



A Blue

A Gold

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B White

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

D Black

D Blue

D Gold

D Red

O/65 Blue

O/65 Gold

O/65 Green

O/65 White

Masters Matters

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Fixture and Venue Changes During April: Thank you to Peter Trend for this information.

Date	A division	B division	C division	D division
3 April	Lakelands 1230 - 1500	Whitfords 1330 - 1600	Lakelands 1500 - 1700	Lakelands 1700 - 1900
10 April	Lakelands 1230 - 1500	Whitfords 1330 - 1600	Lakelands 1500 - 1700	Lakelands 1700 - 1900
17 April	PHS 2 1230 - 1500	Lakelands 1330 - 1600	Whitfords 1500 - 1700	PHS 2 1700 - 1900
24 April	PHS 2 1200 - 1400	Lakelands 1330 - 1600	PHS 2 1400 - 1600	PHS 2 1600 - 1800

Lakelands is the Fremantle Cockburn H C at 84 South Lake Drive, South Lake.

Whitfords is the Troy Pickard hockey centre at 86 Lloyd Drive, Warwick.

MM's resident limericist decided that comment on the April venues was in order:

In April we're playing away
 And travelling quite a long way
 For those who come forth
 And drive from the north
 It makes for a very long day.

Membership: At this time of the year I would like Co-ordinators to check that all players are registered, and each Captain to check their team lists, If a player is playing and he is not on the your team list, he is not eligible to play in our games or competition.

Please ensure he registers, if he needs the link to registration please let me know.

Also we would like to see all players playing in Club uniforms, if they need a shirt or sox, they should see Peter Wallis to place an order for their uniform.

Many thanks - Colin Gee. gee.colin@gmail.com

Thank you for this Colin. I fully support your request to all players to make sure that everybody takes to the turf in the correct shirt and socks for their sides. Ed.

Dates For The Diary:**2024**

April 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th: Alternative venues and times. See above.

June 19th and 20th: Warm up tournament in Oxford. *Venue same as 2012 World Cup.*

June 24th to 30th: Masters tournament in The Hague. *Venue same as 2014 World Cup.*

July 12th to 20th: Interstate Championships for Men O/34 to O/50. Hobart Tasmania.

July 14th to 27th: Interstate Championships for Men O/55 to O/75. Hobart Tasmania.

The women are playing in Sydney this year.

October 12th to 21st: World Cup M O/65 to O/80. Capetown. Plus Spirit Of Masters.

November 7th to 16th: World Cup M O/50, O/55 and O/60. Auckland. Plus Spirit Of Masters.

Tribute To Roger Davey: Many members of WHM attended the funeral service on 13th March in the Norfolk Chapel at Karrakatta. I was not able to get to the wake afterwards, which I'm certain would have been just as well attended and I trust we gave Roger a proper send-off. I had known him for quite a while and remember him well limping around hockey fields for quite a few years until he became one of the first recipients of a knee replacement. Like most people, I always greatly enjoyed his company and his ability to be a glass half full person even at the worst of times. Some details emerged during the funeral which are worthy of mention here:

Born in 1951 and attended Wesley College where he became a prefect. While there he was also a notable distance runner and also was selected in the State Schoolboys hockey side twice. He became a teacher with the Education Department before going into business for himself. He was a long-time member of South Perth Rotary and also got into the record books with a hole in one on the Point Walter course at a 176 metre hole. A fellow teacher: "He was always known as a kind person and a good bloke." I concur fully with those sentiments.

The attendees at the funeral placed not only sprigs of rosemary on the coffin but in a unique personal touch also nuts and bolts in recognition of his business.

Farewell Roger, you will be greatly missed.

