



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

Masters Matters

Issue No 7

July 2015

What is Where: At least somewhat(s):

Dates For The Diary: This page.

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George Winning trophy: Page 4 and "The French Letter" Page 7.

'A' division blog: Page 5.

The French Letter: Page 7.

The Balinese Bulletin: Page 8.

Have Hockey Stick Will Travel: *More on the 2016 World Cups.*

I would hope that any national team prospects have already submitted their nominations, so here is some more about Southern Cross and Alliance. Thanks go to Peter Fogels (SC Committee), who in response to our last issue has provided his personal take on the possible selection methods: "Now if hockey were soccer and Ric (*Roberts*) was Sepp Blatter, I could tell you how selections will be done. Actually I can tell you anyway. The selection committee will be made up of current SCMH members and possibly an invited outsider or two. Selectors will discuss the merits of each player and the numbers will be trimmed to fit the desired quota.

Before that there will be a call for nominations which will be recorded and acknowledged. When nominations have closed the selection process will begin."

It sounds as though we need to keep our eyes and ears open. The Southern Cross web-site can be reached at www.southerncrosshockey.org. More here when known.

Alliance have already opened nominations - I trust those of you who have played for them know how to nominate. Those of you who want to learn more should contact the local Australian coordinator Colin Benporath (WHM 'A') or access the web-site via www.alliancehockey.net.

Dates For The Diary:

July 8th / 15th: 'A' and 'B' divisions at UWA - 'C' division at Hale.

August 12th: 'A' division team reshuffle commences.

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) and Women's World Cups - Canberra.

Department Of Limericks Part 1: At our age we want nothing to wear out - including us.

You worry when buying new gear

You might not still need it next year

An injury curse

Or something much worse

Can put a full stop to career.

By "something much worse" I mean (of course) growing old. - Ed.

Brilliant Irish Text Message: Many thanks to the contributor, who shall remain anonymous, as he's suggested this might be appropriate after hockey (sometimes). "Mary, I'm just having another pint with the lads. If I'm not home in 20 minutes read this message again."

Department of Health: It's getting difficult to keep up. Here's what little I know.

David Lester thought that the next thing in the alphabet (after vertigo and virus) for him could be a word which begins with "w". This was immediately corrected by the "Masters Matters" Editor to "half back flanker." Roger Jewell is enduring an on-going hamstring problem, but has been good enough to come and umpire while he is not playing. Les Waldon was reported as having problems, but has been in very good form recently. What problems? Paul Robinson has made at least two comebacks in June and been to at least one new health practitioner. You'd better ask Robbo how he's going next time you see him; I'm having trouble keeping up. You could also ask Ken Walter, as I'm out of touch with his latest. Neil Scaddan has been having physio treatment (back) and is in and out of action for a while. Eric Alcock is also doing his bit to make sure that no physio in Australia need live in poverty in the year 2015 - an injured shoulder I hear. Finally, Len Blythe has made another comeback from the holiday he enjoyed after the first comeback. Peter Evans made it back for a second week, and Jim Banks got onto the turf again on the 24th.

As most of the cards say, get well soon.

Grumpy Old Men Part One: "It is pretty hard to tell what does bring happiness; poverty and wealth have both failed." Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930). Real name is Frank McKinney Hubbard, US cartoonist, humorist and journalist. *I've only tried one of them, no prize for guessing which - Ed.*

Letters To The Editor: Thanks to the respondents to the June issue: Bill Baldwin, Ric Denny, John Milner, and Ken Dyer. I also heard from Alan Chapman (ACT - remember him from last year in our O/60s?) and Ric Roberts. Alan says in part ... "I have been a regular member of ACT hockey teams at the Australian Masters for over 10 years and a good friend of Tony Wade. So it was pleasing for me to read, in your latest Masters Matters, a tribute to Tony. I attended his funeral last week and, as you would expect, there was a strong representation from ACT hockey. Hockey was a big part of Tony's life, and he will be sadly missed by us all." From Ric we received the verse eulogy delivered at the funeral. Space forbids its inclusion in this issue - please contact me if you would like to read it.

From The Sideline Again: Last issue I complained about non-standard shirts, socks, and hard peaked caps. From where I observe we are improving in this area, keep it going.

Stadium Parking: It appears that we have received all the parking stickers we are going to get from Curtin Uni. Our executive is currently working on a solution to the problem.

Signs Of The Times: At Doubleview Cleanskins: "A balanced diet is a glass of wine in each hand." *At our age we are sufficiently expert to stay balanced with just one - at a time.*

Department Of Limericks Part 2: I've booked my flights and holiday, but can everybody?

