

Wednesday Hockey Masters Perth Est 1991

A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

Masters Matters

Guide To Some Stuff: A partial list of what is where:

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Have Hockey Stick Will Travel: *Thanks to Robin Bailey for a proper Bunbury report.*

As mentioned in the last Masters matters, WHM put together a team to play against a Bunbury team of a similar age (over 60) on Sunday March 22. 7 players from the Wednesday A's and 3 from Wednesday B's comprised the WHM team with good support from wives, partners and girlfriends. One of the A's got caught up in the great Bike Hike traffic and as Bunbury had 13 players (including a significant number of Wednesday B players) we borrowed 2 of the Bunbury teams players. The addition of the B players resulted in the 3 games being closely matched and honours were even on the day. The goal of the day goes to Ken Beer, who (for whatever reason) decided not to have a direct shot at goal, but hit it in the opposite direction. The ball rebounded off a defender into the goal (see comment by John Mercer in the last MM). Obviously this technique is a new one and should be watched out for on Wednesdays. The games were played in a good spirit; with no real injuries (I hope you're walking OK Brian). Thanks to John Mercer for umpiring especially as he was only able to play 1 game. A BBQ and socialising concluded the day's activities, enabling people to either return to Perth immediately or enjoy the sights of the Bunbury region. Thanks to Rob McNab and the Bunbury people for organising the ground and BBQ and making the day so pleasant.

A similar trip is proposed for next year (not on the Great Bike Hike day). The team will again aim to be a combination of players from Wednesdays A and B teams, with hopefully an increased representation of B players. A non playing umpire would also be appreciated. Team selection will be based on the date of receipt of a nomination for the team (to either Robin Bailey or John Mercer) and limited to 12 players; the aim of the day is to have a good game in good company.

I should add that my few lines in the April issue were not intended to be improper. Ed.

Dates For The Diary:

May 6th: After match Sausage Sizzle.

August 21st to 28th 2015: European Championships - Southgate Hockey Centre North London.

September 26th to October 10th 2015: Interstate Masters Championships - Cairns.

October 26th to November 1st 2015: Asian Cup / Pac Rim TT - KL. Southern Cross 60s only.

May 3rd to 13th 2016: Grand Masters (O/60s and higher) World Cup - Newcastle, Australia.

March 29th to April 9th 2016: Masters (O/40s to O/55s) World Cup - Canberra.

State O/75s and O/70s: The World Cup now includes an O/75 age group and the national team is to be selected at the Cairns tournament for the Newcastle event in 2016. WA are seeking nominations for 70s and 75s and it is hoped to send two teams across both age groups to compete in the O/70s in Cairns. As Don Smart has had to withdraw as coach of the State 70s (*see Department of Health*) each team needs a coach and I hope that Bill Williamson does not have to manage both. Nominations for coach and players are now open (for all other age groups too). Questions should be addressed to Bill Campbell - Wednesday 'B' Gold team. Or try wmc.wamhc@inet.net.au.

Department of Health: I got one comment that this section can be a bit off-putting. Though when compared against the AFL list it's nothing much. We will all take longer to recover than they do.

Phil Anderson has injured the index finger on his writing hand (the left one) in a boat trailer accident. Many stitches (not quite plastic surgery) were required and he will not be back on the turf before his departure on a lengthy holiday. Peter Stevens has an ongoing ankle problem which seems as though it will keep him out of hockey indefinitely. David Lester has had some troubles, see Letters to the Editor. Roger Partington is now back from his cruise but the broken thumb is still healing. Bob Byers, John Mercer, Neil Patterson, and Paul Robinson (back from holiday) are currently not playing. Ken Walter commented on his ongoing problems that "I'm now on more drugs than Ben Cousins." Ian Pestana limped into the bar on the 29th, after playing. Is it now time to consult Roger Davey? John Jeffrey made it back on the 22nd, only to injure a muscle on the 29th. Bob Le Merle is in great shape after a double knee replacement; an operation also recently undergone by Don Smart.

From Masters Matters to all injured players: Get well soon and start all over again.

Grumpy Old Men Part One: "I would there were no age between ten and three and twenty, or that youth would sleep out the rest, for there is nothing in the between but getting wenches with child, wronging the ancientry, stealing, fighting" William Shakespeare from The Winter's Tale Act III Scene III. *We poor ancientry do not much like being wronged - neither do the rich ancientry.*

Department Of Limericks Part 1: Prompted by the news of the O/75s Cairns team nominations.