Department of Health: Les Waldon is due for a spinal operation on April 11th which his surgeon hopes will correct the problem. At this stage, he will not be playing during the winter season. Hope all goes well. Robin Bailey also has a back problem which is not as serious, but is still sufficient to stop him playing (*he was back on 3rd April*). Ron Venables missed the action (a very rare occurrence) on 27th March, as he was having a cancerous growth removed. Peter Livingstone has not played for a while now, but hopes to be back soon. Heath Tyrrell is having an ongoing battle with plantar fasciitis which has kept him out of the game. Our best wishes to all, including the many we don't know about, for a rapid and complete recovery.

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercerc@iinet.net.au.

Please let me (and Colin Gee) know if there are any errors or misspellings. We stress again that there is no compunction to buy drinks for the bar on either a Wednesday or a Saturday.

Happy April birthdays to all the following:

A Division: 1st Frank Williams (1954) 20th Nevelle Brown (1947).

B Division: 4th Steve Farrar (1956), Steve Powles (1950) 6th Adrian Gabriel (1957) 8th Geoff Riley (1952) 12th Dudley Evans (1951) 27th Simon Williams (1946).

C Division: 7th Wayne Cutler (1955) 14th Russell Wood (1958) 21st Martin Hickey (1956).

D Division: 7th Chris Kennedy (1965) 8th Micheal Watson (1965) 12th Sean Pereira (1966) 16th Alan Dick (1966) 30th Brett Karran (1966).

Non Playing: 30th Bruce Mercer (1944).

Saturday: 13th Roy Grant (1948) 14th Roger Veary (1944) 17th Ken Watt (1941).

I hope that you're named in the correct WHM Division and correctly spelled. Please let me know if there are any errors or omissions. The details are generally taken direct from the Revo data base. Ed.

Quotable Quote Number One: "Above all, while defending our own vital interests, nuclear powers must avert those confrontations which bring an adversary to a choice of either a humiliating retreat or a nuclear war. To adopt that kind of course in the nuclear age would be evidence only of the bankruptcy of our policy - or of a collective death-wish for the world." *John F. Kennedy (1917 - 1963). Our younger players were not even born during the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. On that occasion the use of diplomacy (by Kennedy and Khrushchev) brought about a resolution without a nuclear Armageddon. I wish I felt as confident about the leaders who will be presiding over the next one. Ed.*

Department of Corrections: The editor addressed the assembled staff at the March issue's post-mortem meeting with a frown. "My threat of out-sourcing seems to have worked. Our readers have found no errors that they're prepared to share with us and my guest proof reader only found a couple of minor matters. Keep up the good work and you might get to keep your jobs."

As they left the proofreader whispered to the typist: "Pity, I was really looking forward to that redundancy." Said the typist: "We'd be lucky to get one - he'll grab it all."

Letters To The Editor: Thank you to Roger Partington for some kind words and to Bob Claxton for an answer to the monthly question posed by John Sanders.

Jim Wright Retires: Last month's MM should have carried the news that Jim has given up the game in favour of lawn bowls, where he and Beth have been shining recently. Jim said:

"I know that I have had more comebacks than Lazarus, but this time I really am heading off into the sunset..... Lawn bowls has finally got me full time.

To make the retirement definite I have sold all my hockey gear.

I want to thank you all for all the help that I received over the 10 years that I was on the committee.

I look forward to catching up at the summer season windup. *(We did!)*

All the best - Jim"

Plenty of tribute emails were circulated around the Saturday group indicating how much all Jim's work has been appreciated over the years. My own tribute follows:

Ever since he joined WHM quite a while ago Jim has been a tower of strength in everything he has been involved with. This includes being vice captain and captain of Wednesday sides from 2014 up to 2022, being a phenomenal manager of the second WA O/70s at the 2014 tournament, which won the gold medal, and mainstay of Saturday hockey ever since it began in the winter of 2013. His official title was Club Vice-Captain but in practice he was deeply involved with every single thing we did. This included arranging just about every social we had - brilliantly. In conjunction with inaugural Club Captain Les Waldon and Secretary/Treasurer Bob Bowyer the essential "vibe" of our club was established, which still makes it a great place to play hockey and to socialise afterwards. After retiring from Committee in 2022 he agreed to fill in after Bruce Mercer had his cardiac scare. Many thanks for everything Jim, you'll be greatly missed in every way. Hope you can keep making it to an occasional social event.