Some players post tournament schemes

Can't yet be arranged, so it seems

Should Metro say "No"

Give Country a go?

It's time to announce the State teams.

Easy for doggerel writers to say but not so easy to do. It might not be so easy to get into Country too.

Whistle While You Work - With Neil Mannolini : Some time ago (MM Oct 2014) a question from Colin Benporath was posed about whether a goalkeeper could challenge a forward on his own and about to receive an overhead in the circle. Neil has been kind enough to check the new rule book: "In the NEW rules of hockey (on pages 32/33) under rule 13.2.f it states:

'From a free hit awarded to the attack within the 23 metre area the ball must not be played into the circle until it has travelled at least 5 metres or has been touched by a player on either team other than the player taking the free hit.'

It goes on to state that: 'it is permitted to play the ball high above the attacking circle so that it lands outside the circle subject to rules related to dangerous play and the ball is not legitimately playable inside or above the circle during its flight.' *Therefore it would seem that an overhead may not land in the circle, though the rule book does not appear to specifically prohibit it - Ed.*

Neil also goes on to recommend that players should purchase a copy of the new rule book, issued early in June. Those of you who have access and knowledge can find it on-line via the Hockey WA web-site, otherwise I suggest you contact Sue Cook in the Hockey WA office. *(See also Page 8)*

From The Saturday O/65s: We are still enjoying our afternoons - so much so that it's usual for every player to stay on and socialise after the games. It's also not uncommon for non-players to join us as spectators, and later at the bar. Thanks go to all providers of the snacks. This is not a permanent obligation, as the task is rotated around our ranks by George Bradbury.

The yellow bibs we recently acquired have now been christened, unfortunately not because we had four four teams, but because we had temporarily mislaid the orange ones.

It's been a real lift to the standard of hockey (almost all of the time) to have a sprinkling of really good players in our ranks, such as former international Brian Glencross.

As of 30th June we have 49 paid up players.

George Winning Trophy: Ian Purdie gives us the story of this trophy's creation process in his piece on Page 7. The wording reads: "George Winning Trophy" "O/60s Hockey Masters." Each of the three wood pillars has a complete listing of one of the teams of the day. In full these read:

Blue Team: Adolphus Abrahams, Peter Blockley, Bob Bowyer, Jim Boyce, John Charlesworth, John Crute, Jeff Godfrey, Martin Greay, Peter Livingstone, Neil Mannolini. Eric McAulay, Les Meade, Trevor Mullings, David Palandri, Russell Phillips, Ian Purdie (capt), John Sanders, Graeme Samson, Peter Stevens.

White Team: Terry Armitage, Bob Dare, Peter Ford, Ross Gerrans, Linc Grostate, Geoff Gurney, Roger Jewell, Brian Lester, Ian Lyon, Neil McLennan, Bob Robinson (capt), Barry Rutter, Chris Sturgeon, Ian Sutherland, Peter Williamson, Ron Venables.

Yellow Team: Barry Angus, Mike Black, Roger Booth, Chris Calder, Stewart Calder, Colin Gee (capt), John Halley, Colin Nicholas, Michael Pearson, Stan Salazaar, Bob Stidwell, Fred Strother, George West, Peter Willett, George Winning Dudley Younger.

I have also found a "Merrill Lynch Mercury Cup" trophy, which seems to have been an award to the quarterly winners in the O/50s from December 1994 to September 2007. More research is to be done on both trophies - and any information which readers can provide is very welcome.

Punology One: "It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally." *This one came from comic Christopher Hudspeth, who says it's not original - just taken from the web.*

A' Division Blog: By now this section should need no introduction.

June 3rd: The day began very early with the O/70 trials, which included a very high proportion of 'A' division players. This meant that by 1:30 pm when play started many were already quite fatigued, and we lost several more during the course of the afternoon due to injury niggles. As numbers were down in any case the last game of the day was not played. It's not unknown for the quality of our hockey to degenerate as the day progresses, but today it was down from the start, and worsened. Starting player counts were Gold (8), White (8), Red (9), and Blue (9). All four goalkeepers are still playing pretty well, in the main. Total goals scored (9).

June 10th: Due to the O/65 trials pre-game warm-ups were limited or non-existent, and this meant that the overall quality of the hockey was down at the start (with a few exceptions - including Ian Hill and Ivan Wilson) and worsened as the day progressed. As numbers were well down, it was far from one of our greatest days. The last game of the day was not played - again. Player numbers were White (6), Red (8), Blue(9) and Gold (7)). Total goals scored (10).

