31st: The White team were again seriously depleted due to the loss of players to Turf One (see the B Division report). In addition Peter Dennis has transferred to the Blue side, which will give better team balance in future but on the day left them with only one of their previously dominant forward line and they failed to score. Ken Eliot played with them again, as did a visitor from Scotland Alan Bryce, who is warming up for the tournament. The lack of numbers meant that for one game sides were short even though there were players off the field. The standard fell away as players tired, and goals were almost as hard to get as the previous week. Goalkeepers Graeme, Speed and John B were busy all day but many of us forgot that there were two large pads right in front of us and failed to score as a consequence. The goal of the day is shared between Peter Dennis and Nev Brown who each produced a composed finish after a good run. The day's results were:

Blue 0 White 0; Gold 1 White 0; Gold 0 Blue 0; White 0 Blue 1; White 0 Gold 1; Blue 1 Gold 1.

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Dennis (2). **Gold:** Nev Brown, John Mercer, John Ree.

Team numbers at maximum: Blue (11), Gold (9), White (6 + Alan Bryce, Ken Eliot).

A Division Comment: Filling in for teams which are short of players is a comparatively tough ask at our advanced ages. The four games played by each side have a combined duration of 80 minutes and another 20 is a real fitness test. If numbers continue to be low, as it seems they will be until after the tournament I'd suggest that selecting two teams from the numbers present and rotating players during the matches would be quite acceptable to the vast majority of us. I'd be interested to hear any views from A Division players, especially coordinator and captains. Ed.

Tournaments and WHM (Part Two): In addition to the first interstate tournament for three years we also have to make allowances for the World Cup. With the withdrawal of the Australian O/75s due to there being only one other team entered (Japan) A and B Divisions will be less depleted than we first thought, but it still will cause some disruption to our matches. Especially as our numbers are usually down in the aftermath of the interstate tournament.

Punology One: Sign on the door of a music shop: "Gone Chopin. Back in a minuet."

No Balinese Bulletin: Peter tells me that there have been a number of distractions in the last few weeks, but in response to my query has confirmed that he and Erin are both OK. Hopefully he will be back next month with another slice of retirement life from the tropics. Ed.

From The C Division: It has been a while since Masters Matters had a story from the younger end of our competition. Many thanks to Cuts for putting finger to keyboard and obliging us with his hockey biography. Every one I print seems to be a lot more interesting than my own.

Wayne Cutler's Hockey Story:

Terry Walsh, Malcolm Poole, Don Smart and Barry Dancer are a few of the outstanding guys who I was coached by and played with... at South Perth Hockey Club (now Wasps). Mal Poole was a teacher at my school and he thought I had potential. He asked me to join S. Perth and offered to take me to training and get me home. I was flattered and accepted.

There is no seat in the back of an MG!

Mal would often take another teacher home on the way and I had to somehow fit behind the seats with my knees under my chin. We often got to training early and practiced one on ones which was a great way to up my skills. I was hockey mad and took up indoor as well. Played indoor at the show grounds and in Forrestfield. Along with great mentors this honed my skills and soon I got in the top team. Greg Hill (Dan's brother) and I played mainly strikers. Although we were always competitive, I never got to play in a Grand Final in A1s. However, I enjoyed my time playing with and against great players and hockey mates. At about 33 I slowed down my training and didn't make the top team and eventually went to Willetton Hockey Club which was close to our home.

After a few seasons at Willetton we won 1Bs and were promoted to Classic League again. Hard to believe I was back in the A1 League, but it only lasted one season and we were down to 1Bs again. Disappointing but suited to me more.

