

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 I think you might need to know:

Dates For The Diary: This page.

Department of Health: This page.

Whistle While You Work - Rule 9.11: Page 3.

The French Letter: Page 4.

Perth tournament WHM head count: Page 5.

Editorial: Our two competitions (Wednesdays and Saturdays) have gone into temporary recess for the duration of the Perth tournament. Best wishes to all WHM players involved as you all renew old rivalries on the turf and old friendships afterwards. Have a good rest to those who have not made it into a team, or have been unable to play due to other reasons. I trust that we will all be back in October ready to start enjoying some warmer weather in the lead-up to the Christmas party, and whatever 2015 has in store for our various competitions.

There have been a couple of queries about the WHM points table, like do we still have one? The committee have decided that the George Winning Trophy is to be awarded to the winner of the 'A' Division and the table is still being maintained, though suspended while the Red side has been temporarily dissolved so that the State 70sB can play as a team. To see how this went I maintained a ladder for this period (from August 27th onwards). Both tables can be found on Page 7.

Department of Health: Good luck to all of you trying to recover for (and from) the tournament. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery in time to take part in a home event.

Commiserations go to Graeme Sansom, who has had to bypass the entire tournament for family reasons. We all hope that a happy outcome eventuates.

Bill Baldwin will also miss out, having done a hamstring at Bunbury training. Hard luck team-mate.

Commiserations also go to Marty Greay, who has had medical advice that retirement from hockey is compulsory. Hopefully we'll see you for an occasional after-match at PHS and Perry Lakes.

Ham D'Souza has probably been through enough in the last 12 months, including missing the Hobart tournament with a last-minute broken collar-bone, but is now receiving heart treatment too. He still intends to play in Perth - best of luck.

Past player Ian Sills has recently been through a heart valve replacement, and has now begun the process of recovery. Hope to see you at the Stadium again Sillsy, when you're fit enough.

Dates For The Diary:

October 15th: Wednesday hockey resumption - for those who are fit enough.

October 25th: WHM Saturday summer competition starts at Perry Lakes.

May 2nd to May 10th 2015: Trans Tasman in Melbourne. Ages 35 to 65 only.

August 2015: European Championships - London. Southern Cross will be there - 60s, 65s and 70s.

October 2015: Asian Cup - Kuala Lumpur. Southern Cross 60s likely to attend.

2016: Next Grand Masters (O/60s and higher) World Cup - Newcastle (the Australian one).

2016: Next Masters (O/40s to O/55s) World Cup - Canberra.

Quotable Quote No 1: "My parents had only one argument in forty-five years. It lasted forty-three years." Cathy Ladman - American comedian born 1955. *Reminds me of the line from Oscar Wilde on a similar topic: "He was a man of peace, except in his domestic life."*

Letters To The Editor: Thanks to the respondents to the last issue; Bill Baldwin, Ken Dyer, Neil Mannolini, Peter Murray and Ian Purdie. Thanks also to John (Jack?) Halley for responding to the previous issue with a rhyme on on the temporary re-allocation of players in the tournament lead-up. See more on Page 4.

Ken Dyer: "I will not have the pleasure of seeing you later this month as I will be in Florida at a family wedding. Play well and score heavily." *This applies to almost all of us I think - goalkeepers excepted.*

Whistle While You Work with Manno. A Look at Rule 9.11:

We all know that "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 he (or she) voluntarily uses his (or her) hand, foot or body to play the ball or if he (or she) positions himself (or herself) with the intention of stopping the ball in this way."

Intention is the key word.

The problem in some instances is knowing when there is intention. Umpires cannot read minds. There seems to be no problem when the ball hits the foot of a defender in the circle and a penalty corner is always awarded. This applies at all levels. No doubt because of the fact that because of their sheer presence in the circle the defenders are there to prevent a goal being scored.

Umpires are also reminded (under Rule 2.2) that it is not necessary for every offence to be penalised when no benefit is gained by the offender. The advantage rule 12.1: "A penalty is only awarded when a player or team has been disadvantaged by an opponent breaking the rules."

Therefore umpires should never blow the whistle 'immediately' ... consider what happens next.

The only time you blow immediately is when it happens in the circle and this is to prevent any hasty or possibly dangerous action on the part of any player.

Let's all enjoy our umpiring. Neil Mannolini

(Thank you Neil. This makes it clear that not every slight contact between and foot must be blown; and also makes it clear that breaches of the rules only need to be penalised when an advantage is gained from them. It is not desirable that the side awarded a free hit is disadvantaged thereby. Ed.)

