

# 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

**Vale:** It is with much regret that we report the passing of Dennis Baker on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The term "One of nature's gentlemen" is often used these days, but there is no better way to describe Dennis. Deepest sympathy from all Wednesday Masters goes to his family, workmates, and a very large number of hockey and other friends. WA hockey will be much poorer without him.

**Hobart Results:** I do not intend to report in full, as interested readers can access the web-site for themselves at [www.mhit.net.au](http://www.mhit.net.au). WA made 6 of the 8 Grand Finals but only won the O/70s. Several WA Country teams also made the finals. A brief summary:

O/35s: Tasmania 4 defeated Queensland 2.

O/40s: Queensland 5 defeated WA 0.

O/45s: NSW 5 defeated Queensland 0.

O/50s: Tasmania 5 defeated WA 0.

O/55s: NSW 2 defeated WA 0.

O/60s: NSW 3 defeated WA 2.

O/65s: Queensland 3 defeated WA 0.

O/70s: WA 1 defeated NSW 0.

**Hobart Impressions:** I have included a few personal opinions. Reader feedback is welcome.

Tasmanian Hockey Centre: Great facility in all respects – excepting a few spectator sight lines.

Tasmanian food: Still very good, comparatively inexpensive, with (generally) excellent service.

Tarhune Tree Walk: Terrifying.

Tournament fixtures: Fair and balanced.

Tasmania: Still beautiful.

Virgin Airlines extra legroom: Spacious.

Weather: Rain, hail, strong winds, & sunshine at different times. Temperatures low at all times.

Personal health: Returned to Perth with the customary hockey tournament virus which worsened.

Personal finances: In a similar state to the Spanish economy (i.e. not as bad as the Greek economy).

**Canterbury Results:** These were intended to be included with the Oxford lists in Issue # 10, but obviously my memory is not as good as I claimed in that issue. Belatedly, the medal winners were:

World Cup 40s: England 1<sup>st</sup>, Australia 2<sup>nd</sup>, Germany 3<sup>rd</sup>.

World Cup 45s: Spain 1<sup>st</sup>, Germany 2<sup>nd</sup>, Australia 3<sup>rd</sup>.

World Cup 50s: England 1<sup>st</sup>, Australia 2<sup>nd</sup>, New Zealand 3<sup>rd</sup>.

World Cup 55s: Australia 1<sup>st</sup>, England 2<sup>nd</sup>, Scotland 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Congratulations to all Wednesday Masters who participated in this tournament. It is most noticeable that all Australian sides won a medal. Special mention goes to the O/55s for their gold.

**Community Service News:** Thanks to John Rogers of the 50s Red for the following: "Hi John: Another permanent speed trap that I've only just noticed is on Roe Highway just past the South St overpass heading east. It is located at the end of the wall on the left. Very sneaky so BEWARE." (*Thanks John – I had not "found" this one myself yet. Ed*).

**Quotable Quote:** Thanks to Alan Bryce of Scotland and WA Country O/65s for this. "We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." George Bernard Shaw.

**Strange But True:** I have claimed in previous issues that computer people so often reduce everything to a set of numbers – this one results from comparing the Wednesday Masters team lists against the Hobart program. Seasonally adjusted (\*) the Hobart attendances emerge as:

O/60s: Blue (4), Electric Blue (9), Gold (5), Green (11), Red (6), White (7)

O/50s: Blue (10), Gold (5), Red (11), White (8)

These numbers do not include Geoff Hudson, John Harper, Peter Aylmore, or Shane Knapp.

(\*) Seasonally adjusted means that my team lists are not totally up-to-date, the Hobart virus is still very severe, and should Peter Aylmore be counted or not.

**Punology Part 1:** A vulture boards an aeroplane carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says; "I'm sorry sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger. (*thanks again Marty Greay*)

**Comebacks:** As a follow-up to last issue's story on Roger Davey's resumption of hockey despite having had both knees reconstructed we understand that medical procedures have changed a lot, and a lot for the better. The process of knee replacement is now completely different – and Roger's physiotherapist has encouraged him to take up hockey again.

**New Rules:** I think the new rules have been tried on Wednesday already. Here's the report.  
**Post Olympics Rules changes:** Only one complaint at the introduction of the "new rules", and not unexpectedly he was a goalie. The interesting fact is that fewer goals were recorded!

The Changes?