Some old folk can end up decayed

But Masters away do not fade

To play on with our mates

Against all other States

We add on a new older grade.

I personally think it's great. At last there again is something I'm too young for - Ed.

Letters To The Editor: Thanks to the respondents to the April issue: Mitch Eastman, David Lester, Jim Wright, Ken Beer, Bill Baldwin, Pam Herbert, Derek Jobe and George Winning (by phone). The high quality was maintained, as is shown by David Lester:

"Hi John. Just read with interest Newsletter No. 4 and couldn't miss the "dentist" reference (if it didn't hurt so much I'd laugh). I am recovering from self-inflicted pain, wallet as well as gums following an implant and socket inserts to my upper jaw some 3 weeks ago (*as of April 1st*). I can sympathise with you (*and vice versa - Ed.*).

Given the discomfort I am wary of playing until I get the all-clear from the surgeon. I don't want to repeat the recovery period again. You probably have some inkling what codeine based pain killers can do to the digestive system: pain at both ends of the body is not a good book ending. Reminds me of the person who thought a suppository was called an "innuendo." Now that the weather is cooler I will come and watch some of the games before I attempt a come-back. Best wishes to all of the players. Regards - David Lester" (*late news is that DL has had vertigo too. Ed*)

Punology One: Patient to psychiatrist: "Doctor, I keep having these alternating, recurring dreams. First I'm a tepee, then I'm a wigwam, then I'm a tepee, then I'm a wigwam. It's driving me crazy. What's wrong with me?" The doctor replies: "It's very simple. You're two tents."

Whistle While You Work - without Neil Mannolini :

Neil and Pat are still away, so you will have to bear with my thoughts on the rules again. Recently a few sideline comments have indicated that some of us think that body contact can be acceptable.

Rule 9: Conduct of play - players. Players are expected to act responsibly at all times.

9.2: Players on the field must hold their stick and not use it in a dangerous way. Players must not lift their stick over the heads of other players.

9.3: Players must not touch, handle or interfere with other players or their sticks or clothing.

9.4: Players must not intimidate or impede another player.

9.12: (part) Players obstruct if they physically interfere with the stick or body of an opponent.

9.13: Players must not tackle unless in position to play the ball without body contact. *The additional comments with this rule are: Reckless play such as sliding tackles and other overly physical challenges by field players which take an opponent to ground and which have the potential to cause injury should attract appropriate match and also personal penalties.*

I think that this all makes it quite clear that body contact is not a legitimate part of our game. At times where two players are approaching the ball at speed it might be accidental, but even this is still undesirable (especially at our age) and umpires need to be vigilant.

John Mercer - sideline.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: The second quarter has seen a very under strength 'A' division.

In 'A' div the times are quite tough

We've four teams, and don't get enough

Can't they get any hits?

Is the traffic the pits?

Or all of our matches too rough.

If you are not attending, how about sending an explanatory Letter to the Editor.

Quotable Quote No 1: "You will find that the State is the kind of organisation which though it does big things badly, does small things badly, too." John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 - 2006), US economist. *Not everything can be left to the market, however, as unregulated trading produced slavery, the illicit drug scene, brides for sale and people smugglers. Ed.*

Stadium Parking: I trust that everybody got the email from Bob. I am not clear yet on how we will all receive our parking permits (any volunteers to hand them out?), nor am I clear on whether these will be valid for only one week (as on the 29th) or for a longer term. If I have it right we first must fill the two hockey rows to the west of the stadium before we are allowed to park in the small bitumen area to the north (but not near the gates). After that is full we can use the wood chipped area along the northern fence. Early arrivals must walk a little further it seems.

For Sale: Heath Tyrell has sold his Mount Barker farm and must dispose of the machinery. Items available and subject to prior sale are: Kubota tractor and slasher, Massey Ferguson 65 Mk11 with forklift, spraying equipment, fire-fighter and 1000 litre tank on skid with hose, carryall, posthole digger, ripper/pipe layer, crates (22 litre), diesel pump, work benches. For Olive groves there is an Olinet and electric harvester. *If you would like to know more I can forward you a spreadsheet with further information on these articles, or contact Heath direct at heath@hppt.com.au.*

'A' Division Blog: It seems that nobody disagrees with me, as no dissenting opinions have arrived.

April 1st: Numbers were insufficient for points to be earned. Some good hockey, some not so good. Less rough play, but not zero rough play. Umpire abuse seems to be with us to stay - not personally guilty this time. Player counts Gold (7), Blue (9), White (5), and Red (10). Total goals scored (7).