Pertinent Question: This segment has been revived following a recent post match conversation. We all know that the player closest to the landing location of an overhead must be given 5 metres room to control the ball. The question was asked, what if this is the attacking circle, and a forward is about to receive the ball from an overhead pass with the only possible challenger being the goalkeeper. Is it a requirement for the forward to be given space to control the ball onto the ground as per Rule 9.10? And what is the penalty should the goalkeeper breach this rule? Based on the penalty stroke rule (12.4) which we included in the July issue, it appears that it should be a penalty stroke. *On-line searches have not been helpful - reader contributions are sought.*

Quotable Quote No 2: "Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional." *Thanks to Roger Jewell for suggesting this quote. When I searched for the origin I discovered that it has been attributed to so many different people that the source is impossible for me to identify.*

Shakespeare Said It: "Four rogues in buckram let drive at me." Henry IV Part I, Act I Scene IV. *Any hockey forward describes the opposition defence at the end of a match. It's only four as most vets defences contain at least one gentleman, who does not believe in letting drive at anybody.*

Player Re-allocation: As all the 'A' division are aware the Red team has been temporarily dissolved to allow the second WA O70s to play as a team. Sides have lost their state players, and gained a few refugees from the Reds. John Halley (White team) offered this all the way from New York.

A fond farewell to Scotty and Ash
You've given the Whites quite some dash
Now Bala, Robin and John
Must do all the work from now on
Or "Horse" will bring out the lash.
Go the Whites!

Apologies to JH - this should have been in the September issue, but got lost among the emails.

Department Of Limericks Part 1: I have previously mentioned the danger that 'Masters Matters' will become a source of information for just one of our three divisions. It is hard to believe that dummies are never spat on Turf 2, that umpires are never verbally challenged and that nothing of real interest ever happens in the 'B' or 'C' divisions because it's all so dull. We don't even receive any anonymous correspondence, let alone a few blistering Letters to the Editor because we never mention the 'B' or 'C' divisions. Everybody must be happy - perhaps even more so as they don't feature here.

Our age groups on Wednesdays are three
Right now we have 'A' 'B' and 'C'.
But here in this rag
This divide hits a snag
For the 'A' grade is all that you'll see.

The French Letter No 2: Another bulletin from our foreign correspondent - covering a few travels since his return to Europe. He makes me envious, even though winter is approaching over there.

"Hi guys. I hope you are all continuing to enjoy your hockey as well as each other's company - and the odd beer or two. I'm disappointed at being able to be there for the National, but I wish everyone involved, both players and helpers, a great and successful tournament.

Life has been hectic here with garden maintenance as well as cleaning up the house once lived in by Joelle's Dad. This has meant frequent 150 km round trips, not to mention all the work involved, but we are slowly getting on top of it.

In between all that we fitted in a lovely, but all too short trip to wonderful Venice. We had a lovely self-catering apartment only a 2 minute walk from the Piazza San Marco. As you can imagine we took a lot of photos and did a lot of walking I have enclosed a photo taken at sunset looking across the Grand Canal (*see Page 6*). We hope to return again one day.

There is still no action on the sale of our house but we live in hope.

Take care guys and continue to enjoy life."

Ian Purdie

Punology One: "Dear Algebra. Please stop asking us to help find your X. She's never coming back and don't ask Y."

WHM Tournament Numbers: As my WHM data base does not match the 'Masters Matters' mailing list and neither matches personal observation these figures should be considered approximate.

O/50 (2): WA (1)

O/55 (1): WA (7)

O/55 (2): WA (7)

O/60 (1): ACT (1), SA (3), WA (15), WAC (4)

O/65 (1): ACT (1), SA (4), TAS (2), WA (13), WAC (10)

O/70 (1): WA (16), WA 2 (13), WAC (10)

This adds up to 107 Wednesday Masters playing in the tournament, which is quite a good effort.

Quotable Quote No 3: "Part of the inhumanity of the computer is that, once it is competently programmed and working smoothly, it is completely honest." Isaac Asimov 1920 - 1992. Prolific author who wrote not only science fiction, but in many other genres, including limericks.

Grumpy Old Men Part Two: "The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds, the pessimist believes this to be true." *From The Silver Stallion 1926 by James Branch Cabell (1879 - 1958) - American author whose most famous (and risqué) work is 'Jurgen.'*

Department of Corrections: We must have done something wrong, as our readers have not yet pointed out any errors in the last issue, and neither has the editor. Perhaps there were no readers.