- 1) A goal is scored regardless of whether the last player touching the ball inside the circle is AN ATTACKER or a DEFENDER.
- 2) On a free hit the taker can LIFT the ball without the need to move the ball first – either a scoop shot or overhead. Basically .... stand and deliver!

All existing rules – danger / players not more than the required distance from the awarded player inside the 23 metre line (old 25 yard line) and so on still apply.

The touch inside the circle may be off a stick OR foot of a defender (THAT WOULD NORMALLY BE A PENALTY CORNER) - if the ball goes in the net it's effectively an advantage to the attacker and the goal would be allowed. Of course a blatant or deliberate defender kicking the ball would still be a penalty corner.

The International Rules Body is promoting flow on game and opportunity for more goals similar to football (I refer of course to what is called Soccer in Australia).

May be easier for the umpires? Their only interest is whether the ball IS TOUCHED INSIDE the circle on its way into the goal. Plus, it will reduce long corners.

So let's enjoy our great game!

Neil Mannolini

**Reader Feedback:** Many thanks to several readers who took the trouble to send positive feedback to our Oxford edition (No 10). It is greatly appreciated.

**Department Of Limericks:** This one was “inspired” by the final state of the WA and WA Country O/65s. WA played the entire grand final with no bench players and a hobbling coach (Jim Banks) as a high centre forward. This would have been luxury for WA Country who for the majority of the tournament had no bench players and 2 or 3 limited runners on the turf. We had to forfeit the play-off for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> as of our 12 bodies 3 could not go on, 5 had various degrees of injury, and 4 were fit. Perhaps it’s noteworthy that 3 of our fit players were called John.

Now hockey we all play for fun  
And it’s better sometimes if you’ve won  
But it is quite a wrench  
When you’ve none on the bench  
And there’s only a few who can run

**Punology Part Two:** “Did you say there’s been an earthquake in Canberra? Obviously it must be the Government’s fault.” (*Thanks to Ian Lyon for the original, which I’ve adapted slightly*)

**Quotable Quote #2:** “To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.” This one was acquired by Marty Greay on his recent travels – and of course is not in any way, shape, size, or form applicable to “Masters Matters.” Besides we always attribute our “borrowings.” – well, almost always – well, most of the time.

**Wednesday Masters Interstate:** I trust that all Hobart travellers have returned safely by now - and in better health than I did. Generally what applied to Oxford also applies here – in other words what’s said and done in Hobart stays in Hobart, but as for Oxford I’ve made one or two exceptions.

**Editorial Corner:** Given the length of the injury lists in some of the more senior WA and WA Country teams (see “Best Wishes For A Speedy Recovery”) I would like to pay tribute to the medical staffs associated with both the tournament and the WA teams. A team mate (and roommate) suffered a severe hand injury in the 65s match between WA and WA Country (Ken Taylor – Qld and Australia) and following treatment at the Tasmanian Hockey Centre post-match had to be taken to the Hobart Hospital’s Emergency department. The feedback was that the first aid had been first class – and Ken actually managed to take to the turf again in the last match we (WA Country 65s) played. Many thanks to the WA Country health team – Deb Oliver, Lynn Dunnet, and Rebecca Kidd – for all the medical miracles they managed to perform during the course of the tournament. Perhaps the WA contingent might provide me with a short piece for the next Masters Matters on their health team.

**Coaching Corner:** It seems like a very long time since we were enjoying a Hobart farewell barbecue at the Stadium on 26<sup>th</sup> September. Many thanks to chef Gordon Thomas. Wine bottles went to Simon, Barry, Ken Watt, and Bill Williamson (who got the Billi Billi shiraz this time). That should produce a points table of Electric Blue (2), Green (1), White (1).

**Impertinent Question:** What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

**Thank You:** To Deb Oliver and Ken Taylor for marvellous sideline support of the WA Country 65s. We lacked family in Hobart - and it was great to have some encouragement and expertise on the bench.

**Punology Part Three:** Did you hear about the teacher in a “special” school who said: “I’m glad I know sign language. It can be very handy.” (PS: Anybody see “New Tricks” on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October?)

**Department of Corrections:** Issue # 10 was supposed to have included the results from the Canterbury tournament as well as Oxford. Perhaps this is why the younger generation seems to make so much noise – we forget them otherwise. I also wished good luck to the Hobart “team” instead of the “teams”. Finally I received a written response to my memory of Ian Dick:

Hi John,

Your facts concerning Ian Dick need some correction. The year Ian scored three goals and helped Cricketers win 5-2 over YMCA was 1963, not 1965, at Perry Lakes Stadium. (Indeed we beat YM at the WACA 3-2 on that occasion in 1965.) I was playing in goals so remember the game very well. That was Ian’s last game in A1 as he retired and played 2As to bring along young players. (It was also Mel Pearce’s last game.)

