

Wednesday Hockey Masters Perth Est 1991

A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Red

C White

Masters Matters

Guide To Important Stuff: Where to find what you might need to know:

Dates For The Diary: This page.

Departments of Health: This page.

O/65s news: Page 5.

Goalkeepers anonymous: Page 6.

Hockey Players - A User's Guide: Pages 7 and 8. A contribution from Queensland.

Department of Health Part One: For some reason this issue includes several references to health. It is very disconcerting to see one's direct opponent go off in an ambulance after suffering chest pains, and we were all very relieved when we heard that Roger Jewell had been treated successfully, and would be back playing again a little later this year. (*See Part Two*)

As a follow on from the last issue, our own defibrillator has now been purchased and was on show at Perry Lakes on May 17th. I am thankful to report that it was not required to be used. For those who did not see John Ree's demonstration, ours also issues verbal instructions.

Department of Health Part Two: These we know about. Hope not too many more. Get well soon.

Bob Bowyer: Only just back from a knee replacement, and strained a hamstring on May 21st. It must be time for the WHM Lotto syndicate to have a big win.

Roger Jewell: For those who do not know, Roger departed the Stadium on May 7th by ambulance having suffered alarming symptoms during a game. Defibrillation was not required, but he has been fitted with a couple of stents, with another one or two to go. Despite this he was at the Stadium as an observer for the O/70s trials on May 14th, and plans to be back in action in a couple of months.

Derek Jobe: Has been good enough to host the 'Masters Matters' editor to a morning tea recently. Looks and sounds amazingly well, and has become a TV personality recently with the story featuring on 'Today Tonight' shown on May 19th and being prominently advertised in the West. Quite a lot was clarified for me by the broadcast - including the thought that perhaps Derek might have looked really old on the day of the drama. This does not apply normally. Many of us have thought how very amazing it was that everything and everybody were definitely in the right place at the right time.

Peter Livingstone: Has had dinner and a drink or two (first since the operation?) with John Halley and Janet. If not already under way I'm sure that the recovery process has now begun. PL was sighted behind the wheel, so the replaced knee must be able to connect to the lead foot.

Ken Watt: According to our informant, went for a 'flu vaccination. Got pneumonia as a consequence, and now has to endure a gall bladder operation. The Reds need you badly Ken; come back soon.

Ric Watts: Still has infection in the problem knee. Some more medical work required.

Peter Williamson: Investigating various surgery options. Is hoping to make a social Stadium visit in the near future. Maybe Peter and Derek could consult, and make it a joint visit.

Dates For The Diary:

May 28th, June 4th, June 11th: All play on PHS 2 - 'A' and 'B' 2:00 to 4:00, 'C' from 4:00 to 5:30.

May 31st to June 15th 2014: World Cup (Men and Women). Kyogera Stadium - The Hague.

June 5th to 13th 2014: World Cup Men (40s, 45s, 50s, and 55s) Rotterdam Hockey Club.

June 5th to 13th 2014: World Cup Women (40s, 50s, and 60s) Rotterdam Hockey Club.

June 3rd to 13th 2014: World Cup Men (60s, 65s, 70s, 75s) Club Klein Switzerland - The Hague.

September 27th to October 11th 2014: Interstate Masters Championships in Perth.

Letters To The Editor: Thanks to the respondents to the last issue; Eric Alcock, Peter Hammond, John Milner, and Derek Jobe.

Peter H says (in part): "Just one little thing however ... it's funny how soon you are forgotten. Can I remind you that I was one of the original Blue team. Somehow my name has slipped off the page." *Sorry about the omission - do we have any more readers who were in the original WHM game?* Peter adds - "I look like being down for a short time in June."

John M comments on our weekly whistlers: "May I add my commendations to our volunteer umpires who officiate each week, not withstanding 'constructive' criticism." (*Saturdays too - Ed.*)

Department Of Limericks: Last issue we reported on the impending purchase of a defibrillator by WHM, and a demonstration of such devices by our playing paramedic. As so often occurs, once something is drawn to one's attention, actual events decide to keep it there.

A good show of de-fib by John Ree

But I thought "This won't happen to me"

Since then Roger Jewell

Has required heart renewal

And I've had a stress ECG.