Well Dones: Thank you to September 'A' Division umpires Robin Bailey, Ken Beer, Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury, Bala Chandran, Ian Hill, Mal Jackaman, Roger Jewell, Trevor Kerr, Neil Mannolini, Roger Partington, Barry Rutter, Col Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Gordon Thomas, Les Waldon, Ken Watt, and Ivan Wilson. Thanks also to Peter Brien and assistants for Saturdays. I know nothing about the 'B' and 'C' division umpires, but at times have noticed Lionel David, Vern Gooch and John Lindsay in the bar looking as though they'd just umpired. Thanks to all the volunteer umpires, and any others who officiated on Turf 2 during the month.

Punology Two: To some ears (mine included), this one is an accurate description of most popular singers - for the last 60 years. "I break into song, if I can't find the key."

Towards More Picturesque Speech: Leonard Bernstein once praised a fellow conductor (Leonard Slatkin) in these words: "Man, your beat is so clear Helen Keller could follow it."

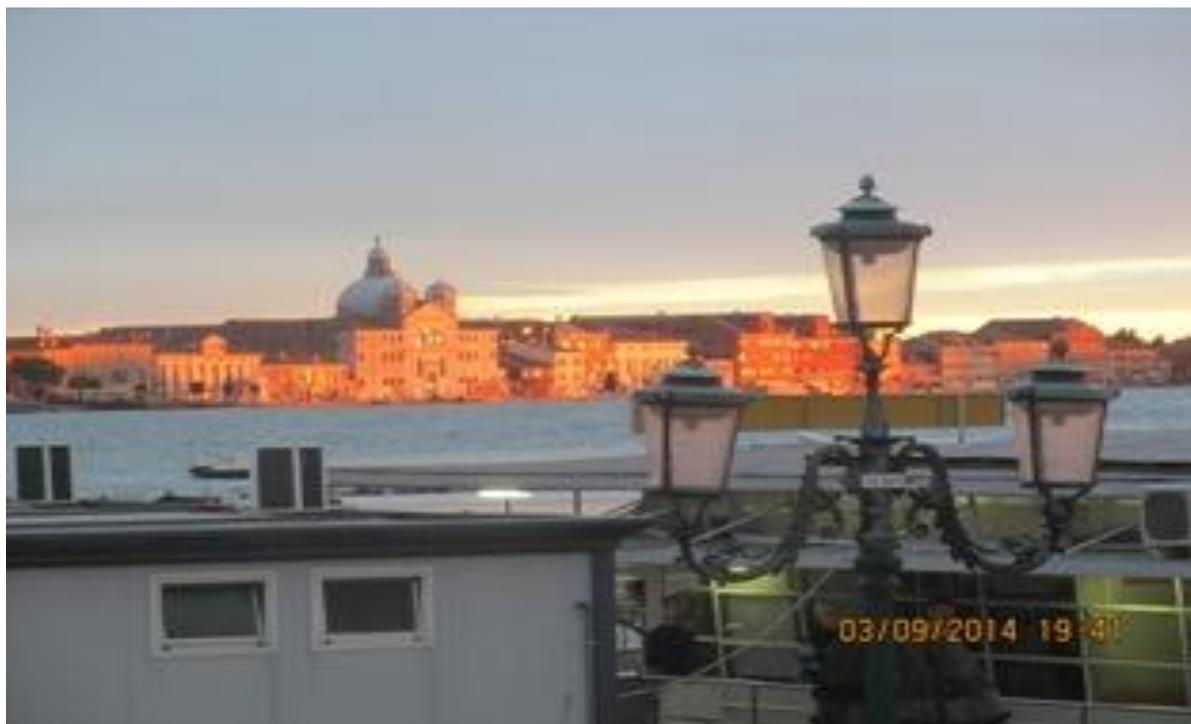
Comebacks: It was good to spot several former WHM players at PHS during the opening days of the tournament for the senior citizens (O/65s and O/70s). My failing memory managed to note Terry Armitage, Jim Boyce, Stuart Calder, Geoff Godfrey, Graham Kirkaldy, Ian Lyon, Peter Livingstone, Neil Mannolini, David Munt, Geoff Roberts, Ian Sutherland and Ric Watts.

Grumpy Old Men Part One: "The place where optimism most flourishes is the lunatic asylum." Havelock Ellis 1859 - 1939. British physician, writer and social reformer.

Usual Suspects: Isn't it great the way you catch up with all the same people at each tournament.

Sunset over Grand Canal Venice

Photo Ian Purdie



I do not intend to turn this into “Best Travel Picture”, and so have resisted the temptation to include more from Scotland. Next issue should feature the tournament, if I can ever remember my camera.

