

**Wednesday
Hockey Masters
Perth
Est 1991**

Blue 60s

Electric Blue 60s

Gold 60s

Green 60s

Red 60s

White 60s

Masters Matters

Blue 50s

Gold 50s

Red 50s

White 50s

Issue No 9

August 2012

Headline News: The dates for the next edition are uncertain as this one has been produced in haste before many of us depart for the UK. Best wishes for a safe trip and a good tournament to all travellers. As I'm one of them September's "Masters Matters" may be a little delayed.

Strange But True: If you take all the letters in "mother-in-law", remove the hyphens, and shuffle them a bit, you produce "Woman Hitler." Not that anybody would ever dare to do it.

Noteworthy Masters News: Eagle-eyed readers of the social pages in the West Australian will have spotted David Lester (Electric Blue 60s) photographed at the opening night of Lucia Di Lammermoor at His Majesty's Theatre. Also attending was former WA Opera Company tenor (and Wednesday Masters Christmas party musical director) Jim Malcolm from the Blue 60s. At least two other Electric Blues also went – on less conspicuous nights. I claimed in an earlier issue that computer people so often reduce everything to a set of numbers – and by my count that's Electric Blue 3 – Blue 1.

The WA Country O/65s will be a very cultured side – when the team is finalised. The percentage who attended the Musica Viva Amacord concert was a high 27.27 which numerical readers will readily convert to 3 out of 11. The three who enjoyed a very fine performance were Neil Scaddan, Neil Patterson, and John Mercer, resulting in a score-line of Electric Blue 2 – Red 1.

Comebacks: Those I've noticed include Jim Banks (Hale - 11th July), the returned from France Ian Purdie and the returned from injury Roger Jewell (Hale 18th July), the returned from injury Bala Chandran and the returned from UK Derek Hoad (Stadium 25th July). Trust you all pulled up OK and that match fitness is a hope for the future rather than a memory of the past.

Talking of comebacks, Ian Purdie and Peter Murray will be hoping for the return of their memories, as both left Hale on the 18th July without all their valuables. "Masters Matters" became aware of this by being requested to retrieve Purds non-hockey clothing and having accomplished this successfully with the aid of a very helpful Hale gentleman I passed Peter Murray's partner coming in to retrieve his hockey bag. The mere suggestion of a "Masters Matters" appearance caused Ian to worry about the possibility of a sleepless night, and to ask whether he could un-subscribe from receiving the newsletter. It wasn't really that bad, was it? Beside which I would have thought that Ian should be accustomed to appearing in newsletters after being featured many times in "Lightning Flashes" and "Raiders Review." *Plus ça change, plus c'est la meme chose.*

Quotable Quote: "Write a wise saying and your name will live forever." Anonymous.

Quotable Quote No 2: "An era ends when its illusions can no longer be maintained." Arthur Miller, quoted by Satyajit Das on Late Night Live referring to economics and the GFC.

July 11th Sizzled Also: Many thanks to Gordon Thomas for another great job at the barbecue. Thanks also to deputy chef Rusty Phillips. The weather however did not sizzle – too bloody cold to linger.

July 18th Too: Thanks again to GT who repeated his performance at Hale the very next week. Again a beautiful day became a very cool evening.

What's In A Name?: In the ABC's program on globesity the Professor of Nutrition was called Nestle. A news bulletin featured a spokesman for the department of Agriculture & Food called David Barren.

Reader Feedback: Thanks to Ian Brown for contacting “Masters Matters” from the Northern Territory. He says that recovery is going well and is looking forward to catching up with everybody in a few weeks. Those of us currently “enjoying” Perth’s weather can only be envious. Brownie is in fact lifting Bs for training - he attached photographic evidence that it’s not bottles but barramundi.

Whistle While You Work - with Neil Mannolini:

At Hale on Wednesday July 11, an incident highlighted a misconception on the part of some players as to “Advantage”.

Rule 12.1 ; Advantage ; a penalty is awarded only when a player or team has been disadvantaged by an opponent breaking the Rules. *If awarding a penalty is not an advantage to the team which did not break the Rules, play must continue.*

What happened at Hale ?

An attacker in the circle passed (hit the) the ball back towards a team mate in a better position to score and AFTER the ball had left the attacker’s stick (and travelled a metre or so) an opposing defender came in late and hit the stick of the first attacker.