June 17th: Despite the bad weather, numbers were good. The day's surprise was the arrival of Peter Evans, Les Waldon and Paul Robinson prepared to play, necessitating changes to our "Department of Health" The hockey quality was variable, and the quality of the passes went down the closer we got to the attacking circle (generally). The goalkeepers (John, Barry, Colin and Bill) are now attached to a team, and with a little help from the forwards were able (by playing well) to limit the scoring on the day. All games bar one were draws; four of them 0-0. Player numbers were Blue (11), Red (11), Gold (8) and White (8). Total goals (3).

June 24th: Five minutes before play was due to start it seemed we would battle to field two teams, then a lot of players arrived late. Comebacks continued for Peter Evans (Blue) and Len Blythe (White) while it was great to see Jim Banks (Gold) on a hockey field again. Scott Blackwell marked his return by scoring two good goals in White's first match. Player numbers were Gold (10), Blue (10), White (8) and Red (10). The standard was variable, meaning that parts of it were very good early on. As usual it worsened as the day progressed. Lionel David reminded me that he's around by umpiring one game, for which our thanks. Some cracking goals were scored, but the day's total was only (7).

Well Dones: Thanks to June 'A' umpires Adolphus Abrahams, Bala Chandran, Lionel David, Peter Gason, Ian Hill, Roger Jewell, Neil Mannolini, Neil Scaddan, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. Thank you to 'B' division regulars Lionel David, Vern Gooch and John Lindsay as well those of you I don't know in the ranks of the 'C' umpires. Well done also to the Saturday officials who I failed to note - probably due to the excitement of playing again. Peter Brien and Roger Jewell have been regulars, and I think Brian Glencross also did some games. Apologies to any I missed. Thanks to those who cooked for the June 6th sausage sizzle - Ken Watt started things off, with Bob Robinson and Gordon Thomas continuing. And thanks to Gordon Thomas and the Stadium staff for our Wednesday bar snacks.

Punology Two: A plateau is just a high form of flattery.

Quotable Quote No 1: "As scarce as truth is, the supply has always been in excess of the demand." Josh Billings 1818 - 1885. This was the pen name of US humorist Henry Wheeler Shaw. *At least here in "Masters Matters" untruths are generally inadvertent rather than intentional.*

Stop Press: The State teams are now selected. Congratulations to the selected, more next issue.

1D (or perhaps 1C) grade winners - when?

Photo supplied by Robin Bailey

**Blast from the past - Number 3**

Spot The Players: I am assured by the supplier of the photograph that it contains two current WHM players, one former one, and a current Saturday player. I can only pick two - what do our readers make of another reminder of the hirsute generation? By the way, what club is it?

Department of Corrections: Jim Banks must have read the last issue about being a (temporary) past player in the bar. It is good to note that he has now become a current player again.

Past Players: Noted were George Winning, Jeff Godfrey, Stuart Calder, John Sanders, & Brian Lester.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: After a hockey (not a selfie) stick parted company from its owner at Perry Lakes this might have to be a selfie. The main cause was frustration at my own very curtailed running ability. I can't think where the idea of discarding the stick when stressed originated.

Quotable Quote No 2: These have no bearing on 'Masters Matters' as the negative feedback mainly comes from its editor. I just like them. "Asking a working writer what he thinks about critics is like asking a lamp post how it feels about dogs." Christopher Hampton - Portuguese /British playwright, screen writer and film director. "Any fool can criticise, condemn and complain - and most fools do." Dale Carnegie (1888 – 1955) - US writer and lecturer. *Never mind the umpires, just get on with it.*

The French Letter No 10:

Well guys I guess you are all waiting (with bated breath) for the announcement of the State teams. I trust there will be no TT's as a result. On that note I am moved to reflect that we are fortunate indeed to have so many opportunities to play hockey at national and international levels. Firstly, in 2002, we had the creation of Alliance International which gave the opportunity for players from different countries to play together in tournaments all over the world. Yours truly has played for them a number of times and forged some great friendships with people from other countries. On the Australian national scene we have had the opportunity, in WA at least, to field two teams in some age divisions. Then, internationally, we had the emergence of the Southern Cross sides. All in all we are very privileged to have numerous opportunities to go on playing the sport we all love. I seriously doubt there is any other sport in the world that provides its veteran members with so many opportunities.

