

**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

May 1st News: We are at Melville starting at 12:30 pm. There will be a barbecue after the games.

Fixtures: Turf - 12:30 Gr v R, 13:00 Go v EB, 13:30 W v Gr, 14:00 R v B, 14:30 B v Go.

Grass - 13:00 B v W, 13:30 R v Go, 14:00 EB v Gr, 14:30 EB v W.

O/50s are turf only - 15:00 W v B, 15:30 W v G, 16:00 R v B, 16:30 R v G.

No Goalkeepers: The item on playing without goalkeepers drew some responses - the keepers were back for the next Wednesday. Peter Ford suggested (verbally) that the current rules of hockey cover the situation, and also took me to task for using the term kicking full back, when a player who has goalkeeping privileges must wear protective gear as per rule 10.2 and to all intents and purposes is actually a goalkeeper. Marty Greay supported my idea, while Ken Watt wrote:

Hi John, With reference to Corner editorial April

In any matter along these lines, a duty of care is paramount. No defender in his right mind relishes defending a penalty corner, therefore my thoughts on this subject are:

In the absence of a goalkeeper on either, or both sides -

- 1) A sweeper without privileges.
- 2) A hit outside.
- 3) No lofted shots.

If you are of a mind that 'deliberate breaches may occur' and do occur then the umpire may exercise his discretion and award a penalty goal.

As a (perhaps minor) postscript, I have noticed an increase in the amount of 'clumsy' bodily contact on the field which is both dangerous and annoying, particularly when one is on the receiving end, but especially because there are serial offenders. I suggest that this should be addressed in unison with bad tackles as possible 'send off' potential.

When all is said and done, the vast majority of participants in Wednesday hockey participate because they enjoy (generally) good standard hockey, the fellowship of teammates and opposition, the social aspect, and least of all, the final score of the game (particularly applicable to the Green team) - and anything that diminishes any of these points affects all.

Regards - Ken Watt

Thanks Ken for a thoughtful piece. Mal Jackaman in his interesting item from Issue #2 this year also mentioned the possibility of the cards, as has Neil Mannolini in this issue's "Whistle While You Work. I have quoted a couple of applicable rules in full under WWYW. What do readers think? Ed.

Dave Mellor also wrote: "My input, your question about no goalie.

Should be no hitting at goals and no short corners. Free hit at 25 yard line. We are not playing for sheep stations.

Secondly, great idea the Electric Blues (*actually 7 EBs +5*) going down south, reminds me in the old days at Wasps we ventured each alternate year to play in York and they came down the other year. Was a good fun day.

Dave - Gold 50s"

My current club (Blades) still does the same with Pingelly. Any other similar relationships? Ed.

Australia to Tour Far East: Congratulations and best wishes to the Wednesday players who will be going to Malaysia, Japan and Singapore in May with the Australian O/65s and O/70s. They are:

65s: Len Blythe, John Harper, Simon Thomson, and Ken Walter.

70s: John Burt, Peter Gason (c), Graham Harler, Ian Hill, Richard Osborne, and Ron Venables.

Whistle While You Work - With Neil Mannolini:

“Do we whistle while we work?”

Our stated aim for Wednesday Masters is to enjoy both the hockey and the camaraderie. A key ingredient for this is the higher standard of hockey on the field ... basically to play the game in the total ambience of the international game.

Occasionally a player “transgresses” beyond the spirit of the game and we (the umpires) have been “tolerant” in the interests of the flow of the game etc.

Sadly a few play it “too hard” and our umpires need to consider and issue an appropriate card (yes, that will mean a suspension for a time!). On at least one occasion our ‘fearless’ president commented ... “in real hockey that would have meant a card!”

I accept that at least on that occasion, the transgressor “should have had a rest”. Mea culpa. (In English I was at fault and should have sent the transgressor off.)

May I recommend that we need to improve our game and for the likes of deliberate stick checks, hand in the back, rough unruly tackles, etc, that we comply with the International Code and deal out the appropriate card Green (2 minutes), Yellow (5 minutes MINIMUM) etc.

