

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 4

April 2013

Editorial Corner Part One: Every time we play without goalkeepers (all the time lately) it seems that it is necessary to have a lengthy debate first about which rules we are going to use. The match then begins and the first short corner causes the debate to restart - often resulting in a totally different conclusion. It's time for us to establish some guidelines for this situation and circulate them for us all to know and follow. Possible questions to be resolved include:

- 1) Do we have a kicking full back? Or just a sweeper without a GK's privileges?
- 2) Do we take a penalty corner or a hit outside?
- 3) If penalty corners are taken do we tighten up the interpretation of dangerous play? How?
- 4) In open play do we forbid any lofted shot at goal? Or do we allow flicks and scoops?
- 5) If we have a KFB how does Rule 10.2 fit in: "Protective headgear must be worn by a player with goalkeeping privileges when defending a penalty corner or penalty stroke".
- 6) Finally, what should be permissible if one team has a goalkeeper and the other does not?

My own thoughts would suggest something along these lines:

- 1) We just have a sweeper without the goalkeeper's privileges (to dodge Rule 10.2).
- 2) Take penalty corners otherwise deliberate breaches will occur, but no lofted shots allowed.
- 3) In open play do not permit any hit at goal higher than the top of a shin pad.
- 4) Player safety should be paramount - we don't duck as quickly as we used to.

What do our readers think?

WHM Goes To Bunbury: There are two reports in this issue - one from tour organiser Robin Bailey and one from the "Masters Matters" Editor which was necessary to give a public thank you to Robin and Rob McNab, who did the work down south. I think that having two reports will provide a clearer picture of the day, which was rated as very successful by all participants I've heard from. Over to RB:

On Sunday 24th March 12 players, 1 player/umpire, 2 non-players and 6 ladies ventured south to Bunbury. Despite the closure of south bound parts of the Mitchell and Kwinana Freeways, all managed to have a safe and timely arrival at the Bunbury Hockey Stadium. The players went onto the field wearing Electric Blue shirts, and looked highly organised, at least sartorially. 3 games were played, each of 25 minutes, with the Bunbury team of O/60s winning the first game (jet lag seemed to affect the WHM team) 1 nil, but the 2 subsequent were each won by WHM 1 nil. In these games WHM clearly picked up & played strongly, dominating the play, but despite many shots at goal only one goal was scored in each game. Each of these goals was very good; ask John Mercer and Brian Soares for details. A very enjoyable sausage sizzle followed where all enjoyed each other's company.

The day proved to be successful and played in good spirit, and plans are being looked at to see if a mid season game could be arranged, with various options of grounds. General discussion was also had with regards to other options.

Thanks to all who participated and stay tuned for future developments.

Quotable Quote No 1: "If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed." Mark Twain. (*This does not apply to "Masters Matters" - which according to some readers contains no information at all. Ed.*)

20th March - Wanted to Buy: One goal, please contact the Electric Blue forward line.

20th March - Wanted to Buy: One goal, please contact the Green forward line.

Whistle While You Work - With Neil Mannolini:

Hockey WA has issued an email to WA umpires clarifying the “experimental but mandatory” rules which now apply.

- 1) Method of scoring. Rule 8: A goal is scored when the ball is played by an attacker, or touches the stick or body of a defender within the circle, and goes into the goal.
- 2) Taking penalties: Procedures for taking a free hit, centre pass, and putting the ball back into play after it has been outside the field:
 - a) The ball must be stationary.
 - b) The ball is moved using a hit, flick, or scoop.
 - c) The ball may be raised immediately using a push, flick, or scoop, but must not be raised intentionally using a hit.

Note: There is no need to move the ball first if the player wishes to perform an overhead - to avoid any danger the defender must not be within 5 metres of the ball.

- 3) On March 13th a comment was made about Rule 9.11. Though this has been raised before some umpires need reminding (!) - it states: Field players must not stop, kick, propel, pick up, throw, or carry the ball with any part of their body. It is not always an offence if the ball hits the foot, hand, or body of a field player. The player only commits an offence if they voluntarily use their foot, hand, or body to play the ball or if they position themselves with the intention of stopping the ball this way.
- 4) Everyone should be aware of Rule 12, penalties, particularly 12.1. It states: Advantage; A penalty is only awarded when a player or team has been disadvantaged by an opponent breaking the Rules. It goes on ... If awarding a penalty is not an advantage to the team which did not break the rules play must continue.

