



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 Maroon

Masters Matters

Issue No 5

May 2018

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Dates For The Diary:

2018: May 30th: Sausage sizzle following play at PHS.

June 20th / 30th. WGMA World Cup - Barcelona.

} Australia and Southern Cross

July 27th / August 5th: IMHA World Cup - Terrassa.

} Australia

September 21st / October 6th. Interstate Masters Championships - Lismore / Ballina NSW.

2020: World Cup - possibly Japan.

} Australia and Southern Cross

Interstate Tournament 2018 - Metro: The grapevine has it that nominations for the WA State teams have not been plentiful in the older age groups. There has already been one trial before hockey on Wednesday 11th April - or was it a practice match between the State O/65s and O/70s? I would hazard a guess that behind the scenes negotiations will be employed as usual and the teams will be filled again. I hope Les Waldon's shoulder has improved sufficiently for him to perform any required twisting of arms. "Masters Matters" will endeavour to let you know who is in the squads when they are selected and announced.

Perry Lakes Wednesday Play: It is disappointing to report that neither 'A' nor 'B' Division were there in sufficient numbers to play the full fixtures. As a consequence the post-hockey barbecued sausages and drinks started very early, and finished early too. I trust that all members of WHM who surprised their wives by turning up unexpectedly at home were able to offer a very convincing explanation as to why this would only be a once-off. Thanks to all those who did the work of setting up, organising food and drinks, cooking, and cleaning up afterwards. Our limerick writer said:

We went to the Perry Lakes grass
 But sadly our numbers were sparse
 I wish I could say
 It featured great play
 But most of our hockey lacked class.

That applies to 'A' Division only, who generally failed to take advantage of a newly mowed and smooth playing surface. I trust that 'B' Division did better. Reader comments on the day are very welcome - keep them short please. I hope that nobody was turned back at the Border Force outpost on the Narrows Bridge. Ed.

Sizzling News: Ivan Wilson has been doing us all a favour by supplying the onions for our end of the month sausage sizzles. Now he has volunteered to take over the organisation of them completely. Thanks Ivan, and I hope you manage to untwist that arm. MM is available for publicity, as required.

Quotable Quote One: "Now the trumpet summons us again - not as a call to bear arms, though arms we need, not as a call to battle, though embattled we are - but a call to bear the burden of a long twilight struggle, year in and year out, "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation" - a struggle against the common enemies of man; tyranny, poverty, disease and war itself." *John F Kennedy (1917 - 1963) US President. Inaugural Address, January 20th, 1961. (In my view that's un-tweetable)*

Department of Health: Last issue expressed a wish that Chip Challenor would be smiling again soon. Since then he has had a back operation, and now claims “the longest bum crack in WHM.” I hope that the operation has done as much for the back as it has done for the smile. Jim Wright has come back with a vengeance and is covering the ground and intercepting passes in his former style again. Roger Partington has now had the arthroscopy and is on track for a timely return to playing. Fill-in captain for Red Jim Wright hopes that it will be sooner than that. Les Waldon’s come back from the shoulder duly occurred at Perry Lakes on the 28th, and went well. Peter Murray suffered a nasty gash on the shin inflicted by a trailer at Augusta. The local medicos did well in managing to stitch the wound. Ken Beer is not only scheduled for ear surgery, but in addition has a problem with an Achilles tendon. Ham D’Souza has not received good news from his MRI, as the diagnosis from his specialist is that the potential back operation would end his hockey. In the meantime alternative treatments will be used (injections, etc) and he will use the time to have a couple of eye operations. A return to hockey is not impossible, but will take time. And in late news former WHM (and Cricketers) player Murray Sharp has just had an operation for bowel cancer - prognosis uncertain as yet. Best wishes from “Masters Matters” to all in recovery mode, including those not mentioned.

Letters To The Editor: Thank you to all respondents to the April edition: Alan Bryce, Chip Challoner, Neil Mannolini, Rusty Phillips, Ric Denny, David Lester, Steve Farrar, and Derek Jobe. Topics varied.

Alan Bryce: Wondered what the newsletter editor did in his spare time. *As little as possible.*

Rusty Phillips: Sent in a correct answer to John’s question.