I noted with interest the move to develop new arrangements for the George Winning Trophy. I think the new idea is great and I thought a little bit of history might be appropriate. When the trophy was first inaugurated to honour George's enormous contribution to Wednesday hockey I volunteered to make a suitable trophy. I designed and constructed it in my workshop. (Woodwork is my hobby). When the base was complete I then mounted the wooden pillars and purchased metal plates on which were printed the names of all those allocated to the teams at the time. An examination of those names makes for quite interesting reading. It is not a thing of great beauty but that is somehow fitting (sorry George).

Cheers guys and good hockey

Ian Purdie (*Thanks again Ian - thanks also to Jason for finding the trophy at PHS. Ed.*)

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: June's question was: In 1988 Jackie Pereira scored in each game of which of the following tournaments: a) Bicentennial Tournament, Commonwealth Hockey Stadium, Perth b) Four Nation Tournament, Hockey centre, Essen c) XXIV Olympic Games, Song Nam Olympic Stadium, Seoul d) Champion's Trophy II, Hockey Centre, Frankfurt. Rusty must have been away (again), as no answers were received.

July's question is: Which of the following statements is true of the Hockeyroos successful Gold medal winning effort at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games?: a) Australia did not play NZ at these Games. b) Claire Mitchell-Taverner made her debut for Australia. c) Australia conceded either 0 or 1 goal per match. d) A and B. *Answer next issue.*

Shakespeare Said It: "How poor are they that have not patience! What wound did ever heal but by degrees" Othello, Act II Scene III. *Good advice for convalescents, hopefully after the event for me.* "A hit, a very palpable hit." Hamlet Act V Scene II. *'A' division spectator on June 3rd after most of the well timed and accurate hits had been used up during the State trials.*

Grumpy Old Men Part Two: "Wealth is the parent of luxury and indolence, and poverty of meanness and viciousness, and both of discontent." Plato (427 BC - 347 BC) in "The Republic." Do we need to say ancient Greek philosopher? *All seem to be increasingly on display in Australia.*

Vale Mike Kinsella: Mike did so much for WA hockey and the Old Aquinians club. From all at WHM our commiserations go to his family and large number of friends.

Balinese Bulletin 5: *Thanks again Peter Hammond. I saw Bali traffic last in 1979 - almost orderly.*

Not a lot to report this month. But think this may be of interest to all those who have had some experience travelling the roads up here in recent years.

No, I don't drive here & the following may help to explain why!!!

This obviously comes from a much younger expat than I. I also had to edit this a little because the "author" had English as his/her 2nd language. How to drive like a local:

This might scare my mother but yes, if there's one place where I pretend to get local it's on the road.

It's 34 degrees Celsius and I need to hit the road, it's a long drive to the other side of the island with many twists, curves, potholes and assholes. I put on my long pants, shoes, jacket and helmet. I stuff my bag where I'm supposed to put my legs and I'm ready to go. I drive reasonably fast because the people behind you pose more of a threat than the ones in front.

On a road trip in Bali you can encounter the following takeover situations:

1. THOU SHALL NOT PASS! There is always some old gandalf on the road driving slower than when you sip an expensive margarita in a beach club, but swerving on the road like he had one too many.
2. Tsunami When the 50 bikes behind a slow truck decide to pass all at one.
3. Puff puff pass. When an old truck passes and clouds both lanes with black smoke like they just decided on who the next pope is going to be.
4. Now you see me, now you don't. A bike in your right mirror suddenly takes you over from the left.
5. Double trouble. Oncoming bus decides to overtake an oncoming bus, making you wonder where you should go.
6. Cutting it up. Someone overtakes you only to hit the brake and make a turn.
7. Daredevil. When someone takes over a vehicle on a blind corner.
8. Tunnel of light. When oncoming traffic gets overtaken by someone with high beams.
9. Supersize me. When a bike's load width spans at least one lane.
10. Chicken run. Oncoming traffic breaks or we all die.
11. Pole position. Everybody wants to be at the front, sidewalks are for bikes.
12. Green bikes. When someone's bike is pushed by another bike due to lack of fuel or technical issues, for some reason their brakes usually don't work either so beware of passing them.
13. Cornered. When a large vehicle came to a halt uphill in in a bend because they're stuck and the bikes behind it are impatient.

Peter also sent a photograph which defeated all my attempts to include here. Ed.

Pertinent Question: Neil Mannolini also posed the question: "On the rules, how many players either:

a) Have a rule book. b) Have read one in the past 10 years. c) Have ever read one?

A survey would be revealing." *Any feedback on this one? Ed.*

All news and other contributions to:

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