Our game and the enjoyment of our Wednesday Masters (AKA Slow Motion Hockey) will be the better for it.

Neil Mannolini (aging umpire)”

What The Rules Say: In view of Neil’s, Ken’s, and other comments Rules 9.12 and 9.13 in full are:

Rule 9.12: “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.”

A stationary player receiving the ball is permitted to face in any direction.

A player with the ball is permitted to move off with it in any direction except bodily into an opponent or into a position between the ball and an opponent who is within playing distance of the ball and attempting to play it.

A player who runs in front of or blocks an opponent to stop them legitimately playing or attempting to play the ball is obstructing (this is third party or shadow obstruction). This also applies if an attacker runs across or blocks defenders (including the goalkeeper or player with goalkeeping privileges) when a penalty corner is being taken.

Rule 9.13: “Players must not tackle unless in a position to play the ball without body contact.”

Rather than occupy the middle of the fence (as usual?) I have come to the personal conclusion that if an offence warrants a card, then a card should be given. As I recall having written before in “Masters Matters” (January 2013) Argyle Downs station is not actually at stake and crunching tackles and heavy bumps should not in my opinion be a normal part of Wednesday Masters.

Quotable Quote No 1: “A newspaper consists of just the same number of words, whether there be any news in it or not.” Henry Fielding 1707 to 1754.

3rd April - Game One - Wanted to Buy: One hit, please contact the newsletter editor.

3rd April – Game Three - Wanted to Buy: One hit, please contact the newsletter editor

Comebacks: April 3rd featured many returns - not least some gentlemen on Turf 2 in the O/60s who were wearing helmets and pads. One theory I have heard advanced is that John Burt needed some game time before the Australian teams go to Japan in May. Other happy returns during the month of April included Dudley Younger in the stands (and bar), having come back from his operation in good shape. Rusty Phillips also made it to Bentley on 10th April. When do the on-field comebacks begin?

Despite April 10th exceeding 36 degrees the O/60s attracted no fewer than 7 goalkeepers. I'm informed that Tony Marshall decided not to play, but the rest all took to the turfs. I then realised that the Saturday season was due to start on 13th April and it appeared that the peak union body of O/60s GKs had decreed that some match practice would be a good idea.

It was terrific to see Eric Alcock back with us on April 24th. Only 3 games I trust?

Punology Part 1: A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran. *(Both Ian Lyon and Roger Partington - and nothing to do with Anzac Day)*

WHM Goes To Bunbury: The reference to Banjo Patterson's "Geebung Polo Club" in the last issue needs a little clarification. Other than it being a description of a metropolitan sporting team going to the country for a fixture there is no other parallel except for the line, "And he struck at goal - and missed it." As far as I know none of us followed this with "then he tumbled off and died." If missing shots at goal were to prove fatal in future, a new editor of "Masters Matters" will be required.

Lost and Found: Lost, during celebrations for the new year of 2013, the secret of winning O/60s wine raffles. Finder please return to Ivan Wilson or John Mercer. *(Only one win each for 2013)*

Department Of Limericks: I had every intention of giving the goalkeepers a rest this issue. But
It was 65s I'd gone to play
And a tap in was coming my way
Keeper Colin the wretch
Made a dive at full stretch
And scored his first goal for the day.

It just goes to show that goalkeepers will do anything to stop forwards from scoring - even to the extent of whacking it firmly into the backboard. My apologies to Col Benporath for my rhyme to stretch - but there do not seem to be very many alternatives in the dictionary.

Wine Winners For 2nd Quarter: The Blue team are doing just as badly on the field as my Electric Blues but thanks to Ham D'Souza's 4 consecutive wins they lead the wine ladder. The full table is Blue (5), Red (4), Gold (3), Electric Blue (2), White and past players (1). Have the Green team been banned from the bar - hence their improved hockey results and their total lack of wine wins in Q2.