I had allowed the play to continue because I considered that the receiving other attacker had a better chance of scoring. Result? Defenders managed to clear the ball.

Once advantage is awarded the Umpire can not give a SECOND chance. The defender who “stick checked” AFTER the ball had been clearly passed towards the other attacker, was “late” and had effectively been eliminated once the ball had passed him.

One other clarification.....RULE 13, 13c. A free hit awarded to the defence within 15 metres of the back line is taken up to 15 metres from the backline in line with the location of the offence, parallel to the side-line.

Again....at Hale, a defender took the free on the other side of the circle NOT in line with the offence, and he was surprised when I corrected him!

Happy whistling - Neil Mannolini

We Have Ways: We quote a general email from WAHA regarding umpire abuse – “Following a red card incident which proceeded to tribunal, the Protest and Dispute Tribunal found a player guilty of umpire abuse and imposed a 2 game suspension on top of the mandatory one week. Hockey WA would like to remind clubs that this type of abuse will not be tolerated and the appropriate penalties will be applied.”

Wednesday Masters has “Dummy Spit of the Day” for players whose pique exceeds their pace, or whose bile becomes too vile, or whose spleen becomes too mean. More suggestions are welcome.

Punology Part One: Having just been to Les Waldon for my first dental treatment in many years the following seemed appropriate: Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused anaesthetic during a root canal job. His goal: transcend dental medication. *(thanks again to Marty Greay)*

Department Of Limericks: A lack of players at Hale on the 11th July resulted in a limerick attributing this to the non-attendance of the southern contingent. I later discovered that the cause was the presence in Perth of many internationals preparing for the Oxford tournament with training and practice matches. Rather than delete the original I have added a reply from the south.

From the south there arose quite a wail
For the Masters was transferred to Hale
They could never survive
That Narrows Bridge drive
Which we do every week without fail

We're accustomed to hearing you whinge
But refuse to respond with a cringe
For our Masters is certain
To continue at Curtin
And on this you will never impinge

Wednesday Masters Interstate: On the day our last issue went out the WAHA site added the Hobart team for the O/70s Since then the O/65s have also been announced. As a biased commentator it's good to read the "Wed Masters" against 7 of the 13 O/65s and 14 of the 15 O/70s. Again we extend congratulations to all those included –and our best wishes to you all for the championships.

Editorial Corner: Readers with long memories may recall that during our "owning up" campaign comment was made about an O/50s Division 3 match between Blades and Wasps – and the low standard of the umpiring. We had managed to have a pretty fair match despite the dubious quality of the whistlers – and I tried to be diplomatic in writing about the game. The same teams played again at Altone Park on 7th July – and had the misfortune to have the same umpire again. He had not improved in any way which I could discern, and this brought on a limerick.

To murder an ump is unlawful
Even though he was so bloody awful
His repeated brain fades
Cost the Wasps and the Blades
Then he'd stand and deliver a jawful

What is meant by the last line is that no signal was ever given when the whistle went. I know that my own umpiring is far from perfect – but at least I do not suffer from delusions of adequacy (*I think*). The Wasps team included a judge - but I don't think he had the power to give us dispensation for execution of the limerick's first line.

Community Announcement: Thanks to Clyde Evans for the following:

Travelling southbound on the Freeway?

Beware of the newly installed Fixed Speed Camera disguised as an electrical junction box similar to the one installed on the Freeway northbound close to Karrinyup Road.

It is located soon after the South Terrace exit, close to the pedestrian overpasses (between the first and the second) directly after the Pagoda Hotel.

Coaching Corner: The wine raffle did not operate while we were at Hale – too much duty to pay at the Narrows Bridge customs post? The Editorial Corner has become a whine raffle instead.

I was sufficiently foolhardy in Issue #8 to speculate that normal service might have resumed in the wine raffle – and on 25th July as I was buying a beer a John Mercer ticket duly emerged first. Unless Bob Bowyer intends to run wine raffles in Oxford this run of luck cannot continue.

Helpful Hint: Old age continues to deliver new experiences – mostly bad. I missed out on a warm-up at Hale, having been drafted at the last minute to make up the numbers for the first game. It's hard enough for me to play hockey at the best of times – but as I discovered on the 11th July it's almost impossible with chilblains. Apparently they need to be pre-numbered with lengthy pre-game hits – and their other requirement is that they need to be kept out of the cold. Broome? Or the UK?