Saturday Hockey Life Members Jim Wright and Les Waldon in their LM shirts

'A' Division Blog: Numbers have not been great in March. Maybe a B Division influx is on the way.

March 6th: The full teams anticipated by the return to our normal starting time did not eventuate but as all three sides were only one short we managed to play the fixtures. Resuming after about a 12 month break was Jim Balding (welcome back) who seemed to have got through the day in good shape. Hope that was also the case on Thursday morning. Also back after much shorter breaks were Ken Eliot, Peter Jones and John Jeffreys. Goals were at a premium all day and John Burt and Barry Rutter proved yet again that there are no holes in modern goalkeeping pads. In this they were aided by the goalposts which made several fine saves too. It was not until the third game that Scott Blackwell opened the scoring. Despite Blue conceding two goals to Gold in the fourth game the play was even all day (depending on the star fill-ins). It took 4 after the whistle penalty corners for White to get their winner against Gold in the last game of the day. The goal of the day judges conferred at length and awarded the prize to Peter Wallis for perseverance. The day's results and scorers were:

Gold 0 Blue 0; White 0 Blue 0; White 0 Gold 1; Blue 0 Gold 2; Blue 1 White 0; Gold 0 White 1.

Scorers: Blue: Peter Wallis. **Gold:** Scott Blackwell (2), Terry Gaston. **White:** Ken Eliot. Total goals 5.

Team numbers based on original sides: Blue (9), Gold (9), White (9).

March 13th: Thank you to Colin Gee, who recorded these details for me due to my attendance at Roger Davey's funeral, along with quite a few other A and B Division players. The numbers were only sufficient for two teams and four games were enough. The goalkeepers (Barry Rutter and John Burt) appear to have enjoyed a good day, indicated by the scores (or lack thereof). B Division players Dudley Burress and Peter Eastlake joined the play due to the cancellation of their games. Thank you to non-players Martin Gallivan and Neil Scaddan who officiated for all the games. Goal of the day can be awarded to Ron Venables for obvious reasons. The day's details according to Colin were:

Blue 0 White 0; Gold 0 White 0; White 1 Blue 0; White 0 Blue 0.

Scorers: White: Ron Venables.

Team numbers Blue (9), Gold (6), White (6). Total goals 1.

March 20th: Despite the scores, from where I watched the play (on or off the turf) the White team was not outclassed all day and they broke even in midfield in all their matches. But getting the ball to the goalmouth does not count as a score and our goalkeepers Barry Rutter, Graeme Sansom and (particularly) John Burt seemed to save their best for defending against them. Gold and White had extra players so the day began with Jeff Kozak (White), Mal Jackaman (Gold) and Ken Walter (Gold) making up the numbers for Blue so that all sides had full teams no reserves. Some players departed and some stopped playing for other reasons, so from the fourth game onwards teams included quite a variety of players. Thank you to Martin Gallivan who umpired all six matches. The goal of the day judges conferred at length and eventually decided that they could not separate the fine finishes by Scott Blackwell (Gold), Jim Malcolm (Blue) and Peter Wallis (Blue). The day's details were:

Blue 1 Gold 2; White 0 Gold 1; White 0 Blue 1; Gold 0 Blue 1; Gold 3 White 0; Blue 2 White 0.

Scorers: Blue: Peter Dennis, Jim Malcolm, Peter Wallis (2), Ken Walter. **Gold:** Scott Blackwell (2), Nev Brown (3), Ricky Watts.

Team numbers Blue (7), Gold (12), White (11). Total goals 11.