Impertinent Question: Are any of our coaches on the same substance(s) as James Hird? Does this mean that a drug has now been discovered which improves coaching performance?

Strange But True: Is it just a coincidence that following the departure of Roger Partington and Ken Walter from the Water Authority the Wellington St main has decided to burst (literally) into life - not just once but 3 times?

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Here is the answer to last issue's question which was: During his career, how many goals did Brian Glencross score? Was it 14, 24, 34, or 44? The answer was 34 - and you would not guess who gave me a correct verbal answer on Turf 2. Rusty Phillips! This issue's question: Who scored the most goals for Australia, Ron Riley or Jim Irvine? Answer next issue.

Another Retiring Type: Immediately following the last MM the news was circulated that Derek Hoad had announced his retirement from hockey. I still remember my first game of WHM, in which the first bloke to introduce himself said "G'day, I'm Derek." We were team mates in the successful Blue team for some years. DH, you will be missed both on and off the turf. Best wishes for lawn bowls.

Picturesque Speech: "All's fair in love and war" goes the old saying. I suggest that an amendment is required to: "All's fair in love and war and business and sport." As sport has now become show business this could be used to justify all the drugs and outrageous behaviour.

They Said It: Ken Walter filled in for the Electric Blues on April 24th and after we scored a goal said "I passed it three times in that passage of play - editor please note." OK Kenny - despite being tempted I did not include this item under the heading "Strange but True."

Quotable Quote #2: "We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for I have no idea." W. H. Auden.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: On 3rd April the newsletter editor had the misfortune (somebody noticed!) to be asked in the Stadium bar what he was doing on Turf 2 without a hockey stick. I cannot recall the exact response made at the time, but Jim Wright then asked me how this dummy spit would appear in "Masters Matters." Since then the subconscious has been working overtime on what I should have said. The possibilities have included:

- 1) Didn't realise I'd lost it.
- 2) It was useless dead weight that was just slowing me down.
- 3) Spectators are not required to have a stick.
- 4) Wet day wasn't it?

For those who are not sure what all this is about please refer to the "Wanted to Buy" ads on Page 4.

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department: "The first half of life consists of the capacity to enjoy without the chance, the last half consists of the chance without the capacity." Mark Twain.

Punology Part 2: Did you hear about the insomniac, dyslexic, agnostic? He used to lie awake all night trying to decide if there was a dog.

Shakespeare Said It: I have often wondered whether the court reporters at Elizabeth I's regime were like our Canberra press gallery. Why else would he use the title: "Much Ado About Nothing."

Dates For The Diary:

May 1st: Wednesday Masters at Melville. Farewell for Derek Hoad.

May 26th: Closure date for June "Masters Matters".

June 5th: Barbecue at the Stadium.

July 3rd: Barbecue at the Stadium.

July 10th: Wednesday Masters at Melville.

July 17th: Wednesday Masters at ?

September 25th: Masters Nationals - Sydney.

October 2nd: Masters Nationals - Sydney.

Poets' Corner: Thanks to Stan Salazaar for this one. It speaks for itself.

An umpire stood at the heavenly gate

His face was scarred and old

He stood before the man of fate

For admission to the fold.

"What have you done", St Peter said

"To gain admission here?"

"I've umpired hockey, Sir" he said

"For many and many a year."

The pearly gate swung open wide

St Peter touched the bell

"Come in and choose your harp" he said

"You've had your share of hell."

Department of Corrections: Was our proof-reader on his best behaviour last issue? No complaints were received - just responses, which is the general intention.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: This one was generated when Ham D'Souza won the wine raffle in three consecutive April weeks. Out of sympathy for him having been concussed on 13th April I was not sure that it should be printed. Then on April 24th the 4th ticket out (and sighted by "Masters Matters") read "Ham again." Some Wednesday Masters used to accuse me of winning all the time, but I cannot ever recall anything like the success currently being enjoyed by H D'S. So for the thirsty:

We're worried about Ham D'Souza

We think he's becoming a boozier

He keeps winning more wine

Could this be by design

Or quite simply that I'm a bad loser.

