



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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Change to Venues: During the April school holidays PHS will be unavailable. Thank you to Fixtures Coordinator Peter Trend who has booked us in to alternative venues. The details are:

April 3rd: A, C and D Divisions at Lakelands - usual times (12:30 to 19:00). Bar should be available.

B Division at Whitfords - usual time (13:30 to 16:00). Bar should be available.

April 10th: A, C and D Divisions at Lakelands - usual times (12:30 to 19:00). Bar should be available.

B Division at Whitfords - usual time (13:30 to 16:00). Bar should be available.

A Division Start Time: The senior Division will be reverting to the usual start time of 12:30 as from the 6th March. Many thanks to George Bradbury and Peter Trend for the shift to 9:00 during the hot month of February. The traffic was not too bad for the first couple of weeks but the return of the Curtin students on February 28th meant that many of us took a long time getting to PHS.

Update To Uniform Issue: *Thank you to our Uniforms Officer for the following:*

With immediate effect certain revisions to the issue of Uniforms will take place.

All Uniforms will be issued at the stadium.

A division no changes.

B and C division, when A division is playing at normal time, 12-30 to 3pm, no changes.

D division and B and C division when A division is rescheduled, items will be left at the bar in labeled packages.

When payment is required then members will be responsible to make payments into the WHM account endorsed uniform purchase.

Costs shirts \$35, socks \$10, hats/caps \$20.

All members requiring Uniforms to contact me 0412402782 by text I will then deal with each order individually. Peter Wallis

Bereavement: Our deepest sympathy to Neil Miller from our B Division, whose wife died suddenly on 29th February while on a Bali holiday with a group of friends. And in late news received on 5th March Roger Davey has died. Hopefully a full tribute will appear in the next MM.

Dates For The Diary:**2024**

March 23rd: Saturday hockey summer season windup - Herdsman's Hotel.

April 3rd and 10th: Alternative venues. 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.

Omissions From January: There have been some health problems (not Covid) among the Masters Matters staff and sadly some of our regular items were not included in the January edition. At least we managed to thank Keith Platel and Peter Jones in December for their great work with the wine raffle last year. Here are the leading winners for 2023:

6 Wins: Dudley Evans, Ivan Wilson.

5 Wins: Frank Williams.

4 Wins: Peter Fogels, Andrew Robertson.

3 Wins: David Horsley, John Jeffreys, Keith Platel, Simon Thomson, Leo Welten.

2 Wins: Darryl Andrews, Jim Campbell, Bob Claxton, Hector D'Rozario, Graham Harper, Ian Hill, Peter Jones, John Mercer, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ricky Watts.

1 Win: 18 players each won once.

This year got off to a great start but the warm February weather, an overseas venture by Keith and a medical episode for Peter derailed things a bit. Normal service will resume as soon as possible.

A Division Goals 2023: Not all goals scored in the absence of goalkeepers are included here.

20+ Goals: Nev Brown (38), Ken Walter (28). *And they play in the same side.*

10+ Goals: Ken Beer, Bob Claxton, Peter Dennis, Hector D'Rozario, Ham D'Souza, John Mercer, Ron Venables and Peter Wallis.

Capetown - 2024 World Cup Venue (but not that stadium)



Department of Health: To start with good news, Peter Jones got back onto the field at Perry Lakes on 24th February. His advice to us all: "If you have chest pain, call an ambulance." He did not do so until next morning and could have recovered much sooner. Les Waldon has very limited mobility at the moment due to back troubles but cannot see a spinal surgeon until 11th March. Colin Gee is also having back problems but not as severely. Peter Livingstone hopes to be back soon. Simon Thomson has been through eye treatment(s) and has been barred from playing for a little while, which counts as cruel and unusual punishment. Len Walker is back and scored a lot of goals on 2nd March. Our best wishes to all, including the many we don't know about, for a rapid and complete recovery.

Quotable Quote Number 1: "The best measure of a man's honesty isn't his income tax return. It's the zero switch on his bathroom scale." *Sir Arthur C. Clarke (1917 - 2008)*

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercercer@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 March birthdays to all the following:

A Division: 2nd Ivan Wilson (1941) 13th Peter Jones (1951) 18th Ken Eliot (1951) 29th Ron Venables (1939).

B Division: 14th Dudley Burrell (1950) 20th Greg Street (1951) 27th Rod Spencer (1947).