Ric Denny: “Reading the comments by Graham Newson regarding Masters hockey in Sydney I had the same experience in that there isn’t anything near the Western Hockey Masters in Perth where you can play with your peers; in fact there isn’t any other competition in Australia like it. Ken Dyer did try to get something going, but to no avail. I actually stopped playing here as did Norm Stanton, the age difference in the grade available to play in could be up to 50 years. Golf is now a more satisfying pastime.” *Thanks Ric, bring your hockey gear next time you’re over here and have a run.*

David Lester: Who does not want to unsubscribe, either. *Thanks for the thanks too, David.*

Steve Farrar: Gave us feedback on the April issue’s “Rule of the Month” which was all (almost all) of the ways in which a penalty corner comes to an end. See this issue’s “Rule of the Month” on Page 4.

Ken Watt: Gave us coverage of PHS on Anzac day - thanks a lot. The story can be found on Page 4.

Name for O/65s: Can a reader suggest something? Saturday O/65s could be improved on.

It seems that we need a new name

For Perry Lakes’ Saturday game

The comp really thrives

But Sat 65s

Is not a good passport to fame. *(See From the Saturday O/65s Page 6)*

Appeal for O/75s: Alliance O/75s still has only 12 players for Barcelona. If there is anybody out there at all aged 73 upwards (age dispensation would apply) who would consider going over then please contact Secretary Maarten van Oosterzee on secretary@alliancehockey.net. If you need some advice from closer to home then please contact John Mercer (MM Editor) or the Australian coordinator for Alliance in Colin Benporath. Their emails are johnmercerc@iinet.net.au or cbenpora@iinet.net.au.

Quotable Quote Two: “A sense of duty is essential in work, but offensive in personal relations. People wish to be liked, not be endured with patient resignation.” *Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970). “Conquest of Happiness” (1930) Chapter 10.*

Department of Corrections: Despite appearances to the contrary I really do know how to spell Mike Gottschalk. So my apologies for the ‘h’ which vanished from the April issue. Where can you find a good proof-reader these days? *(probably very difficult given the MM salary rates)*

Northern Hemisphere Hockey

Photo From John Sanders



Tougher Than The Male? John's attachment to the photograph indicated that they are the girls from Aldeburgh warming up. We (according to the heat policy) do not play when and if the summer temperature climbs above 37° Celsius. I'd be interested to know whether there is a snow policy with a maximum thickness, beyond which play should be cancelled. Or would it work based on the actual or apparent temperature. Either way I cannot imagine encountering these conditions in Barcelona.

Welcome to New Players: It may have been a tumultuous and eventful year so far, but that is no excuse for our failures to acknowledge those players who have joined our ranks. Welcome to:

Peter Bewick (Hale): 'B' Division.

Stephen Needham (.....): 'B' Division.

Eddie Ebert (Fremantle): 'B' Division.

Russell Wood (Uni Soaks): 'B' Division.

Nick Hyde (Curtin): 'C' Division.

Blair Pedler (Vic Park): 'C' Division.

Greg Street (Suburban): 'A' Division.

Peter Eastlake(WAC): Is hoping to join 'A' Division in the lead-up to both major tournaments.

Our best wishes to all for your time with Western Hockey Masters.

April 25th: Thanks to Ken Watt for this report on what happened. "Last Wednesday a number of the 'A' Division players combined with the younger guys for the afternoon games and I was really impressed with the acceptance and inclusion of the older guys demonstrated by the 'B' Division players, even though most of us found the going a little difficult.

What was also very noticeable was the absence of 'agricultural' play, the absence of body to body contact and particularly the lack of abuse and questioning of umpires which seems to have become entrenched in the 'A' Division games.

Little wonder those from 'B' Division are reluctant to 'go up' or join us. Obviously, when skill diminishes so do manners."

Thanks Ken, we seem to be in agreement about manners. See limerick next page. Ed.

'A' Division Blog: The goal totals for April were Blue (10), White (8), Red (6) and Gold (4).

April 4th: Perhaps the censure in April's 'Masters Matters' had an effect, or maybe it was just the cooler (slightly) weather. Both Red and White players warmed up in numbers before the first game, but only the Red team seemed to benefit as they demolished White 3-1 led by former White player Ron Venables (two goals), with one goal to Bob Maley. Blue then also played all over White, but only converted one of their many chances; White popped one in for a 1-1 draw. Red and Gold had an even match only decided by a Jim Balding corner conversion (from the 3rd corner) after the final whistle. This match featured the return of Roger Jewell after a very lengthy absence, as well as Ken Walter's first Wednesday appearance in 2018 (& he passed it off in the circle, once). Blue converted their dominance into goals in their last two matches, with John Ree ending up with 4 (from his customary range) and Peter Dennis getting a double. In between those games White managed to pass a little better and edged Gold 2-1. Gold competed well against Blue but just could not get the ball in the net. In one hectic passage of play John Burt denied Ken Walter three times in succession at point blank range. Barry Rutter had accomplished something similar earlier (not against Ken). Colin Benporath played well too, but despite the best efforts of the goalkeepers 15 goals went in. The judging panel awarded goal of the day to Ron Venables' dribbler. Our numbers were decidedly better than they have been, though player behaviour was noticeably worse. The numbers in each side were: White (10), Red (11 - but lost Jim Wright early), Blue (10) and Gold (11).