April 8th: Quite a good standard of hockey, on the whole. John Milner had a nasty fall before the 1st game, landing on a drainage grille I heard, and needed patching up. Gold captain Col Gee copped a deflected ball in the head a few minutes into Game 1. He was back from the doctor sporting five stitches in time to play in Game 5. Thanks to John Ree for the first aid. I noted that first aid kits also appeared very quickly with Mark Faithfull and Col Benporath. A Tough-as-Teak award goes to both players. Point tallies were White (6), Blue (5), Gold (3), and Red (1). Player numbers were Gold (10) White (8), Blue (6) and Red (8). Total goals scored (9). PS: I do not recommend umpiring with sciatic pain; it has adverse effects on both one's umpiring (lack of mobility) and one's temper. My apologies to everyone I snapped at while attempting to blow the whistle.

April 15th: Numbers at UWA were insufficient to score points, but the quality of a lot of the hockey was quite good. A successful comeback was made by Paul Robinson and an unsuccessful one by John Mercer. The security alarm went off resulting in a visit from UWA security, and the sprinklers came on during play on both turfs (I seem to remember that both these events have happened before). It is noteworthy that Stan Salazaar (who says he's unfit) played six games, and needed help to get out of his car later. Player numbers were White (6), Red (6), Blue (7), and Gold (10). Total goals (10).

April 22nd: Our numbers were much improved and at the start of the day most of the trapping and passing was excellent. It was great to see John Jeffrey return to hockey - it's been a long time since our Perth tournament. Phil Anderson and Nigel Thomas watched (along with Paul Robinson, Irene Simpson and me) from the stand, where we could not hear any dissent from the umpires' rulings. Points went to White (5), Red (4), Gold (3), and Blue (2). Player numbers were Blue (10), Red (8), Gold (11) and White (8). Ken Walter played with the Reds and JJ with the Whites. 8 goals scored.

April 29th: Numbers were not great in two teams, but as I'm suffering from relevance-deprivation decided to count points anyway. Actual numbers were Gold (13), Blue (9), White (6) and Red (7). George Bradbury joined Blue for the day, and Trevor Kerr helped out the Whites. The hockey was very good at the start of the day, but got worse as players tired, especially those who had to play extra matches. We began with three goalkeepers (Barry, Graeme, and Bill) but had none left by the last game. The day was not great for scoring, with the post hit 4 times (so I'm told) and two missed penalty strokes. Points awarded were Red (7), White (4), Gold (3) and Blue (1). 7 goals scored.

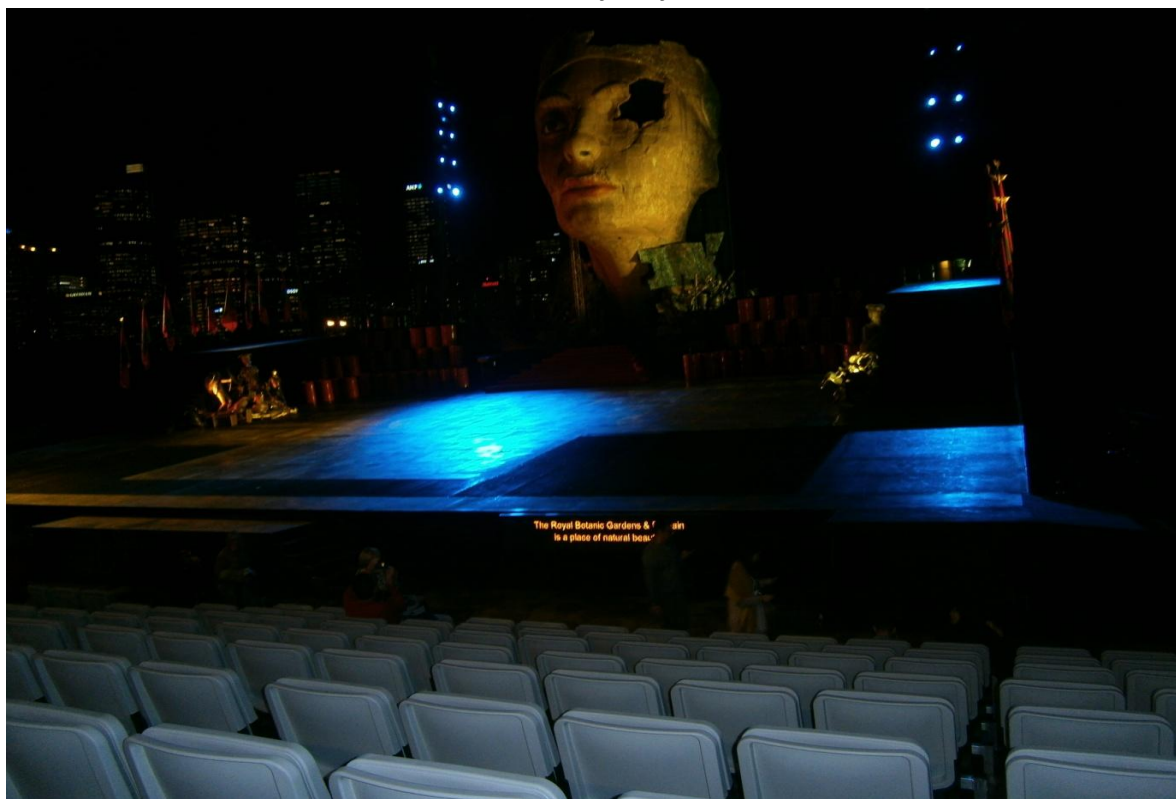
Round 2 points to 29/04 are: White (15), Red(12) Gold (11) Blue (9).