C Division: 19th Michael Waite (1953) 20th Peter Westlund (1956) 22nd John Nettleton (1957) 23rd Gary Jones (1960).

D Division: 6th Mark Pownall (1968) 8th Ken O'Driscoll (1962) 10th Carl Celedin (1973)

13th Greg Ross (1963) 17th Daron Crothers (1973) 27th Mark Bingley (1968)

29th Gurdeep Singh (1968) 30th Tony Jones (1962).

Non Playing: Jim Boyce (1939).

Saturday: 5th John Smith (1950) 10th Paul Huisman (1954) 13th Bob Byers (1946) 31st Mike Harris (1951).

I hope that you're named in the correct WHM Division. Please let me know if there are any errors or omissions. Unfinancial members are probably not included. Ed.

Department of Corrections: The editor strode into the February issue's post-mortem meeting with a face like thunder and the assembled staff quailed. "This proof reading has gone beyond a joke. You peruse copy containing the assertion that the Munich Olympic Games happened in 1072 and do not see anything wrong (*In 'Test Your Hockey Knowledge' with John Sanders, Page 8*). You also failed to notice that I was called a 'correct' editor (*"A Brief Last Word", Page 10*) instead of a current editor. We are going to take a serious look at out-sourcing. Now go back to work and lift your game!"

As they slunk out the typist complained to the proofreader: "I did not type that question - he copied it straight in, which was why you did not proof read it. And I'm certain that 'correct' was inserted by the auto-correct function and not typed by me.

"You have my sympathy" replied the proofreader. "It sounds as though we might have to start looking for other jobs, and so might he."

Letters To The Editor: Thank you to those readers who took the trouble. It is reassuring to know that MM is still serving some purpose. This month we heard from Mal Horrigan, Rob Ainsworth (Page 10), Bill Baldwin, Keith Kessell and Ken Beer. Mal commented on our trial of an early start:

"John, despite the lack of numbers, I enjoyed the 9am start. Like you, a little longer to get there but much quicker on the way home. In my opinion, the heat is bearable at that time of day & I would be happy for that arrangement to continue."

Membership: To all players, do you have club players who are interested in joining our club please send me their email address and I will send them an introduction to the Club

Membership numbers are not far from complete, however

Captains please check your team lists on the Clubs RevoSPORT system

If you have team members who are not listed in your team they are not registered

Please remind those players they need to register to be able to continue playing.

This request needs your urgent attention

Also if I have put players in a incorrect team please let me know

Many thanks Colin Gee

WHM Membership Administrator

Many thanks Colin. The link to the registration process is included below. Ed.

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/westernmasters/registration>

'A' Division Blog: We kept playing throughout February - just.

February 7th: The forecast heat kept players and goalkeepers away, but as the maximum was about 36° sufficient hardy players arrived to fill two teams. Two players (Peter Trend and Ken Beer) transferred from Blue to White and this produced two teams with 12 field players per side. We called it a day after three 20 minute games, which were all umpired by non-players Ricky Watts and Rob Ainsworth. Goal of the day had a clear winner in a fine deflection from Bob Claxton. The day's results and scorers were:

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

Scorers: **Blue/Gold:** Nev Brown, John Mercer, Ken Walter. **White:** Bob Claxton, Sukhdev Pandher, Ron Venables. Total goals 6.

Team numbers based on original sides: Blue (7), Gold (7), White (10).

February 14th: This was the first day of our 9:00 am starts during February. Well done to George Bradbury and Peter Trend for doing the work required to make sure that enough players were prepared to play at the comparatively early (and cooler) time and then following up by amending the Hockey WA ground booking. It was unfortunate that only one goalkeeper arrived, so instead of making a comeback Barry Rutter umpired the first match with KY, then went home (?). Thank you to non-players KY Lee and Neil Scaddan who officiated for all the other games. As there were only 23 players Jim Malcolm (4 games), George Bradbury (3 games) and Neil Patterson (1 game) played with Gold to make up the numbers. Blue/White not only created a lot more opportunities than their Gold opposition but also made much better use of them. No names will be mentioned in connection with missed chances due to the ban on editorial selfies. Goal of the day went to Neil Patterson for being in the right place at the right time for his hat trick. The results, scorers and team numbers were:

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

Scorers: **Blue/White:** Bob Claxton, Neil Patterson (3), Peter Wallis. **Gold:** Nev Brown.

Team numbers Blue (6), Gold (9), White (8). Total goals 6.