Neil also asks: Should offenders be sent off for bad tackles and/or serious breaches?

Neil Mannolini

Thanks Neil for this elucidation of the newer rules, as well as a reminder of a couple of the older ones. I suggest that if all of us had a good knowledge of the rules of hockey there would be a little less on-field discussion What do readers think?. Ed.

Comebacks: It was good to see Jim Banks on the turf on 20th March joining the hip replacements in our ranks. Those I can readily call to mind include Simon Thomson, Ivan Wilson, and Ian Lyon. The knee brigade (major surgery) includes Gordon Thomas and Roger Davey. If there are a few more out there Wednesday Masters could include a bionic team in future.

Shakespeare Said It: Here’s another line from Hamlet spoken by the title character again:

“There’s a divinity that shapes our ends

Rough hew them how we will.”

What was the topic? Possibly circumcision.

Lost and Found: Lost, before game one on 20th March, one only radar set. Could the finder please return to the Electric Blue forward line as it is sadly missed.

Department Of Limericks: Here is another point of view on the goalkeeper / heat topic. The GKs of this world have their say in Letters to the Editor and Poet's Corner.

Wednesday keepers refuse to wear pads

Is it due to them all being cads

That they beat a retreat

Citing overmuch heat

Or one more of those modern health fads.

My personal belief is that it was all done to accustom forwards to empty nets. It's been noticeable that many of us now can't shoot straight - either the master plan worked, or nothing has changed. I should also point out that I have the utmost respect for goalkeepers - who display much more courage than I possess. That does not mean that I ever aspired to play there.

Punology Part 1: What did one hat say to the other hat? "You stay here - I'll go on a head." (*Thanks again to Roger Partington.*)

Points For 1st Quarter: Congratulations to the White team who have topped the ladder as at the end of the first quarter. The full table is up on the WA Vets web-site (as of 28th March - thank you Peter Fogels). The contest went right down to the last match on 27th March, when a win to the Blue team would have seen them go to the top, but this was the moment when the Greens decided it was time for them to come good. The abbreviated ladder is White (50), Blue (48), Electric Blue (46), Red (42), Gold (34), and Green (25). The O/60s wine raffle was as closely contested as the hockey and resulted in a table of Electric Blue (9), Green (8), Blue and Red (5), Gold (4), past players (3) with White bringing up the rear (in this non-competition) on 2. *Who wins all the wine in O/50s?*

Impertinent Question: What do you call a males-only senior citizens group who met recently to perform a time-honoured ritual? No it was not the Conclave of Cardinals, as some of them are quite old. Try Wednesday Hockey Masters last week - or any week - who are just a little bit past middle age in some cases. Also the cardinals have only one Red team - we have two.

Umpiring Part Two: On Turf 1 on 6th March during a game between Electric Blue and Green the ball inadvertently struck umpire Lionel David on the foot. Play continued and subsequently the only goal of the match was scored. The applicable rule is 11.8, which states: "If the ball strikes an umpire, unauthorised person, or any loose object on the field, play continues." I was surprised at how many of my team-mates knew the rule, but still regret that we did not hit the ball over the back-line. If I'm totally honest a minor case of white-line fever was afflicting me at the time.

Strange But True: Readers with long memories may remember our supposed qualifying exam for chairman where the Biology question began with: "Create life." Modern-day science appears to have begun the process by re-creating the DNA of the extinct gastric brooding frog according to the news on 16th March. I'd like them to start on my hockey next.

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department: "Wisdom does not automatically come with age. Nothing does - except wrinkles. It's true, some wines improve with age. But only if the grapes were good in the first place." Abigail Van Buren.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Here is the answer to last issue's question which was: In the 1987 Champions Trophy match versus Pakistan, Australia won 3-1. All Australia's goals were scored by 3 players whose surnames started with the letter "H". Who were they?

For a change I could have actually answered one myself. Correct answers came from Rusty Phillips, and bar guesses were attempted by Neil Scaddan and Paul Robinson, who between them got it right with a little assistance from our question meister. All names actually began with Ha, and were Mark Hager, Peter Haslehurst, and Neil Hawgood. This issue's question: During his career, how many goals did Brian Glencross score? Was it 14, 24, 34, or 44. Answer next issue.