March 27th: Much of White's forward line was either absent or umpiring and despite breaking even in the midfield they were again unable to score. Captain David Horsley deserves credit for not recruiting only star players to fill his team. All sides were short but we managed to complete the fixtures with the aid of fill-in players. Blue captain Neil Scaddan played his first game for a long time and decided that one match would be enough. At the start of the day the hockey was surprisingly high-standard but returned to normal as we tired. Many thanks go to non-playing umpires Martin Gallivan and Bob Claxton who officiated for every match. Goalkeepers John Burt, Graeme Sansom and Barry Rutter did not allow easy goals. Ken Walter was in good touch, with the third goal of his hat trick being unanimously awarded goal of the day by the judges. The match details were:

Gold 2 White 0; Blue 1 White 0; Blue 0 Gold 0; White 0 Gold 1; White 0 Blue 1; Gold 1 Blue 1.

Scorers: Blue: Peter Dennis (2) Peter Wallis. **Gold:** Nev Brown, Ken Walter (3).

Team numbers: Blue (9), Gold (9), White (8). Total goals 7.

/7

From Saturday Masters:

I trust that the 39 members who made it to the Herdsman's on 23rd March for our end of summer season function enjoyed the night. The main problem (that I noted) was the poor acoustics in the room, which made conversation a little difficult until the food arrived. Thank you to all members for their cooperation with the food ordering which made everything go smoothly. *(See below)*

If anybody has strong opinions about the venue please contact a member of the Committee to make them known. At this stage we are considering holding our October AGM at the same place.

Our winter season officially starts on April 6th, and so do the Hockey WA grass games as of a very recent change. The 2024 fixtures for the Metro and Masters grades have just been uploaded to the website. YMCA (in a very late change) now has two games scheduled at Alderbury Reserve on this opening date and their bar will be operating.

YM's Di Crocker has looked after us so well ever since we began in the winter of 2013 that we have decided to make her a small presentation after hockey one Saturday soon. Make sure that you're there on the day to thank Di for everything she has done for us.

Welcome to new player Allan Attwell who has joined us for the winter season. He has not played for two years, but you wouldn't know it. Shane Knapp is also due to join us in April.

We again remind all players that they must be registered and insured with Hockey Australia to play with us. That is in addition to paying our own playing fees.

On 9th March Rob Ainsworth was keeping time for the first match and blew it when the clock time was 14:20. The problem was we'd started 10 minutes late, and it was only half time.

Don't forget that the green bag of stubby holders, donated by Ken Watt, is available each week.

Make sure that you book in to play by responding to the "are you playing" email before the time requested by Len Walker in the email. And if you have booked in and can't you make it, then please notify us about that too.



Punology One: With great reflexes comes great response ability.

B Division Report March 2024:

As expected playing numbers during March increased as players emerged out of the woodwork in preparation for the upcoming winter season. Some new players have also been added to B Division, Glen Mihala has been added to the White team, Graeme Nicholls, Ken Byrne and Alan Ratt have been added to Gold and Greg Wood to the Blue team. This influx of players has meant the relocation of others up to A Division. Rod Spencer and Bob La Merle have moved on from the Blue team and those from the Gold and White sides are yet to be nominated.

And so evolution of the competition and players continues. I believe this is an essential ingredient and the backbone to the success of Western Hockey Masters. "If you stand still you are going backwards," is a phrase attributed to many knowledgeable business leaders and AFL coaches.

Over the next month B Division hockey will be relocated to Warwick and Lakelands Turfs due to the International Festival of Hockey being played at PHS. This gives our players a chance to experience other venues and their hospitality. On past occasions this has always been well received and a real positive for the players. Usually absences from PHS have only been 1 or 2 weeks so it will be interesting to hear the feedback after a month away?

Dudley Evans

Thank you Dudley. You know a lot more about the promotion of players than I do. All the best to B Division for their travels during April. Wish I was playing at Warwick too. Ed.