As I was approaching 40, I was delighted to hear a Veterans League was starting and even playing interstate. Butch Worth (my state schoolboy's coach) coached our WA 40s team in Launceston and it was very enjoyable. I have enjoyed playing in most State carnivals and many Australian teams. At 67, I thank hockey and all my teammates for all it and you have given me. Lots of friends, great moments and good memories and it's not over yet. Thank you, Wayne Cutler (*Cuts*) *Thanks again Wayne. As we are now trying to start O/80s you have a long career yet to come. Ed.*

Shakespeare Said It: "... you have an exchequer of words, and I think, no other treasure to give your followers ..." *Two Gentlemen of Verona Act II, Scene IV. Critical Masters Matters reader.*

"Be plainer with me; let me know my trespass by its own visage ..." *The Winter's Tale Act I, Scene II. What was that hit for please umpire.*

"What further woe conspires against my age?" *Romeo And Juliet Act V, Scene III. Some of we senior A Division players are known to have one injury or ailment after another. Any semblance of match fitness disappears all too quickly, and is very difficult to regain.*

Well Dones for August: Wednesday's 'A' Division umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, George Bradbury, Ken Eliot, Peter Evans, Steve Farrar, Colin Gee, Mal Horrigan, Dave Horsley, Mal Jackaman, KY Lee, Bob Maley, John Mercer, Col Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Peter Trend, Les Waldon, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts, and Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Ian Hill, Paul Huisman, John Mercer, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Greg Street, Les Waldon, Len Walker and Ken Watt. Well done also to the pre-AGM (17/08) cooks in Peter Jones, Ken Beer and Neil Scaddan. The leftovers from this went to Perry Lakes and were cooked up on the 29th by Howie Herbert and Peter Livingstone. Our thanks to you all.

Quotable Quote Two: "There are a number of mechanical devices which increase sexual arousal, particularly among women. Chief among these is the Mercedes-Benz SL-500." *Lynn Lavner. American comedian and musician. Thanks to George Bradbury for this one.*

B Division August 2022:

August and back to home at PHS. The first weeks were played with a few light showers culminating with a few heavy showers on the 17th, actually it was some out of season monsoonal downpours! But with typical understatement such as, "once you're wet you're wet" and "no need for an ice bath after this", play continued much to all the players and umpires credit. As one dry spectator pointed out, you are only 2-3 minutes away from the changerooms and a hot shower!

Afterwards whilst enjoying the bar facilities a number of players were lamenting the higher prices compared to the Lakelands hospitality we had enjoyed during July. This triggered more discussion around the numbers socializing after games and reasons and ways of increasing these numbers. I was pointedly asked what could be done however I quickly responded that this was way beyond my pay scale, my level of expertise and also I didn't have a clue!?

The last 2 weeks of August saw the customary split up of the playing group so that state teams could practice together before the State Champs on the Gold Coast late Sept/early Oct. This has proved of great benefit in the past and continues to provide valuable match time for all participants whilst still accommodating all Wednesday regulars. Of note to date is the very fit and skillful showing of the State 75's with a very strong squad under the expert guidance of Bob Claxton.

Dudley Evans

Thanks Dudley. Good to hear you paid less for drinks. Zero alcohol beer was costly at Hale. Ed.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

August's question was:

The first edition of Women's Hockey at the Commonwealth Games took place at the Bukit Jalil Stadium, during the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The first match for the Hockeyroos in 1998 was against:

- a) Scotland
- b) Malaysia
- c) Jamaica
- d) India
- e) Trinidad, or
- f) New Zealand

This match was the 524th international contested by Australia at the senior level. The team played two Tests against China in Singapore by way of preparation, winning both 2-0 and 2-1.

No answers came in this month. John says:

The first match was against Scotland! (a)

Australia played all of those teams in that order, scoring a total of 48 goals, conceding only 3, against New Zealand.

They went on to win the Gold Medal 8-1 against England.

September's question is: The first edition of FIH's Women's World Cup took place at the Tun Razak Stadium in Kuala Lumpur in 1983. Australia won the Bronze Medal.

One of these players scored 7 of the team's total of 12 goals during the tournament:

Was it

- a. Sharon Buchannan
- b. Elspeth Denning
- c. Julene Grant, or
- d. Sue Carlson Jones

Answer next issue.

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players August: Noted at PHS: Jim Balding, Hector D'Rozario, Ham D'Souza and John Mercer. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, Jim Balding, Paul Huisman, Peter Livingstone, John Mercer, Colin Murray-Smith, Neil Patterson, Neil Scaddan, Peter Stevens, Les Waldon, Len Walker, and Ken Walter.