Best Wishes For A Speedy Recovery: To John Dunstan, currently in Fremantle Hospital (*currently under sedation, but allowed to have visitors*). Also to Mike Black, now out of Fremantle Hospital, but in doubt for Oxford. Similar wishes to Ray Norton – having heart treatment. Finally, more of the same to John Milner who is about to undergo a cataract operation.

Department of (Pseudo) Science: As these all seemed to have some vague connection with real science, albeit very tenuous, I decided that they should appear together. Real scientists have probably heard them all before.

Paul Livingstone (aka Flacco): “A charged particle usually gets off scot-free.”

Ambrose Bierce (Devil's Dictionary): “Barometer – an ingenious instrument which indicates what kind of weather we are having.”

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says “I've lost my electron.” The other says “Are you sure?” The first replies “Yes, I'm positive.” (*Thanks to Marty Greay*)

From 720 radio (early am): A Higgs boson walks into a church. The priest is not happy and says “Get out, we don't want your sort in here.” The boson answers “But you can't have Mass without me.”

Impertinent Question: What did the Queen say to Prince Phillip during the Olympic Games Opening Ceremony? “Darling, it's our tune.”

Punography Part Two: For sensitive readers the groan factor is still very high.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I know a bloke who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time. (*With thanks to Ian Lyon*)

Department Of Expectoration: There were no obvious contenders at Hale on the 11th July, and despite several sideline comments on the 18th suggesting that the newsletter editor should be an entrant, from my totally unbiased position I did not think so. Perhaps the Editorial Corner could be considered as a dummy spit – I prefer to think of it as accurate reporting.

We did not award “Dummy Spit of The Day” on the 25th July – but I'm told that all the major action happened on Turf 1, with several hockey sticks parting company from their players. Ivan Wilson was a repeat entrant (his contact lens refused to part company later), but Ricky Watts was reported to “Masters Matters” as having set the height record. I also heard that Ivan got his sports confused, and returned the ball to the keeper (*see Letter to the Editor*).

Department of Corrections: “Masters Matters” has not received a flood of complaints about any inaccuracies in Issue #8 either. I must be losing my grip.

Where Are They Now – Part Two: Regular umpire John Lindsay was missing from Hale on July 11th – and “Masters Matters” has discovered what happened. John went to the Stadium, found it to be full of young people, then remembered that we were supposed to be at Melville. Having also found no Wednesday Masters at Morris Buzzacott he went home (7 minutes away from Hale) and decided to have a hockey afternoon reading “Masters Matters” Issue #8 –in which the first paragraph was all about the transfer to Hale. You performed all the right activities John – just in the wrong order.

They Said It: “I’ve been Robinsoned.” Bala Chandra, who has had two long term injuries recently. Both occurred after contesting the ball with a White team Robinson – Injury A: Robinson Bob and Injury B: Robinson Paul. As Bala also pointed out, neither Robinson actually caused either injury.

Spectator to umpire: “Third party obstruction!”

Replied Scarborough twin Mick McKenna: “Madam, this is hockey, not insurance, and it wasn’t!”

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department: “Youth is something very new: twenty years ago no one mentioned it.” Coco Chanel.

Picturesque Speech: I thought I was wrong once. But I was wrong.

Letter to the Editor: ... don’t know if anyone bent your ear about my unusual awarding of a goal last Wednesday. Amongst the hullabaloo from various players some stated that you can’t award a goal without a shot being fired. Well – like so many things in this imperfect world it has happened before – so I thought you might include a true story in your next edition.

“Santiago Deo, who was the top umpire in hockey for the Olympics, etc for a number of years, and made his debut here in Perth for our first international event at PHS, did award a goal without a forward putting the ball in the net. How / why?

Back when a suspended player had to go behind the goals, an opposing forward had dribbled the ball down the field, beaten the goalie and calmly pushed the ball towards the net. The suspended player ran around from behind the net and stopped the ball. Santi whistled time off, gave the offender a red card, then whistled time on, kicked the ball into the net, and signalled a goal.”