Well Dones: Thanks to April 'A' umpires Eric Alcock, Bob Bowyer, Peter Brien, Bala Chandran, Ash Foster, Peter Gason, Col Gee, Graham Harler, Ian Hill, Dave Horsley, Roger Jewell, Trevor Kerr, John Mercer, Roger Partington, Bob Robinson, Col Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Gordon Thomas, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. Thank you to known 'B' division regulars Lionel David, Vern Gooch, John Lindsay as well as all unknown 'C' umpires. Well done also to the Saturday officials: Peter Brien, John Doepel, Brian Glencross, Roger Jewell, Les Waldon and Ken Walter. Thanks also to the UWA cooks - Bob Bowyer, Graham Harler and Brian Lester. Gordon Thomas is doing a fine job with our Wednesday bar snacks.

Happy New Grandchild: Thanks for the beers on April 8th to Chairman Simon Thomson, who was celebrating the arrival of his first. Mother and daughter well, grandfather recovering.

Aida on Sydney Harbour

Photo John Mercer



The Nefertiti head is 18 meters high. A truly spectacular production.

From The Saturday O/65s: There are enough players registered to make up three teams with some reserves. The social nature of the competition is shown by the number of non-playing spectators on 2nd May - Bob Le Merle, Bob Hotinski (recovering from an L4/L5 fusion), Les Waldon, John Mercer, Paul Robinson and David Lester. We watched Ash Foster scoring goal after goal, so much so that he had to change sides to even the game up. *Start time from Saturday 9th May is back to 2:00 pm.*

Grumpy Old Men Part Two: Thanks to my team mates who made sure I had more hits on April 1st than in the previous five outings put together. My apologies for my imperfect memory (and skills), as I've totally forgotten what I am supposed to do with the ball after receiving it. If the comeback ever comes to pass I may need to attend a re-education camp.

Department of Corrections: Despite being in my notebook as a past player who appeared in the post match Wednesday bar Jeff Godfrey did not make it into the April edition. There will be a commission of inquiry involving the editor, typist and proof reader, if I can remember to organise it.

Punology Two: A male snake charmer married a female undertaker. Their bath towels were labelled "Hiss" and "Hearse."

WHM Expansion?: Our competition has been so successful that the women want to start something similar on either Tuesday or Thursday. For affiliation with Hockey WA they will probably become a part of our organisation (similar to Saturdays). They will **not** be Wednesday Hockey Mistresses, as it will be a marriage of convenience only. *(unless some real marriages already exist)*

The French Letter No 8:

Well, spring is well and truly upon us and very welcome. Mid-April saw day temperatures of 26 which sent the French into a seaside frenzy and the newspapers carried headlines such "August in April". However, normality has returned with the temperatures in the mid to high teens.

My knee, referred to in the last edition of MM, is not, according to my GP, in need of replacement. He put me on anti-inflammatory meds for ten days and to be followed up with cortisone injections if the pain persists. We will see. I get the impression that they have a more conservative approach over here than is the case in Australia.

It seems as though there is a good chance that Joelle's Dad's house has been sold. It is subject to finance so one has to wait and see. It will be a big load off our plate if it does sell as we have to make regular 150 km return trips for garden maintenance etc. However, as far as our own property is concerned - still no takers.