Rules 'R Us: Overheads are not all that common in A Division, but not so rare that an adventurous player does not try one occasionally. Whenever that occurs we often seem to be ignorant of the right protocol, and to clarify this here is the relevant rule, and further explanation:

9.10 Players must not approach within 5 metres of an opponent receiving a falling raised ball until it has been received, controlled and is on the ground. The ball may be intercepted within 5 metres but outside of playing distance provided it is done safely.

The initial receiver has a right to the ball. If it is not clear which player is the initial receiver the player of the team which raised the ball must allow the opponent to receive it.

On the whole I think that this is quite clear. The most recent addition about interception has me a trifle confused, but I think it means that you can stand more than 5 metres away and reach in. Expert elucidations would be welcome. Ed.

Blast From The Past: Our contributor did not specify the source of this clipping from bygone days. It could have been the NT Times. Our current State O/75s coach is not only still clearly recognizable, but is also getting much better results these days.

Only way is up for Claxton's boys



Claxton gives his team a final rundown on tactics.

BOB CLAXTON has the sort of record that most coaches have nightmares about.

Claxton, the coach of the Northern Territory has a 14-game 14-loss record since he took charge last year.

Even that's not too bad when you consider the Northern Territory have won just one of their 59 matches since they made their first appearance at the national titles in 1979.

Before being admitted to the national titles by the Australian Hockey Association in 1979, Northern Territory played in the annual Queensland intra-state championships.

The Northern Territory have finished eighth in each of their six championships and Claxton said the team had set their sights on seventh this year.

"Our main goal at any championship is to reduce the goals scored against us and increase the goals scored by us."

"I don't like losing but you've got to be philosophical. We know we're going to lose a lot of games."

But Claxton said he was far from disappointed with the results.

"Up until our 8-0 loss to South Australia we've been reasonably happy."

By PAUL MALARSKI

Northern Territory's best performance was their 3-0 loss to Western Australia — a 13 goal improvement on their 16-0 loss last year.

"If you compare us with Tasmania and the ACT I think you will find our improvement has been a little more rapid than theirs."

"I'm really trying to raise the standard of hockey in the Northern Territory. It's going to take a long time but my players are getting valuable experience."

"We have improved a lot at these titles. We've been putting a lot of work on our skills for artificial surfaces."

Claxton said his choice of players was restricted to a six team senior competition in Darwin and four team competitions in Gove and Alice Springs, although all players at the tournament were from Darwin.

"These guys play in a competition which is so low key compared to the rest of the other States."

"We're playing in Darwin next year and there are a lot of things that should be in our favour."

He said an artificial surface hockey field was expected to be laid in Darwin in December in time for the titles.

Summer Reminder: This is another blast from the past, and a reminder of what the Barcelona World Cup was like. My team found this a great way to cool off after a game at Castelldefels.



Welcome To New Players: Colin Gee tells me that we have a new category of member described as "Country Affiliated Member." They will play occasionally, and not be allocated to a team. WHM welcomes the following new players, and hopes that you enjoy your time with us:

Country Affiliated Members: John Stokes, Alan Bryce, Arthur McHugh, Alan Osborne, Philip Chalmer, Keiran McLernon, Roy Crichton, Geoff McNeill, Rob McNab.

WHM Members: Ken Eliot (A Div) Gareth Widger (C Div) Mark Hemery (D Div) Daryl Andrews (B Div).

Mistaken Identity? Recent death notices in the West have included both a Colin Sanders and a John Sanders. In neither case was it our WHM member of the same name. Reminds me of the time a John Mercer appeared in the notices on a Wednesday morning, and as I turned up at PHS for our normal activities Barry Rutter said: "So it was the wrong one."

Punology Two: Did you hear about the atom who lost an electron and commented: "I've got to keep an ion them in future."

Page Filler: I hope that none of you forwards out there have had a long run without a goal.

It's tough when your major team role

Is meant to be scoring a goal

To keep missing out

Induces self doubt

You'd rather play back, on the whole.

Personally I'm a fish out of water in defence, and will probably retire first. Ed.

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

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:

John Mercer: A Division Gold team. Email: johnmercer@inet.net.au.