February 21st: The forecast lower maximum (30°) generated enough players (and two goalkeepers) to play the scheduled fixtures. It had been a while since our usual teams were in action but a lot (not all) of the passing was quite good. From where I observed the hockey the midfield play seemed fairly even but White were not able to get the ball in the net at all. Keepers John Burt and Barry Rutter (welcome back) refused to put a foot wrong and goals were at a premium until the White defence lost their cohesiveness in the last game of the morning. Thank you to Neil Scaddan who despite not playing came and umpired several games. The goal of the day judges were unanimous in giving the award to Peter Wallis who did a lot of lead up work before an excellent scoop into the top of the net. The results, scorers and team numbers were:

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

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Wallis (2). **Gold:** Scott Blackwell (2), Terry Gaston, Ken Walter (2).

Team numbers Blue (10), Gold (10), White (9). Total goals 7.

February 28th: Despite Blue and Gold each being two short we managed to play the fixtures thanks to the volunteers who played extra games. Thanks also to Neil Scaddan who umpired five of the day's matches. It's been a while since we saw Graham ('Chip') Challenor and Hector D'Rozario also restarted but White were still unable to score. Goalkeepers John Burt and Barry Rutter were in top form and goals were at a premium, so goal of the day is a shared award between Scott Blackwell, Terry Gaston and Peter Wallis. Next week we revert to the usual starting time of 12:30 and hope that a few more players start turning up. The match details were:

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

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Wallis. **Gold:** Scott Blackwell, Terry Gaston.

Team numbers: Blue (8), Gold (8), White (10). Total goals 3.

Grumpy Old Men And Women One: "Our western friends give us money, give us arms and give us advice. We take the money, we take the arms, we ignore the advice." *Former Israeli leader General Moshe Dayan (1915 - 1981). Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.*

From Saturday Masters:

Thank you to all those members who have responded promptly to my booking request for the summer season windup dinner at the Herdsman's Tavern on Saturday 23rd March. So far we have 19 confirmed attendees and 7 apologies. Graeme Sansom replied "Yes" within 25 seconds of the dispatch of my email. The function is open to financial playing members (including goalkeepers) and social members, as well as goalkeepers. We hope to be able to circulate a menu before the event. If you know what you are doing but are yet to reply please do so as soon as you can. Both acceptances and apologies should go to Secretary/Treasurer John Mercer at johnmerc@inet.net.au.

The Committee has decided that we really need a dedicated organiser of our social events. Our thanks to Paul Huisman and Greg Street who have volunteered to fill the position once our winter season begins in April. I believe that one reason for two people is that both Greg and Paul travel fairly frequently and neither was able to take a full time position. Please give them your support.

Their duties will include:

- a) Roster players to provide the afternoon food. Make sure that this player has a helper(s) to clean up and leave the clubroom and kitchen clean and tidy.
- b) Plan and order the pizzas when required.
- c) Organise the food and venues for all socials, wind-ups and AGMs.

In recent months we have been devoting a lot of effort to get all our members registered with Hockey Australia and hence covered by insurance. Many thanks to all of you who managed to navigate the Revosports site and successfully sign up. There now appear to be no current players who are unregistered. It's a whole lot easier once you have been through the process the first time.

Further to the previous paragraph we have decided that all players must be registered and insured with Hockey Australia to play.

It was good to see John Milner at the club on Saturday the 2nd March. I'm told that the club is now \$100 richer as John raided his wallet to chip in for our food and drinks. Many thanks John - and please let us know if we can ever be of assistance with a lift to and from Perry Lakes.

In a common sense move, if ever play is cancelled the duty selector and the food provider will roll over to the next Saturday. Hopefully, now there should be no more cancellations for hot weather until next summer but thunderstorms are still a strong possibility,

There are times where I wonder if our drinks are as cold as some of us (me, at least) would like them to be. There is a green bag of stubby holders, donated by Ken Watt, on the bar each Saturday for the use of members. Personally I would not be without one, as it keeps the drink colder and the hand warmer. Perhaps our members are made of sterner stuff.

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 you can't make it, then please notify us about that too.

WA Country Hobart Nominations:

Those returning members who want to nominate for Hobart 2024 please go to the website

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/wacmha/profile/>

Login to your account, username and password, same as what you used last year.

Then go to Profile (Do not go in via membership tab)

Click onto your profile then add any relevant contact details,

At the bottom of your profile are the nomination details, please add your age division and accommodation requirements.