(*Without any negative findings - Ed.*)

Rules 'R' Us: A couple of positive comments were received after our inclusion of the obstruction rule last issue - so I went for some more rules from **Section 9: Conduct of Play - Players:**

Rule 9.8: "Players must not play the ball dangerously, or in a way which leads to dangerous play.

A ball is considered dangerous if it leads to legitimate evasive action by players.

The penalty is awarded where the action causing the danger took place."

(*In other words, the free hit is taken where the ball nearly took the forward's head off rather than where the full back teed off - Ed.*)

Rule 9.9: "Players must not intentionally raise the ball from a hit except for a shot at goal.

A raised hit must be judged explicitly on whether or not it is raised intentionally. It is not an offence to raise the ball unintentionally from a hit, including a free hit, anywhere on the field unless it is dangerous. If the ball is raised over an opponent's stick or body on the ground, even within the circle, it is permitted unless judged to be dangerous.

Players are permitted to raise the ball with a flick or scoop provided it is not dangerous. A flick or scoop towards an opponent within 5 metres is considered dangerous. If an opponent is clearly running into the shot or into the opponent without attempting to play the ball with their stick they should be penalised for dangerous play."(Don't remember seeing that one too often - Ed.)

Rule 9.11: "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 in this way.

It is not an offence if the ball hits the hand holding the stick, but would otherwise have hit the stick". (Interesting - any un-penalised foot stop would be sure to generate plenty of on-field comment. As an umpire I tend to blow those where possession of the ball was only gained by the use of the foot, while a stick stop where the ball just brushes the foot is OK. What do readers think? Ed.)

Editorial: Following on from our tribute to the Secretary last issue, Bob has managed to lighten the workload to some extent. Colin Gee (Captain Gold 'A's) has volunteered to take over the care and maintenance of our WHM data base. The work and responsibilities now are:

All changes of email, phone number are to go to Col Gee via team captains.

New player registrations all to be handled by Col. The 'B' and 'C' divisions will be co-ordinated by Dave Evans, who will pass them on to CG. 'A' division will be handled by Colin directly.

Brian (Spider) Lester as Treasurer will accept all non-internet banking payments and continue to supervise the WHM accounts.

Bob Bowyer will continue to manage the payments records.

This should be a case of many hands making light work. Ed.

Department of Hard Luck: Commiserations to Paul Robinson, who has had to cancel his entire European trip, including the World Cup, due to personal family reasons.

Quotable Quote No 1: "Quit worrying about your health, it'll go away." Robert Orben (born 1927). American professional comedy writer who also wrote speeches for Gerald Ford.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: A more complete version of this story can be found on Page 8.

Peter Murray a tackle applied

Successfully, from the wrong side

But Paul got the hit

Caused a huge dummy spit

Now we know hockey sticks cannot glide.

Punology One: The standard abbreviation for our new defibrillator is de-fib. Perhaps it should be made absolutely clear that this does not mean lie detector.

Comebacks: My notes have indicated that there were not many returns in May. Peter Hearne played again on May 21st - a good turf tune-up just before The Hague.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Herewith the answer to last issue's question which was:

In the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul an Australian player scored 8 goals over the seven matches contested. Was it a) Colin Batch b) Mark Hager c) Neil Hawgood or d) Jay Stacy?

Nobody attempted an answer, indicating that John has managed to chalk up two wins in a row. The scorer of 8 Seoul goals was Mark Hager. ***(Stop Press - Rusty Phillips: "My gut feel is Mark Hager!")***

This issue's question is: The 3rd edition of the Champion's trophy was held in January 1981. Which of these statements is NOT true:

- a) Despite scoring 5 goals we lost to the Netherlands 5-7.
- b) The competition was held in Bombay (Mumbai).
- c) Ric Charlesworth scored in four of the five matches played.
- d) Australia scored 2 or more goals in each match.

Answer next issue.

Quotable Quote #2: "Water, taken in moderation, cannot hurt anybody." Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

O/65s Bad News: After a count on May 17th it was decided that numbers were insufficient to continue the O/65s during the World Cup in The Hague. The club O/60s is likely to be short of players too, and anybody who really must have a game will be able to fill in. However there is a general bye on May 31st, and despite the YMCA bar not being open it may be possible to find the numbers for a run - if you are interested refer to Bob Bowyer's email dated May 20th.