Last Wednesday I awarded a goal that stirred lots of “umpire advice / whatever.” What happened? John Ree swept into the circle with the ball, the goalie met him but fell forward and in so doing slipped, and to get back on his 2 feet put his other leg out – but at the same time John tripped over this leg. I awarded a penalty corner. But such was the outcry – someone even threw the ball over the back line – that I changed my decision because I felt that John, who had regained the ball, would easily have tapped it into the open goal. Amongst other things the goalie accused me of making a stupid decision – no doubt he felt cheated at not being able to defend a penalty stroke – assuming that should have been my decision. I apologised to the goalie but for me that’s the end of the story.

PS: Rule 12.4.b. (*Penalty Strokes*) states: “for an intentional offence by a defender against an opponent who has possession of the ball or opportunity to play the ball.” That is why I originally decided on a penalty corner because I did not think the goalie’s action was intentional.

Neil Mannolini



Where Are They Now?: Many thanks to the Wednesday Master who supplied the photograph for this issue. He's comparatively easy – but who is the other Wednesday player?

Past Masters: The Wednesday Masters in #8 were Ken Watt and Ric Denny (back row) and Paul Robinson and Marty Greay (front row). Many readers correctly identified Marty – but nobody except the players themselves and Jim Wright knew any others. Jim even asked Subs after a Saturday 60s match – and his source had Les Waldon in the team. That would have been over-exposure after #7.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Here is the answer to last issue's question which was: Who was the first Australian (Men) player to score a hat-trick of goals in a Test? Was it Cec Pearce, Austin Seaman, Jim Allen, or Ian Dick?

The answer is Austin Seaman – who scored his hat trick at Palmerston North in 1922 in the very first test against New Zealand. John tells me that in spite of the three goals we went down to the Kiwis 5 goals to 4. No reader even ventured a guess.

This issue's question is: In September 1953, in what was to become the World Cup, Gwen Hutchinson, ex WA, scored 2 goals to help Australia defeat for the, first time, South Africa, Wales, Denmark, or England? Answer next issue.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer – O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: johnmercercer@iinet.net.

Department Of The Olympics: Here is the final instalment of Stan Salazar's Olympic Hockey Facts. Many thanks for the contribution – and we all hope that Australia's second men's hockey gold medal will be a new fact after the London games. Same goes for the women – for the fourth time.

- ❖ The oldest Olympic gold medallist is Stanley Shoveller, member of the winning British squad in Antwerp 1920 at the age of 39.
- ❖ In 2004 in Athens, the German women's team lost twice in the first round (4-1 against Holland and 3-0 against South Africa) before winning the gold medal.
- ❖ India's Ajit Sing scored the fastest goal in Olympic history when he scored after only 15 seconds in the opening match against Argentina in Montreal in 1970.
- ❖ The first Olympic men's match to be decided after a penalty stroke competition was when Poland defeated France in Munich 1972 for the 11th place.
- ❖ India defeated USA 24-1 in Los Angeles 1932. This is the biggest margin in Olympic history.
- ❖ In Athens 2004, both women's semi-finals were decided by penalty strokes. Holland defeated Argentina and Germany defeated China.
- ❖ At the 1920 Antwerp Olympic games, the England – France match was not played as France withdrew because of illness. As a result England were awarded 2 points
- ❖ Australia, Germany, and Holland have won Olympic gold in both men's and women's hockey..

Medicare Reforms? : The AMA has weighed in on the health care proposals from the government:

The Allergists voted to scratch it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

The Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the administration had a lot of nerve.

The Obstetricians felt they were all labouring under a misconception. Ophthalmologists consider the idea short-sighted.

Pathologists yelled "Over my dead body!" while the Paediatricians said "Oh, grow up."

The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.

The Surgeons were fed up with the cuts and decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.

The ENT specialists didn't swallow it, and just wouldn't hear of it. The Pharmacologists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow and Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea.

The Anaesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas, but the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the arseholes in Canberra.

And the Gerontologists aged 10 years just thinking about it.

Many thanks go to John Halley for this piece of medical mayhem.

Masters Chef Returns: Top effort by Dudley Younger & Lionel David (who I noticed assisting with the onions) with the sizzle on August 1st. Lionel umpired 5 games too – with a lot of player assistance.

Olympic Example? : We in the 60s seem to be emulating the players in London by desiring to have a debate and a referral about every decision. Can't we just get on with it and save our breath?

Stop Press: As not enough players were available for a turf booking on 3rd and 10th October, Wednesday Masters will be in recess during the Hobart tournament.