April 11th: We can all do a lot better. I will not dwell on our lack of warm-ups, poor hockey and bad tempers. We have the best set-up for pensioner age hockey in Australia (maybe the world) and it's time we started to use it properly. All games were draws (again with three consecutive 0-0 scores). Despite missing a few (like another player whose initials are also JM) Jim Malcolm of Blue was the day's top scorer with two. Though goal of the day goes to Mal Jackaman (filling in for Red) for his look-away reverse stick success. The save of the day has to go to John Burt for saving a goal bound deflection by Bill Williamson with an outstretched stick. Roger Jewell and Ken Walter did not return again for Gold, but Phil Metcalf was back. Jim Wright got through the day without aggravating the injury further (I trust) while Ken Beer stopped playing due to a self-diagnosed Achilles problem. Player numbers were: Blue (10), Gold (9), White (10), and Red (9). Total goals scored (6).

April 18th: Our Perry Lakes venture did not succeed in attracting adequate numbers to play the 'A' Division fixtures past game four. Blue were the side most disadvantaged by this, any of their players who had not filled in only got one game. Some of the hockey was excellent, befitting the quality of the newly mowed playing surface, but a lot was below a standard I could describe as ordinary. Some managed to produce hard, flat and accurate hits (like Jim Malcolm at times), while others only managed bouncing, inaccurate mis-hits (no names). There is nothing personal here, as I no longer get hits. I think Jim Wright (who plays full back) received more forward line passes than any of us. Ash Foster and Ron Venables each scored two goals, with singles to Phil Metcalf and Peter Blockley (who also scored a most unlucky poster, which nearly hit both goal posts). Goal of the day was not selected, as due to a variety of reasons (like distance) the judges did not see all of them. It's good to have four goalkeepers again in Barry, Tony, John and Colin, and I hope you all got enough game time. Thanks to the organisers of the drinks (Colin Gee, Neil Scaddan and Roger Partington) and to the 'B' Division cooks Dave Evans and Steve McEntee. Thanks also to Ivan Wilson for the onions and other essential tasks. It was good to see Colin Sanders again, looking well. Player numbers were: Red (6), White (8) Gold (8), and Blue (6). Total goals (7).

April 25th: Due to other pressures I did not make it to PHS. Thanks to Ken Watt - see previous page.

Over-Critical? Some of the above has been far from complimentary. So has our limerick writer.

This blog has to be rather terse

To render a judgement adverse

Our warm-ups are sad

Our hockey is bad

But sometimes our manners are worse. (*We did not collude about manners at all - Ed.*)

From The Saturday O/65s: Attendances are still good. Despite losing quality players to the O/60s.

The summer season was officially retired on April 7th with our AGM and the end-of-season dinner at Perry Lakes. There were many contributors to the success of the evening. The food, plates and cutlery were definitely a team effort - thanks to George Bradbury, Jim Wright, Les Waldon and Bob Bowyer. Wines were also a joint effort between Jim Wright, Bob Bowyer, and a generous donation from Keith Platell. Thank you also to the Club members who set up the tables and chairs beforehand as well as helping to clean up afterwards.

Highlights from the meeting included:

- A big thank you to Jim Wright for his quality work on obtaining the new shirts.
- Les Waldon's Club Captain's report covered a wide range of topics. Among them:
 - 1) Our numbers are growing, and there is a possibility of a further spill-over from several clubs in the O/60s. Accommodating four teams is a bit tight.
 - 2) Les thanked all the Committee for their effective work over the past season.
 - 3) Thanks also to Peter Brien for umpiring and time-keeping. And to Keith Platell for taking the bibs home for a good clean. *(As well as the wine donation).*
 - 4) Work has just begun on incorporating Western Hockey Masters. We will stay closely in touch with developments in this area.
 - 5) Les suggested that we attempt to come up with a name for our Saturday competition. *Saturday O/65s does leave something to be desired - MM will take suggestions. Ed.*
- The meeting thanked Les for his leadership over the past year, particularly during the recent sad necessity to expel one of our members.
- All the current Committee will continue in their current roles. Harvey Davies will take on the control of the club defibrillator, with Ian Hill as the back-up.