Looking forward to many of your nominations.

Good luck in Hockey - Glenn Bashford

Punology One: At times MM has been dismissive of the mainstream media. We are not alone, as a recent article in the online journal Pearls & Irritations claimed that some journalists in the mass media are describing their profession as "presstitution."

B Division Report February 2024:

As expected playing temperatures for this month were quite high but never high enough for a venue change. It seems players have received the message loud and clear that when it is hot take care! Keep hydrated, wear a hat and slather on some sunscreen.

Playing numbers have been quite low for the blue and gold sides with the exception being white who sensing an opportunity have turned up with a full complement each week. Nonetheless two sides have been sorted on the day and play continued until beer o'clock!

Notable absentees towards the end of February have been the 7 players from Wednesday hockey who have been over playing in the NZ Masters Champs in Wellington. Maurie Giles and Alan Oldfield played in the 65's and Bill Campbell, Bob Woodrow, Peter Fogels, Graeme Nicholls and Myself played 70's. With some wives along and good weather (mostly) most reports are of a great time had by all.

Players from NSW, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia were also there adding to the overall vibe and holiday atmosphere. Players and their wives and/or girlfriends were seen sightseeing and at many eateries and hot spots around town including the recent cricket test where Australia just managed to sneak a win!

Hopefully this participation is something that can happen again next year as more and more Wednesday players jump on the tournament merry go round and get a game in all sorts of places around the world!!

Back to Perth and the next few weeks should see numbers increase and confirmation of new players entering the B Division orbit. This also means some will leave our galaxy and join A Division. To date there have only been whispers as to who the nominated players in each category might be??

Dudley Evans

Thank you Dudley for a report which must have been written very soon after returning from New Zealand. I am in total agreement with your recommendation regarding hockey trips. I've been lucky enough to have had a few of them and every single one has been great, even including returning home 24 hours late following the 2012 World Cup in Oxford. Ed.

Balinese Bulletin No 88: *Apparently the reason I did not hear from Peter last month was that he had sent me a WhatsApp message. As my account has expired I failed to receive it. Here is the latest:*

"I feel we should put the Bali newsfeed to sleep for a bit. There is really nothing of interest to offer at the moment and I really feel I have become Yesterday's Man.

John to keep you abreast of where I am at present I am able to manage a daily jaunt, solo, of some 60 small, & slow careful steps should be considered as progress.

Well that's it for now.

Cheers from us up 'ere." - Peter Hammond

Many thanks Peter for the 88 Bali reports published in Masters Matters. Best wishes for improvement on the steps and all else. I can assure you that you will be missed. Ed.

Well Dones for February: Wednesday's A Division umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Bob Claxton, Peter Evans, Peter Galbraith, Martin Gallivan, Terry Gaston, Colin Gee, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, KY Lee, Steve McEntee, John Mercer, Col Murray-Smith, Neil Scaddan, Peter Trend, Les Waldon, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts and Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Eric Alcock, Adrian Gabriel, Colin Gee, Michael Gottschalk, Ian Hill, KY Lee, Tom Long, Murray Matthews, Colin Murray-Smith, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Len Walker, Ken Walter and Ken Watt. Our thanks to all.

Quotable Quote Two: *"To get some sense of the scale of the challenges academics have faced, just one small illustrative statistic. Between 2001 and 2020 in the 'Society and Culture' field of education, the number of students enrolled has increased by 80% while the number of fulltime staff has increased by 8%!"* *From the blog "Pearls & Irritations" 04/03/2024 article entitled "What's missing from the Universities Review" by Professor Graeme Turner. Ed.*

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

February's question was:

The Australian Men's team (later the Kookaburras) played in the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich.

Who was vice captain:

- Bob Andrew
- Robert Haigh
- Brian Glencross, or
- Richard Charlesworth?

For an extra point, did Ric Charlesworth?

- Play in all matches.
- All except v Poland
- The first match only, or
- Miss the last one against GB?

No answers were received. John tells us: *From the Australian Hockey Records Teams Database:*

Robert 'Herbie' Haigh of South Australia was Vice Captain. Bags was Captain!

Ric Charlesworth played in all nine matches!

March's question is:

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

Answer next issue.