Letters to the Editor: Thanks to all readers who responded to the last issue. They included Bill Baldwin (GK!), Col Benporath (GK!), Neil Mannolini (umpire - see WWYW), John Halley, Pam Herbert, Phil Anderson, Derek Jobe, Bob Stidwell (GK! - see Poet's Corner) Ric Watts, and John Milner. I am pleased to say that none of them were unprintable, and as a result:

Col Benporath: "John, when the temperature is above 37 degrees we goalkeepers feel any forward who is game (stupid) enough to run around the field deserves a better than average chance to score a goal." *So global warming is not all bad news for some of us.*

John Halley: "Hi John. You are correct in that I do intend (hope?) to resume playing. Janet and I leave to travel north in the wee small hours of Wednesday 6th. We will be in Italy (mostly Sicily) for a month, Dublin for 4 days, and then New York City for 3 months. We return to Perth at 1:00 am on Monday 8th July, and I expect to be on the track on Wednesday 10th. Best wishes." *Happy travels to you both from us all and I hope that "Masters Matters" can make it across the Pacific.*

Phil Anderson: "... a nice surprise to get no 3 before holiday/cruising overseas from Wednesday - away for 6/7 weeks on a trip from Sydney to Japan and return. I'll miss playing and enjoying a few beers afterwards at the bar with the fellas. Hope all goes well with everyone at WHM. *Thanks Phil and happy travelling to you. When our Lotto syndicate comes good I may join you.*

He's Driven Into The Water Hazard?: Unfortunately this is not a golf story but a hockey story. Those of us who cross the Narrows Bridge on the way home know that the Mitchell Freeway is a car park at times. It is rumoured that Dave Horsley's dam can also be a car park at times. *I'd be very happy to be able to print a retraction or a clarification in the next issue Dave. Ed.*

Picturesque Speech: Women and cats will do as they please; men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea. *(I do not know who originated this one)*

They Said It: Sign on the back of an old banger of a car: "I started off with nothing and still have most of it left." Thanks to Phil Anderson for this one - having driven the same car from 1978 to 1996 I can relate to it. *(For those curious it was a Cortina 6) Lotto syndicate members too?*

One of the members of my social club of retired members of Apex attempted to score some Brownie points at home on February 14th. It all started fairly well:

Wife to sister: "I got a dozen red roses for Valentine's Day."

Sister to wife: "Oh. Who from?"

Quotable Quote #2: "Americans are a free people. The 1st Amendment to the constitution gives them the freedom to shout "Fire!" in a crowded theatre and the 2nd Amendment gives them the freedom to open fire in a crowded theatre". I'm not sure who said this - do any of our readers know?

Dummy Spit Of The Day: There have been a few contenders during the first quarter - even including the editor of this newsletter who complained in verse that he never won a wine raffle (corrected by Mike Black's better half Lyn on 20th March). Possibly the best and most consistent effort came from Ivan Wilson, who revved up the Whites by enough judicious stick throwing to win the quarter.

Poets' Corner: After all the aspersions on goalkeepers in recent issues of "Masters Matters", it's only fair that anything from one of them (Bob Stidwell) is included. When it's in verse, it's a must.

Goal Keepers Lament

The temperature is 41
Not again says Bob, I can't run
The goalkeepers union all agree
We can't play when it's this degree.

The thought of helmet, gloves and pads
Give it away thinks Bob- it's for the lads.
But next week it is 31
What was I thinking says Bob on the run?

Department of Corrections: Following the inclusion of an incorrect email for Robin Bailey in the last issue (the correct one is robin.b@bigpond.com) our proof-reader was dismissed, as he was already on his last warning. No applications were received from within Australia, and I was not permitted to import one under a 457 visa. The old proof-reader has now been reinstated, at double the money. *(For those of you not of a mathematical bent, twice zero is also zero. Ed.)*

Department Of Limericks Part 2: Dedicated to all hockey widows - prompted by the Saturday 65s:
Wednesday Masters now has 65s
No more weekend beers in low dives
Such as neighbourhood pubs
Or those local golf clubs
But it's all just the same for the wives

Quotable Quotes: So far this year readers have had to put up with only those quotations which have appealed to my own warped taste and sense of humour. For the sake of variety I include some of the quotes I've received from fellow players. The original source is not always provided.

Stan Salazaar: "Never wrestle with a pig. You will both get dirty, but the pig will enjoy it."

Roger Jewell: "For all the things in life that you desire
You shall pay plenty
And for the wisdom of experience
No less.

Roger Jewell: Advice from the multitudes costs nothing
And is usually worth just that - nothing.