The quality of the hockey has improved quite a lot with some of the recent additions to our ranks. It's great to see former Australian representatives Rob Andrew, Don Smart and Graeme Walter still involved with the game & reminds me of the buzz I got from playing against Julian Pearce in a Vets E match. Though it's generally better to be on the same side of players of such calibre. And as well as the internationals Ivan Wilson has joined us too, and will add more quality to the mid-field passing.

On Saturday 28th April we had a new umpire too. Apparently Richard Jewell had brought his grandson to Perry Lakes for Don Smart to pass on a few tricks, and somebody very persuasive had managed to talk him into doing a couple of games. I hope RJ enjoyed it; I know I did.

Saturday 28th also featured an international guest player in Alan Bryce, of Scotland & WA Country. He and wife Helen have continued their holiday in Broome, just our weather is cooling off.

Ivan Wilson's first Saturday began with an early arrival, but he then appeared to be suffering from withdrawal symptoms. Naturally, there was no sprinkler system to drive.

Goal of the day has not been awarded too often for Saturdays. There was one time when a certain left wing (on one of our two-team only days) put in four goals in the first quarter. The same player scored with a centimetre-perfect deflection on the 28th - the best one of the day (and the first).

In addition to the same initials, I share with John Milner a dislike of too much fuss about birthdays. But there is one pending which must be given some acknowledgement.

A few years ago it befell *(May 14th 1928, but who's counting)*

John Milner let out his first yell

Now time's moved along

But he's going strong

And goals are occurring as well.

Of course the goal-scoring left wing in the previous paragraph was J. Milner. Seriously, you are an inspiration to us all John. Happy Birthday from "Masters Matters."

Grumpy Old Men One: "The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending, then having the two as close together as possible." *George Burns (1896 -1996).*

The French Letter No 41:

A very recent experience is dictating the subject of this piece. Most of you would know that we have been trying to sell our house here in France for some time - seven years to be exact!

Well, three weeks ago we received an offer to buy from a Belgian couple. We accepted the offer and an appointment was made by the Notaire for the official signing. In addition the couple had also agreed in writing to purchase a large quantity of furniture and effects which we didn't want to take back to Australia. On the day of the signing, two hours beforehand to be precise, the Notaire rang to say that the sale was off as the couple had just phoned and said they didn't wish to proceed.

We were understandably shattered. So now it's back to the drawing board. We are now having to contact all the agents again that we had our listing with, having previously contacted them to advise that we had accepted an offer. It's a pain in the proverbial. However it also got me thinking about alternatives and led me to write what follows.

It occurred to me that there might be people in Aussieland, even people amongst you hockey tragics that would be interested in buying a property in France. Our property would make a great holiday home which could be used by not only the buyers but their friends and acquaintances too.

Situated in rural Normandy between Rouen and Dieppe with easy access by train to Paris (1.5 hours), the house is about 170 years old and situated on 6000 square metres of land. It is what the French call a "maison d'maitre" (the Master's house) meaning that it was originally part of a larger property with several out dwellings for farm workers and the owner lived in the big house. Three storeys with 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 large living areas kitchen and rear kitchen. ("arriere cuisine"). The upper storey is simply a large 106 sq m area we use for storage but it has been partially converted and contains all the plumbing and electrics to convert to a self contained apartment.

So think about it - buy it yourself - form a syndicate and buy it- the possibilities are endless. And you can get this gem for the ridiculous price (by Australian standards) of A\$500,000. If you know anyone that might be interested I can be contacted on ianjpurdie@gmail.com.

Ian Purdie (*Thank you Ian - I'll keep taking the Lotto tickets. Ed.*)

Shakespeare Said It: "Tis time to give 'em physic, their diseases are grown so catching." King Henry VIII Act I Scene III. *For us, it's time to go and have the flu vaccination.*

"How now! which of your hips has the most profound sciatica?" Measure For Measure Act I Scene III. *Orthopaedic Challenge team coach? Or 'A' Division team captain, any Wednesday.*

"And give me justice, justice, justice, justice!" Measure For Measure Act V Scene I. *All too common on Turf 1 nowadays. Umpires are generally unmoved.*

Balinese Bulletin No 33:

It is with regret that I confirm that the month of April has simply passed by unnoticed. This passing of 'time' which just happens to slip by happens much more frequently than it does down there where you are. I will do my best to "make something happen" for the June newsletter.