Punology Two: A man was at a petrol station. He filled up his car but spilled some petrol on his arm as he put the pump away. He paid and left. As he drove away, he lit a cigarette and set his arm on fire. He frantically waved his burning arm out the window and a police officer behind him pulled over and helped him put it out. The man thanked him profusely. The officer said, "No problem but I'll still have to charge you."

The man asked, "Charge me? What for?"

The officer replied, "Unregistered firearm."

Advertisement: It is not generally the policy of Masters Matters to publicise events for our members. However, we will occasionally make exceptions, such as in this case. The performers will include at least one, maybe two, of our members and the audience will in all probability include several WHM members. In all cases the editor's discretion is final.



UWA CHORAL SOCIETY
presents

**The Dublin
Messiah**
George Frideric Handel

*Inspired by the world premiere on
13 April 1742 at the
New Musick Hall, Fishamble Street, Dublin*

7.30pm, Friday 22 March
Perth Concert Hall
conducted by
Kristin Bowtell
with
Jessica Blunt soprano
Brigitte Heuser mezzo soprano
Kohsei Gilkes tenor

The link below takes you to the Perth Concert Hall website for ticket purchase & further information.
Or phone 9231 9999. Ed.

<https://www.perthconcerthall.com.au/events/event/uwacs-dublin-messiah>

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players February: Noted at PHS: Peter Andrews, Robin Bailey, Jim Banks, Hector D'Rozario, Peter Jones, John Mercer and Neil Scaddan. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, Ian Brown, Ash Challenor, Roger Davey, Peter Jones, Tom Long, John Mercer, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Brian Thomas, Simon Thomson, Len Walker and Ken Watt.

No More O/80s? Thank you to Jim Banks for letting me know that there will be no O/80 competition in the Hobart tournament. An update to the playing dates was circulated on 9th February (included in Dates for the Diary on Page 2) and there is no mention of the new age group that we initiated at the 2023 Perth tournament. A footnote reads:

"MA Men's Masters Delegates have advised that no 80+ Men's competition will go ahead in 2024." I suspect this should be "HA" instead of "MA"

Clearly there is some implacable opposition to the introduction of an O/80s. The stories circulating during the Perth tournament were that both NSW and Queensland had been instructed not to pick a side. The delayed announcement of the national team selected during the tournament also demonstrates antipathy.

Yet at no stage has any reasonable cause for opposing O/80s been publicly aired. It is plain that on the international scene the age group is progressing well with its inclusion in the tournament in The Hague and the Capetown World Cup. Southern Cross is sending a team to the Netherlands and Alliance is looking at an O/80s for South Africa. On the domestic scene we have included an O/80s match in the last two Gala Days and the Perth tournament demonstrated that there appears to be nothing amiss with playing tournament hockey at this age level.

The only possible reason I can dream up for opposition to the age group is something to do with insurance cover being more expensive or unavailable. If this is the cause why on earth can it not be made public?

Shakespeare Said It: *"Every man has his fault and honesty is his." Timon of Athens Act III, Scene I. One of my team-mates keeps on giving up the play when he breaches a hockey rule. Maddening. (Of course sportsmanship is encouraged in WHM on both Wednesdays and Saturdays)*

"... you shall know more hereafter." Twelfth Night or What You Will Act III, Scene IV. The news about player movement between Divisions is yet to emerge. We hope it will not be announced on 1st April as nobody will believe it.

"But come yourself with speed to us again." King Henry IV Act I, Scene I. WHM new recruit who responded to Colin Gee's appeal on Page 4 fits in well on his first trial. Team captain and Divisional Coordinator ask him to join.

Player Movement Between Divisions: There is still no news on player promotion. It could be that the high level negotiations have become as complex as a nuclear disarmament conference but a more likely explanation is the necessity to maintain good team numbers in the age group losing players. I am certain that Masters Matters will be able to tell you all about it - when it happens.

Defibrillators, CPR and First Aid: Rob Ainsworth wrote to say he had done a course on these topics (run by the Royal Life Saving Society) and would be happy to arrange one for Wednesday or Saturday hockey. The main difficulty I see is that it is hard to schedule a 90 minute course in conjunction with our Wednesday games. Are you happy to collect members' expression of interest Rob?

Grumpy Old Men Two: *"Sniffing beer and wine could reduce the risk of cancer." Page 3 of the Sunday Times 03/03. The grumpy old man is me; why has this vital research not been done earlier than this? And why have we only just been informed? Ed.*

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: johnmercer@iinet.net.au

A Last Word: No limericks this month. Too much late news.