O/65s Better News: It is very seldom that I ever offer hockey advice, but if you would like to play in the winning team at Perry Lakes I can tell you how to do it. All that is required is to ascertain which team I'm playing in, and make sure that you play for the other one. This will ensure that your side dominates the play and scores all the goals. Just lately this seems to apply on Wednesdays also.

Where Are They Now: It's been good to see Peter Kennedy in the media. He made both the Nine News (Anzac run on 10th April) and The West (Run for a Reason May 26th). If a world record should eventuate I hope that Masters Matters could publicise the fact. Of course those of us fortunate enough to be still playing hockey are in a Run for a Reason every time we set foot on a field.

Reader Contribution: Many thanks to Lloyd Jones for this one, and my apologies for my lack of acknowledgement of several reader submissions. Even with the best of intentions I usually cannot include them immediately - and set them aside for a rainy day, which does not always eventuate.

Where I've Been :

I have been in many places but I've never been in Cahoots.

Apparently you can't go alone, you have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear that no one recognises you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport, you have to be driven there.

I have made several trips, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions.

But you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity any more.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense. It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart. At my age I need all the stimuli I can get.

I may have been in Continent, and I don't remember what country I was in. It's an age thing.

Today is one of the many National Mental Health Days throughout the year. You can do your bit by remembering to send an email to at least one unstable person. My job is done. Life is too short for negative drama and petty things. So laugh insanely, love truly, & forgive quickly. From one unstable person to another ... I hope everyone is happy in your head ... we're all doing pretty good in mine.

May Workers: Thanks all. Umps ('A') - Eric Alcock, Bala, Alan Chapman, Peter Ford, Col Gee, Ian Hill, Peter Hearne, Dave Horsley, John Mercer, John Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Gordon Thomas, and Ivan Wilson. ('B') and ('C'): Not known - but thanks anyway. Cooks: Gordon Thomas, Jim Wright.

Shakespeare Said It: "A Jest's prosperity lies in the ear of him that hears it, never in the tongue of him that makes it." Love's Labours Lost Act V Scene II. *Sound advice for newsletter editors. Ed.*

Goalkeepers Unanimous



Left to right: As these gentlemen are often unrecognised (“Who was that masked man?”), for the benefit of those few who need it, they are Barry Rutter, Graeme Samson and John Burt. Between them this trio have generated many more sentiments of “Curses, foiled again” than scores of silent movies of bygone days. Personally I’ve never used those words - just expressed a similar sentiment many more times than I care to remember.

Goalkeepers and Masters Matters: It seems to be almost impossible for these players to stay out of the newsletter. Even when attempting to include a photograph of Derek with the rescuers the field of view expanded - and also picked out two keepers. I have been unable to keep (*sorry*) them out of a third limerick this issue, where they again are present in numbers.

Ross Easton drove up in his rocket
Took his key and proceeded to lock it
When he wanted to go
The keys were no show
Barry R had them safe in his pocket.

To expand a little on this, Barry found the keys shortly after Ross mislaid them, but the pressures of play got in the way, and he kept them in a safe place for later. Memory kicked in only when Simon made the announcement in the bar. It’s understandable the goalkeepers sometimes have a hard time trying to communicate with one another - they are a long way apart. I think some kind of a common thread is emerging - this is the second limerick featuring Barry and car keys.

Hockey Players - A User's Guide: Thank you Gil Voysey for this piece. Players in WA and Queensland must be similar except for the stronger wrists generated by bending all those bananas. *The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor - and possibly not those of Gil either.*

1. Goalkeepers - Two distinct types

1.1 The antisocial misfit who never wanted to play team sports anyway. Tends to have a low opinion of defenders and, rather than issuing helpful commands from his 'D', moans loudly every time the defence looks like letting one through. He only plays in goal because of the pleasure he takes from preventing others from scoring and thereby enjoying themselves.

Telltale sign: Wears his mask at half time.

1.2 The extrovert show-off. He spends a lot of time diving and sliding about. Has a tendency to play near the top of the circle because he wants to feel part of things. He is as likely to tackle his own defender in the 'D' on any spurious pretext as he is to mow down an attacker. Shouts a lot and gesticulates wildly, often at people at the other end of the pitch. Becomes moody and irritable when his defenders are on top and he has nothing to do.

Telltale sign: Spends more time on the ground than standing up - even during the warm-up.

All goalies, of whatever type, are inherently incapable of being at fault when a goal is scored, the mere fact of a goal-scoring opportunity being proof positive that the defence is solely to blame.