A really memorable thing for we old Cricketers was the fact that we had been beaten all day by YM who could have won easily but Ian Dick’s tenacity and brilliance were allowed to shine as YM relaxed in the last 10 minutes and tried to play a very time wasting and negative game. The great Don Smart said to me on the Wednesday of Ian’s memorial at Wesley that he had shadowed Ian all game and then felt the defence become sloppy. He remembers well the disappointment. A great jokester and player Ray Evans actually left the stadium a few minutes before the end believing YM had won. He was incredulous at Cricketers’ win when told later. But that was Ian’s swan song and it was most fitting coming from a true sportsman.

Regards – Dick Osborne (Speedie).

PS: YM did win their first A1 premiership in 1964 when they beat us 4-0 at Nash Field, Mosman Park.

### **Whistle While You Work – with Neil Mannolini:**

On Wednesday I gave a decision against a player who had shielded the ball from a legitimate tackle. He asked me to spell it out – rule etc – in a comment in this newsletter. So:

Rule 9.12 states: Players must not obstruct an opponent who is attempting to play the ball.

Players obstruct if: They back into an opponent.

Physically interfere with the stick or body of an opponent.

Shield the ball from a legitimate tackle with their stick or any part of their body.

Shielding the ball occurs less frequently nowadays because the game is played at a greater pace (even in our slow motion hockey) but on Wednesday last the offending player was almost stationary very near the side line and clearly breached this rule. Mal Jackaman was clearly prevented from tackling the ball both by the opponent’s stick and body.

Another interesting rule – 9.11: Field players must not stop, kick, pick up, throw, or carry the ball with any part of their body.

Throwing the ball with your hand (how else?) is a breach and – if in the circle = penalty corner.

Neil Mannolini (*Thanks again Neil – your second contribution is timely & appreciated. Ed.*)



**Title Successfully Defended:** WA O/70s captain Peter Gason with the trophy following the 1-0 win over NSW in the grand final. Congratulations to all members of the side – obviously well coached by goalkeeper Rutter. Wine for everybody Barry?

**They Said It:** As described elsewhere (Department of Limericks) the WA Country O/65s ended up with only 4 fit players, and had to forfeit the play-off for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. A post mortem (over morning tea and coffee) had just concluded in the Sandy Bay Bakery when Harvey Davies (the only fit non-John) announced his intention to walk from the premises to Salamanca Place, prompting this comment from Robin Bailey: “Show-off!”

Young lady at the Dunalley Indian road house: “Would you like Early Grey tea?”

Following an affirmative answer came the best cup of tea I had in Tasmania – Twinings Earl Grey.

John Mercer: “I’m tired of being sick, and sick of being tired.” As usual, he’s a very bad patient.

**Picturesque Speech:** Some elements of the Hobart tournament were a bit laid back. A sign on the pie van read: “Opening hours – 10ish to 3pmish.”

**Dummy Spit Of The Day:** This is still in temporary recess - I think, having been too unwell on both the last 2 Wednesdays. It’s not to be awarded for anything to do with Hobart - but you could inquire of Simon why he received a rest in the match against WA Country. I was there, and I don’t know.

# Hockey masters stick it to old age



HANNAH MARTIN

THERE are no walking sticks in sight for octogenarians Lewis Gates and Tom Peake – only hockey sticks.

The lifetime players are visiting Tasmania for the National Masters competition. They are the oldest of more than 2000 players from 72 teams around the country.

Victorian goalkeeper Mr Gates turns 83 next week and says the sport helps him keep a “sound mind and body”.

Interstate work, a disagreement with a coach and a knee reconstruction are the only reasons he’s ever missed a season.

“I have a totally metallic right knee,” Mr Gates, of Geelong, said. He started playing in 1947 and has been playing in the annual Masters hockey series since 1986.

“I love the Masters competition because it’s so friendly,” he said. “You knock the guys over on the field and then you go and drink with them after the game’s over.”

Mr Peake turns 82 on Friday. He plays half-left for the Queensland side.

“I’ve been playing since I was a boy,” he said. “I keep playing because I like getting out for a holiday at the Masters each year.”