Happy Birthday To ... : We have made much of special birthdays recently, and ‘Masters Matters’ would like to re-assure any remaining readers that this was not done with the intention to solicit birthday beers in the Stadium bar. This is still the case even though one of our number has gone to extraordinary lengths to hide. I’m told that Rusty Phillips celebrates the big 70 in Tahiti this month. Thanks to Ken Beer, who bought for the multitudes on Saturday 20th September at Perry Lakes.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Herewith the answer to last issue’s question which was: In the 1995 Champion’s Trophy for men at the Olympia Stadium in Berlin Australia’s record was: a) L2 D2 W2 b) D2 L4 c) Drew all games d) W2 D4 L0 (*L loss, W Win D Draw*)
Rusty’s answer this month: “I’m not sure, but as it was during a period when Australia was in the top 4 world rankings I’ll say d) 2 wins and 4 draws.” *Right again! What do you think John - can we find a suitable award for Rusty to be presented at the Christmas Party?*
This issue’s question is: Who was the top goalscorer in the XX Olympic Games in Munich?
a) Brian Glencross b) Ric Charlesworth c) Ron Riley d) Jim Mason.
Answer next issue.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: The current rules state that any dummy parting company from its owner is to be sent to the Naughty Corner for re-unification. This hopefully means that no member of WHM will qualify to feature here for the duration of the tournament (*with the possible exception of Ivan*).

News From The Saturday O/65s: It’s still very close between Blue and White; they have not yet been separated on the points table which currently stands at 0-0. Play will resume in October.

'A' Division Points table From 2nd July to 20th August:

Red W (9) L (6) D (6) F (14) A (8) points (33)
 Blue W (7) L (6) D (8) F (10) A (11) points (29)
 Gold W (4) L (5) D (12) F (10) A (11) points (24)
 White W (5) L (8) D (8) F (9) A (13) points (23)

'A' Division Points table From 27th August to 24th September:

70sB W (7) L (2) D (3) F (7) A (3) points (24)
 Gold W (4) L (3) D (5) F (7) A (5) points (17)
 White W (5) L (5) D (2) F (8) A (7) points (17)
 Blue W (1) L (7) D (4) F (4) A (11) points (7)

English - Crazy Language: Eric Alcock actually sent two contributions on this topic, and we published the verse one last issue. Here is the prose version - thanks again EA.

Let's face it - English is a crazy language
 There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger
 Neither apple nor pine in pineapple
 English muffins weren't invented in England
 We take English for granted but if we explore its paradoxes,
 We find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square,
 And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
 And why is it that writers write, but fingers don't fing,
 Grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?
 Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend?
 If you have a a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them,
 What do you call it?
 If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
 If a vegetarian eats vegetables what does a humanitarian eat?
 Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English
 Should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.
 In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a recital?
 We ship by truck but send cargo by ship ...
 We have noses that run and feet that smell.
 We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway.
 And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,
 While a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?
 You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language
 In which your house can burn up as it burns down,
 In which you fill in a form by filling it out,
 And in which an alarm goes off by going on .
 And in closing

If Father is Pop, how come Mother's not Mop?

Reader Contribution: Thanks to our chairman for this chilling reminder of what lies in store for us. Country singer Willie Nelson, on his 80th birthday, allegedly puts his feelings succinctly into verse.

I Have Outlived My Pecker

My nookie days are over,
My pilot light is out.
What used to be my pride and joy
Is now my water spout.
Time was when, on its own accord
From my trousers it would spring.
But now I've got a full time job
To find the frigging thing
It used to be embarrassing
The way it would behave
For every single morning
It would stand and watch me shave
Now as old age approaches
It sure gives me the blues
To see it hang its little head
And watch me tie my shoes

Of course the author attributed this to Willie Nelson - who else on this topic? Ed.

An Optimist's View: Isaac Asimov has already featured in this issue under Quotable Quotes. He also created a small book of 100 lecherous limericks, and this one seems to fit perfectly here, as we sometimes attempt to accentuate the positive. Does anybody remember the Don Juan type whose ambition was to die at the age of 95; shot by a jealous husband.

Retirement

There was an old man of Belfast
Whose active sex life was so vast
He was glad he'd worked through
To a spry ninety-two
When his lust was declining at last.

Meeting of Minds?: As is usual during the post-match hospitality the game between WA 70s B and WA Country featured the exchange of presents. In keeping with the very salacious theme of this page two bottles of wine were labelled "Shag on a Rock" and "The Bonking Frog."

Back Issues: Thanks to our web master all editions of 'Masters Matters' are available online. Should you be unable to access an issue it can be accessed via the WA Vets site - www.wavets.org. On the home page under Social Competitions is "Wednesday Hockey Fixtures and News" and clicking onto this will allow you to access your desired edition - and as a bonus, the Wednesday fixtures too.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - WA Country O/70s (temporarily). Email: johnmercerc@inet.net.au.