I suppose you guys are all now starting to jostle for positions for the nationals. It always amazed me how competitive people became at carnival times. Not that we were not competitive most of the time, but it always seemed to go up a notch or two as team selections were finalised. I would like to pass a comment though - I hope that lessons can be learned from previous experiences and that people are not placed in teams solely on the basis of some past performances, or in the hope that their long standing injury will suddenly heal. My opinion, for what it's worth, is that state team selections should come only from people currently playing hockey on a regular basis and take people who will withstand the tournament rigors rather than taking someone who is going to break down under pressure.

Well, that's all from me and I wish you all continuing good health and enjoyable hockey.

Ian Purdie (*Thanks again Ian - please keep them coming until you manage to rejoin us. Ed.*)

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: April's question was: In an International tournament 18 of the 20 goals were scored for Australia by the WA born players, Davies, Walsh, Haselhurst and Charlesworth. Was it the a) Champion's Trophy 3 in Karachi in 1981 b) 4th World Cup in Bombay in 1982 c) The first Azlan Shah Tournament in KL in 1983 d) Champion's Trophy 5 in Karachi in 1983. Shock, horror - Rusty answered c) and John gives the correct answer as b). The actual breakdown was Davies (6), Walsh (6), Haselhurst (4) and Charlesworth (2). Batch and Irvine got one each. May's question is: In which Olympics did Australia finish 4th after a 5-10 loss on penalty strokes with USA. Was it: a) Moscow 1980 b) L. A. 1984 c) Seoul 1988 d) Barcelona 1992. *Answer next issue.*

Shakespeare Said It: "I can easier teach twenty what were good to be done, than be one of the twenty to follow mine own teaching." The Merchant Of Venice, Act I Scene II. *The Masters Matters editor has been known to request players not to abuse umpires.*

"... but for mine own part it was Greek to me." Julius Caesar Act I Scene II. *Masters Matters reader.*

Quotable Quote No Two: "Television is a new medium. It's called a medium because nothing is well done." Fred Allen (1854 - 1956) - US comedian. Prompted by my TV which decided it was going out on strike Easter Thursday - and not return. Sour grapes! *Footnote required, as the TV must have read this over my shoulder and decided to start working again. It's still working - please explain.*

Dummy Spit Of The Day: I have not observed any conspicuous cases of dummies slamming into the turf, so for this month will award this to all the non-players like me, who wish we weren't.

Balinese Bulletin 3: Thanks again go to Peter Hammond. Please keep them coming.

What Day is it? A Bali retiree was recently asked how many days were there in a weekhe answered6 Saturdays & 1 Sunday!! Well that is pretty much the way it is up here, for around 6 months of the year. The other 6 months are something quite different. For example today is Friday & we get the Friday Night Footy game, live at around 5.30 pm. Tomorrow there are a further 3 live games, followed by a further 2 games on Sunday. So obviously the Footy season offers up a different formula for this Bali retireenow we have Friday, Saturday, Sunday & the rest of the week (whatever days they are!!).

Bali Dog-Speak. The small Gang (Lane) in which we live is home to many dogs. No, they are not stray but are owned by the local people living nearby as our neighbours. It is fairly much a "rule of thumb" that each house is home to anywhere between 1 – 3 dogs. Very early on in our stay here I would walk up the Gang to the main road to shop at our local "IGA". The local dogs would obviously eye me suspiciously & with both ears & tail erect would eyeball me & say "Hey you're new here & I don't think I like the look of you, so keep walking" The next couple of times that there was a confrontation they would say " Ok, I know who you are ...still don't like the look of you & I'll just keep my eyes on you". On maybe the 3rd or 4th confrontation things are certainly more amicable ..."Ok, ..alright ..I think you're almost a local, so I'll just give you a short muted bark ..just so you know I can see you". After all this time, as a local, I can say that my presence barely raises an audible snort from my canine friends. Acceptance is obviously earned.

As you can see not a lot really happens here to be of interest to you lot down there so I will, if allowed, provide some Bali pics which I hope will be of interest.



The ..the ..that's all folks!!

Stop Press: No logo this issue as it's not yet official. Hopefully the June issue will include one.

Apology: Could not resist including a picture from Sydney Harbour, as it was such a great trip.

All news and other contributions to: John Mercer - PHS1 sideline. Email: johnmercer@inet.net.au.