KEEN: Queensland’s Tom Peake, 81, left, and Western Australia’s Colin Sanders, 72, and, inset, Victorian goalie Lewis Gates, 82. Pictures: SAM ROSEWARNE Tassie fightback: Page 38

**Age Shall Not Weary Us (Though The Years Condemn):** Thanks to Ivan Wilson for this extract from the Hobart Mercury featuring Colin in full flight – as usual.

**Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department:** “Youth would be an ideal state if only it came a little later in life.” Herbert Henry Asquith 1852 – 1928.

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders & John Mercer:** Here is the answer to last issue’s question which was: Who won the women’s hockey gold medal in Moscow? No Googling!

The answer arrived by return email from Neil Scaddan (who also said he wanted to be the first, and was), and also a few minutes later from usual suspect Rusty Phillips (who also added “No Googling”) – and was – Zimbabwe. The boycott’s effect was more marked in women’s hockey. John Sanders – can we afford a Phillips bottle between us? There is a good cleanskin shop near me.

This issue’s question is: Who won the 1960 1A Challenge Cup? For one bonus point what was the score, and for another bonus point, who scored a hat trick?

Answer next issue.

**Quotable Quote # 3:** “By my rambling digressions I perceive myself to be growing old.” Benjamin Franklin (1706 – 1790). Any resemblance to any current or former Wednesday Masters is purely coincidental. However, as we’ve said several times already this year, if the cap fits ...

**Best Wishes For A Speedy Recovery:** The Hobart tournament included many injuries to Wednesday Masters present and past. I was not able to obtain a complete list, which is probably a good thing, as I'm sure readers do not scan "Masters Matters" looking for horror stories. Those I heard of included:

Peter Aylmore (WA 60s): Calf injury in last training session. Did not travel to Tasmania.

Ian Brown (WA 60s): Injured during the tournament – went home for MRI.

Mal Horrigan (WA 65s): Hamstring injury during training. Did not play in Tasmania.

Peter Hearne (WA 65s): Calf injury during tournament, and took no further part.

Ken Walter (WA 65s): Various injuries during tournament, and eventually took no further part.

Jim Banks (WA 65s): Travelled injured.

Les Waldon (WA 65s): Travelled injured – but played throughout. Medical miracle?

Peter Stevens (WA Country 65s): Leg injury. Hobbled throughout the tournament. Medical miracle.

Neil Patterson (WA Country 65s): Toe and leg injury to start. Shoulder injury in last match.

Norm Stanton (WA Country 65s): Joined the walking wounded with a leg injury.

Alan Bryce (WA Country 65s): Incapacitating ankle injury in the last game.

Ken Taylor (WA Country 65s): Sore knee. Serious hand injury. Also medical miracle.

Neil Scaddan (WA Country 65s): Sore knee. Running severely limited.

Allan Lynn (WA Country 65s): Leg injury.

Robin Bailey (WA Country 65s): Possible hip injury. Running hampered.

Paul Robinson (WA 70s): Where do I start? Robbo began with a head gash, but ended up not too good. A lengthy period of rest and recovery must be on the cards. Anybody got a medical miracle?

Ron Venables (WA 70s): Unspecified injury. Lengthy recovery period.

Mike Black (WA Country 70s): Limited playing time. Does your wife read this Mike?

"Masters Matters" extends our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to you all.

While on this theme, it was most noticeable that the WA 65s included a FIFO player, who popped in for a few games, scored a great goal against NSW, and then popped out again. According to the official program his name was Peter Dennis, but the WA Country spies were able to penetrate the various disguises employed and identify Archie Andrews as the mystery No 11. Hope you enjoyed the tournament as much as I did. One of these days the Electric Blues (and no doubt the other teams) will have to have a Hobart restaurant comparison. My personal selection would definitely be the blue-eye trevalla – in a few different styles.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer – O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: [johnmercercer@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnmercercer@iinet.net.au)

**Sorry We're Late:** Apologies to those readers who have been anticipating this issue for some time. A combination of my own ill health and a tragic family bereavement has caused the delay – and probably made some sections of this edition like one of the more doleful Russian novels. It is hoped that normal "Masters Matters" service will be back in place for the November edition.

**Dates To Diarise:** December 12<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Masters Christmas Party.  
December 17<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Masters hockey (last for 2012 & it's a **Monday**)  
January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday Masters hockey starts for 2013.