A Division April 3rd (continued from page 5): Numbers were quite good at Lakelands and Robin Bailey transferred to Blue where he and Neil Scaddan were both on the comeback trail and able to alternate. This gave all sides ten field players and as there were three goalkeepers we had full teams. Rod Spencer, who has transferred from B Division, was added to the White team who were most competitive all day despite being less able to stop goals at one end and score them at the other. For once there were a lot of scoring chances and not all of them were missed, though a few open goals went begging. The three keepers in Colin, Graeme and Tony stopped quite a few too. Tony was a little late arriving and was reported to have gone to PHS to see how many of us had gone to the wrong venue. In a rarity two penalty corners were converted, one of them assisting Ash Challenor to a hat trick. The goal of the day judges conferred at length and awarded the palm to Rod Spencer's tomahawk after beating three players in the lead-up. It was good to see Roger Jewell as a spectator. The day's results and other details were:

White 1 Blue 3; Gold 0 Blue 0; Gold 2 White 1; Blue 2 White 0; Blue 0 Gold; White 0 Gold 1.

Scorers: **Blue:** Ash Challenor (3), Peter Dennis, Peter Wallis. **Gold:** Scott Blackwell, Nev Brown, Terry Gaston, Jeff Kozak, John Mercer. **White:** Colin Murray-Smith, Rod Spencer.

Team numbers: Blue (10), Gold (10), White (11). Total goals 12.

Shakespeare Said It: "Make war breed peace; make peace stint war ..." Timon of Athens Act V, Scene IV. *Even in Shakespeare's day that was not the way things were run; and is certainly not the way things are run nowadays.*

"For the rain it raineth every day." Twelfth Night or What You Will Act V, Scene I. But not in Perth this year. I must wash my car again, which generated our last 2024 light shower.

"I'll so offend, to make offence a skill." King Henry IV Part One Act I, Scene II. If I use the back of my stick in this tackle the umpire won't see it. I'm that good at hiding it. Do any of us know anyone like that in WHM? I've certainly encountered a few elsewhere in my long time in hockey.

Quotable Quote Two: "Don't be discouraged by a failure. It can be a positive experience. Failure is, in a sense, the highway to success, inasmuch as every discovery of what is false leads us to seek earnestly after what is true, and every fresh experience points out some form of error which we shall afterwards carefully avoid." John Keats (1795 - 1821). *But does that work for hockey? Keats would not have known, as it was not played in his day.*

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

March's question was:

The Australian Women's team (later the Hockeyroos) have been assigned a unique HA Player Number based on their senior international debut. They wear this number on their tunic:



Who is HA Number 500 in the current Hockeyroos squad?

- Brook Peris
- Katrina Powell
- Jane Claxton, or
- Rebecca Greiner?

For an extra point, WA's legendary May Campbell (first selected for Aust in 1935) was HA Player No?

- 7
- 77
- 177
- 277

Bob Claxton sent in two correct answers immediately. Player Number 500 is Rebecca Greiner and May Campbell's Player Number is #77. *Bob does have access to some inside information on the current Australian players and maybe used the chronology (as I did) to work out May Campbell's 77.*

April's question is:

Merv Adams, Fred Browne, and Derek Munrowd all had a connection with Australian Hockey as a coach or player.

But which Perth hockey club did they play for?

Was it:

- a. Old Modernians
- b. Perth
- c. Guildford
- d. West Leederville, or
- e. Old Guildfordians?

For an extra point, in what season were all three in the same team?

Clue: They were runners up that year in what is now the WAHA Premier Division

Answer next issue.

Grumpy Old Men And Women One: "Political language, as used by politicians, does not venture into any of this territory (truth), since the majority of politicians, on the evidence available to us are interested not in truth but in power and in the maintenance of that power. To maintain that power, it is essential that people remain in ignorance, that they live in ignorance of the truth, even the truth of their own lives. What surrounds us therefore is a vast tapestry of lies, upon which we feed." *Playwright Harold Pinter was talking about the USA in his acceptance speech for the 2005 Nobel Prize for Literature. Readers can provide their own examples from the very wide choice available. Ed.*