2. Defenders

Characterised by a strong hit, every defender's secret desire is to main an onrushing forward with a pressure-relieving bullet that comes off the ground at about ankle height. The actual destination of the ball, if it missed ankle or shin, is secondary. Defenders regard their point made when attackers back off nervously upon their getting the ball. When things go wrong defenders blame the midfield, either for not coming back to help, or for coming back to help, and thereby pushing others out of their position (details of this position argument are usually hazy).

Defenders like to be seen as players who can keep their heads and calm things down when all around them are panicking. It is estimated that 60% of goals scored are as a direct result of defenders trying to look calmly in control instead of just getting rid of the ball.

Telltale sign: Secretly admires authority figures.

3. Midfielders

Midfielders have to carry a heavy burden; they have to be able to play hockey, which, involving the close and skilful control of a small ball with a ludicrously shaped stick, at speed, on a fast surface, is understandably difficult. Their mastery of these arts gives them an air of superiority and they have a tendency to become insufferable. They are obsessed by pushing, stroking and passing the ball instead of just hitting it like everyone else. They drone on endlessly about concepts like "width" (they don't apparently realise that hockey pitches come in a standard size), "shape" and "pattern" and other hopelessly cerebral dribble.

Defenders merely put up with midfielders and regard them at best as in the way, preferring to try and hit the forwards directly rather than route it through these dubious types in the middle of the pitch. Midfielders are socially awkward, much to the relief of everyone else.

Telltale sign: When suggesting what's wrong at half time they seem to be talking about an entirely different sport.

/8

4. Forwards

There are two types to watch out for, wingers and real forwards:

4.1 Wingers are a sub-breed, who are surprised to learn that the white spherical object is not just something to be chased out of play but should ideally be stopped & given to someone else wearing the same colour shirt. Wingers treat the game as an excuse to run up and down the touchline with a stick in their hands, chasing things and wagging their tails, interrupted occasionally by the whistle. Telltale sign: Loyal, enthusiastic, requires plenty of exercise and fresh water.

4.2 Real forwards are egotistical mercenaries who will do anything (yes, anything) for the glory. Moody and unpredictable, they spend most of the time striking heroic poses or standing, hands on hips, staring back disbelieving at the utter shambles behind them. Rarely very fit compared with the midfield, they hate running and only do it in short bursts as a last resort, far preferring to see someone take it to the goal-line and cut it back to the top of the 'D' where they will arrive belatedly to smash it in and acknowledge the acclaim of the multitude.

Forwards spend a lot of time optimistically attempting and failing to effect a minute deflection to a hit towards them, onto which they can latch. Success or failure is of course entirely random, but the head-clutching when it goes wrong and the smug pride when it just happens to fall right gives us a clear insight into the deep personal inadequacies of forwards. Forwards rarely try to score with anything than a full-blooded hit, so that the speed and venom of the ball will distract everyone from their essential lack of directional control, or at the very least hurt someone.

Telltale sign: Has a deep need to be admired combined with very little reason to be.

*I was strongly tempted to add: **5 The Rest of Us**, but as you can see managed to resist. As I would claim characteristics of both 4.1 and 4.2 the categories obviously have no personal relevance. Ed.*

Dummy Spit Of The Day: A brilliant reverse stick tackle by Peter Murray on Paul Robinson was penalised by the umpire - a clear case of Rule 2 ("If the umpire is wrong refer to Rule 1" which states that he is always right). This instigated general shedding of sticks all over the field in a mass protest which would not have been out of place on the streets of Bangkok, especially as one of the teams involved was the Reds. From where I observed even the umpire appeared to enjoy the show.

Grumpy People Department: I am in the process of discovering why so many older people are so grumpy. Indigestion and sciatica simultaneously are an unpleasant combination - my apologies to any umpire who may have received a few words from me during this period.

Punology Two: The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered. (*Anon*)

Department of Corrections: Our apologies to any devotees of English who were offended by the tautology which appeared in the last issue. Triple 000 results in nine zeros, doesn't it?

Stop Press: Bob Bowyer appeared again in the West's 'Letters to the Editor' on May 26th. Obviously his reduced workload (see Page4) has generated some spare time.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - 'A' Reds. Email: johnmerc@iinet.net.au

Back again at some time in July.