Punology Part 2: It is said that a backward poet (no names please) writes inverse. *(Roger Partington)*

March 24th 2013 - Wednesday Masters Touring Side – Bunbury

The First Of Many : The thanks of all the touring party go to Robin Bailey and Rob McNab for turning Robin's original good idea into a most enjoyable reality. This report will not include a detailed match description as Banjo Patterson is unavailable to produce a modern-day version of the Geebung Polo Club. Suffice it to say that the organisers managed to produce two evenly matched teams.

Though the Freeway southbound lanes were closed from Joondalup to Mandurah we all managed to travel cross-country and arrived in Bunbury at about the right time; having seen some parts of Perth that we did not know were there. Original players Paul Robinson and Barry Rutter had to pull out of the game with injury, but both made the trip to enjoy the social aspect.

As there were 7 Electric Blue players in the party, which also included the uniform officer for Wednesday Masters (RB), we all could play in the same colours. The South-West used their WA Country shirts (predominantly white) and 3 games of 25 minutes duration were played with several volunteer umpires including Neil Scaddan (when he wasn't playing). Thank you to all umpires.

More goals were missed than scored due to excellent work by the 2 goalkeepers and the total lack of familiarity of Wednesday Masters with having to play against them. Following the game an excellent sausage sizzle was held (with salads) and the games were replayed over a drink or two. Thanks to all involved with the preparation and serving of the food and drink, as well as the turf.

Many travellers then returned to Perth, but Barry and Lesley Rutter, Brian and Carol Soares, Paul Robinson and John Mercer managed to meet and dine on Thai (did you know that there are 2 Thai restaurants in central Bunbury? Neither did we) before staying the night.

The day was a great success, and I hope will result in more matches at a variety of venues.

Reader Contribution: Here is some more from John Halley from the collection of actual newspaper headlines entitled “Why I Still Read The Newspaper.”

“Republicans Turned Off By Size Of Obama’s Package.”

“Girls’ Schools Still Offering ‘Something Special’ - Head.”

“Illiteracy An Obstacle, Study Finds.”

“Tiger Woods Plays With Own Balls, Nike Says.”

Congratulations: Are due to John Sanders and Richard Aggiss who have completed their massive project on the history of Australian international hockey, including all those who played or were named in national sides, and all those who scored. For those interested there is a Facebook link: <http://www.facebook.com/HockeyAustraliaHistoryProject>.

Drugs In Sport: Readers who remember humorist John Clarke’s fictitious sport of farnarkling (if you don’t he can be found via Google) will probably recall that the hero of the Australian farnarkling team was one Dave Sorenson. Sadly, in the sports pages of the West Australian on 20th March was a headline “Sorenson admits to years of drug use”. First Lance Armstrong, now this. Where will it end?

Vale: “Masters Matters” notes with much regret the recent death of former Wednesday player and great bloke David Palandri. And a funeral took place on 28th March for Alastair Devlin, a past captain (and also great bloke) of the team from Whitfords currently playing Saturday O/60s. Both were far too young to be departing this life. Our sympathy goes to families, friends, and team-mates.

Good To Have You On The Show: Many thanks to all the March umpires. They included Bala Chandran, Lionel David, Peter Ford, Vern Gooch, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, Barry Rutter, and Neil Scaddan, although this list is not exhaustive. And past players I noted in the Stadium bar were Stu Calder, Jeff Godfrey, Peter Hearne, John Sanders, and George Winning.

Anyone For Tennis?: Car conversation on the way to Bunbury (and Stadium bar conversation) revealed that there are several former racketeers in Wednesday Masters who would like to have a game again. Maybe we’ve left it too late for this summer, but quite possibly now is the time to discuss possible venues, playing dates, preferred surface, and so on. I have no desire to found the Wednesday Masters tennis club, but would be happy to take some initial expressions of interest.

Stop Press: The Saturday O/65s season starts on Saturday April the 13th at Perry Lakes. The first of the games is due to begin at 2:30 pm. If you have no club commitments, and would like some friendly social hockey, talk to Ric Denny or Les Waldon. Best wishes to all for the 2013 season.

Late News: Due to the barbecue upgrade at the Stadium we will be having pizzas delivered on 3rd April - \$2 a slice (1/8th of large pizza). Arrival times are 4:30 pm for O/60s and 6:00 pm for O/50s.

There are 5 “I’s” in individual brilliance according to Neil Scaddan. There are too many “I’s” in this issue according to my proof-reader, so next issue I’d like to write more about others and less about me. All news and contributions to:

John Mercer - O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: johnmerc@inet.net.au