Well Dones for March: Wednesday's A Division umpires were: George Bradbury, Bob Claxton, Peter Evans, Peter Galbraith, Martin Gallivan, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, David Horsley, Mal Jackaman, KY Lee, Neil Scaddan, Peter Trend, Ken Walter, Ricky Watts and Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, Liam Atkinson (Neil Scaddan's 14 yo grandson), Alan Attwell, George Bradbury, Adrian Gabriel, Colin Gee, Michael Gottschalk, Shane Knapp, Tom Long, Chris North, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Len Walker and Ken Watt. Our thanks to all. *The feedback which reached me was that we were considerably more polite and respectful towards our youthful guest umpire. Why can't we do the same for all who take on this thankless task? It appears to be time (yet again) for the only rules of umpiring to be reprinted:*

Rule One: *The umpire is always right.*

Rule Two: *If the umpire is wrong, refer to Rule One.*



Grumpy Old Men Two: This one has a wide variety of sources. I've gone for Stanford University chemist Robert E Swain who in 1928 explained the difference between a scientist and a philosopher: "Some people regard the former as one who knows a great deal about a very little, and who keeps on knowing more and more about less and less until he knows everything about nothing. Then he is a scientist. Then there is the latter specimen, who knows a little about very much, and he continues to know less and less about more and more until he knows nothing about everything. Then he is a philosopher." *None of us would claim to know everything about hockey - would we? Ed.*

Thailand Tales: Our season is in its last month with the RTAF (Airforce) unbeaten. This team have 140 players at the Air Force base at Don Mueang airport, a world class waterbase turf which no-one else can use. These guys do the normal PE sessions every morning and then train for hockey for 3 hours every night. If you are based at this venue it is compulsory to play hockey, so it's pretty hard to match them in our hockey league, the entire Thai national team come from that team (club).

Our club Bangkok Inter is made up from expats from everywhere who are based in Thailand. I am the Grandpa of the club and at 72 years am the oldest player in the league by 30 years. Our A grade team are 4th at the moment and our B grade team near the bottom with 2 wins. Our club is one of 3 teams who have a mixed gender, but competitive just the same. There is one division so we play every team once. At the end of the season we are separated into 2 pools for a playoff system.

The weather here at the moment is around 40c and humidity of about 95%, so playing conditions are just about unbearable, needless to say after the games the bar is well and truly emptied.

In closing, I must say how shocked my wife Pak and I were when we read last month's issue advising that Gayle Miller had passed away. To Neil we send our sincere condolences and pray that all is well with you.

Cheers from Thailand

Woody

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players March: Noted at PHS: Peter Andrews, Jim Banks, George Bradbury, Colin Gee and Neil Scaddan. At Perry Lakes: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, Peter Andrews, Tony Marshall, Bruce Mercer, Don Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer and Len Walker .

Vale Maxine Robinson: Some current A Division players may remember former WHM stalwart Bob Robinson and his post-retirement health saga. It was with much regret that I discovered that Bob's wife Maxine had died recently. Our deepest sympathy goes to Bob and the rest of the family.

Long Time No See (1): I met former player Bob Maley and Dale at Perth Concert Hall before a choral concert on 27th March. Both are going well, though Bob said he's most unlikely to play again.

Long Time No See (2): Ken Beer was a last minute withdrawal from hockey on Wednesday 20th. The reason - he was waiting on a food delivery at home.

Promotion To Higher Duties: We still hope to tell you all about it - one day.

No More O/80s? This limerick was squeezed out of the March edition. The limericist insisted, so:

There will be no 80s this year
The age group will just disappear
And why is this so?
No one seems to know
Some one does not like us, I fear.

Punology Two: Did you hear about the bloke who entered the World Kleptomaniacs Championship. He took gold, silver and bronze.

Change of Details: In the event of any change to your email address and other details you should notify Colin Gee, our membership administrator, whose email address is gee.colin@gmail.com.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:

John Mercer: A Division Gold team. Email: johnmercerc@inet.net.au