Stop Press: Many thanks to all the April umpires (at Perry Lakes too). Those I have noted included Bala Chandran, Lionel David, Ric Denny, Peter Ford, Vern Gooch, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, Howard Read, Barry Rutter, Neil Scaddan, and Ken Watt. Past players I noted in the Stadium bar were Stu Calder, Jeff Godfrey, John Sanders, and George Winning. Sorry if I missed you.

April 13th 2013 - Wednesday Masters O/65s at Perry Lakes



The First Of Many : The verdict of all who attended the first day's play was very favourable, as was that of the "Masters Matters" scribe who observed. The WA Masters website now includes some photographs (thank you Peter Fogels) of the preliminaries in the lead up to the action - but unfortunately not of the social action which followed. Our reporter claims that he had to go and make up the numbers so that some young gentlemen could have a game.

The second week appeared to have been just as successful - I turned up as a spare player / umpire and found that the queue for umpiring was a long one. The play consists of 4 quarters of 18 minutes each (to allow for changes of umpires and players) and is definitely in the right spirit. There is also plenty of variety in the match-ups - you will not have the same opponent all day or every week. April 20th even managed to generate a limerick for this publication, albeit with a lot of help from a goalkeeper - see Page 4.

Travellers Beware: I've now read the story of Howard Read's long absence from our Wednesday hockey. Deep vein thrombosis struck last August 12th, at a time when many of us were arriving in Oxford. I'll spare readers all the gory details of Howard's time in Charlie's emergency department, but his advice is eminently repeatable:

If you have a sore calf muscle, particularly after flying or hockey, if there is no reason tell the doctor. Exercise your legs in your airline seat, walk around every two hours, and wear compression stockings or skins for flights over five hours.

(Dagger - how did you get on with the same problem, and how did you discover you had it? Ed.)

Happy Birthday: This one almost passed us by - as the 70th birthday celebrant claimed he was not hiding; just had been taken to Sydney as a birthday treat. In any case many happy returns to our Wednesday Masters Treasurer Brian "Spider" Lester.

A Guide Around WA Vets Web-Site: This site (<http://wavets.org>) has the following headings:

WA Mens and Womens State Teams: All the archives from 2001 to 2012.

Social Competitions: Our info is under "Wednesday Hockey Fixtures and News". Headings are:

Wednesday Hockey Fixtures and Points Table

PHS Wednesday 50s (*fixtures*)

PHS Wednesday 60s (*fixtures*)

PHS Wednesday 60s Points Table

Wednesday Masters News

The latest news of interest (*outside "Masters Matters"*)

Wednesday Hockey Newsletters

All back issues of "Masters Matters"

Wednesday Masters Photos

Photos 2012 (Christmas party)

Photos 2013 (Peter Hammond farewell / Day 1 O65s NEW)

Masters Hockey Publications: Masters State Selection Policy 2013 (NEW)

Masters League Rules 2013 (NEW)

News of Interest to Masters: To contact web-master Peter Fogels with news for the site.

And all this is "**Sponsored by Pete F**" - thank you.

Reader Contribution: More from John Halley's collection of actual newspaper headlines - grouped together under the title "Why I Still Read The Newspaper."

"Statistics Show That Teen Pregnancy Drops Off Significantly After Age 25."

"Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons."

"Marijuana Issue Sent To A Joint Committee."

"Homicide Victims Rarely Talk To Police."

"17 Remain Dead In Morgue Shooting Spree."

"Worker Suffers Leg Pain As Crane Drops 800 Pound Ball On His Head."

"Bridges Help People Cross Rivers."

"City Unsure Why The Sewer Smells."

"Study Shows Frequent Sex Enhances Pregnancy Chances."

"Meeting On Open Meetings Is Closed."

Reader Contribution: And also from John Halley these anagrams. As a crossword addict I like them.

Presbyterian: Best in prayer.

Astronomer: Moon starrer.

Desperation: A rope ends it.

The eyes: They see.

All news and other contributions to:

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