In closing, allow me to offer JOHN (*Milner, not Mercer*) my best wishes for his Birthday I'll bet, some years back, he wouldn't have believed he would still be out there on the track and scoring goals (*see 'From The Saturday O/65s'*).

Finally, I was saddened by the passing of Trevor Vanderputt. My sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Peter Hammond (*Thanks again Peter - Ed.*)

Punology One: Thank you to Stuart Burnfield for this one, which had hidden itself among my emails. Those of you who do not know the opening lines in "A Tale Of Two Cities" should Google them now. It appears that the Dickens work was first serialised in two local newspapers, and: "It was the Bicester Times, it was the Worcester Times."

Rules of the Month: Last issue included seven different reasons for a penalty corner to be deemed completed as per Rule 13.5. Our thanks go to Steve Farrar for the following:

"I have just a point of feedback, if I may ...

Rule 13.5 is modified slightly by Rule 13.6 -

Rule 13.6: *'For substitution purposes and for completion of a penalty corner at half-time and full time, the penalty corner is also completed when the ball travels outside the circle for the 2nd time.'*

Point to note here is that it does not need to travel 5m outside the circle as required by 13.5 c) but merely travel outside the circle for the second time."

Thank you Steve - I'm not certain we have been getting this one right. Now we will. Ed.

On one of the Wednesdays in April umpire Ken Watt was very strict on the no breaking rule. The defending team ended up with just the goalkeeper and one other defender behind the line. My White team failed to get a shot on target and consequently wasted another opportunity. The rules which led to this odd situation come from Rule 13.7 - offences during the taking of a penalty corner:

Rule 13.7 a): The player taking the push or hit from the back-line does not have at least one foot outside the field; the penalty corner is taken again.

Rule 13.7 b): The player taking the push or hit from the back-line feints at playing the ball, the offending player is required to go beyond the centre-line but is replaced by another player; the penalty corner is taken again.

If the feinting leads to what would otherwise be a breach of this rule by a defender only the attacker is required to go beyond the centre-line.

Rule 13.7 c): A defender, other than the goalkeeper, crosses the back-line or goal-line before permitted, the offending player is required to go beyond the centre-line and cannot be replaced by another defender; the penalty corner is taken again.

If a defender at this, or any subsequently re-taken penalty corner crosses the back-line or goal-line before permitted, the offending player is also required to go beyond the centre-line and cannot be replaced.

If a defender crosses the centre-line before permitted, the penalty corner is taken again.

Rule 13.7 d): A goalkeeper, or player with goalkeeping privileges, crosses the goal-line before permitted, the defending team defends the penalty corner with one fewer player; the penalty corner is taken again.

The defending team nominates which player is required to go beyond the centre-line, and they cannot be replaced by another defender.

If a goalkeeper, or player with goalkeeping privileges, at this or any subsequently re-taken penalty corner crosses the goal-line before permitted, the defending team is required to nominate a further player to go beyond the centre-line, and they cannot be replaced.

A penalty corner is considered as re-taken until any of the conditions of Rules 13.5 (for corners in normal time) & 13.6 (penalty corners at half-time & full-time) for its completion are met.

A subsequently awarded penalty corner, as opposed to a re-taken penalty corner, may be defended by up to five players.

Rule 13.7 e): An attacker enters the circle before permitted, the offending player is required to go beyond the centre-line; the penalty corner is taken again.

Attackers who are sent beyond the centre-line may not return for re-taken penalty corners, but may do so for a subsequently awarded penalty corner.

Rule 13.7 f): For any other offence by attackers; a free hit is awarded to the defence.

No Goalkeepers: Phil Metcalf has come up with a sensible suggestion for the times when a penalty corner is awarded but cannot be taken due to our local rule (no GKs, no corners). His proposal is that only five defenders should be permitted inside the 23 metre line. I think we need to define who may tackle the player who initiates the action from the 23, and when that tackle can be made. Should it be only after the ball has travelled 5 metres? Reader and umpires opinions are welcome.

'B' Division Report - April:

As feared Gordon has been unable to provide his usual extensive coverage of 'B' Division. And as there were no volunteers to fill in for a month the deeds of derring-do in the early games on Turf 2 will have to remain unhonoured and unsung. Ed.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: April's question was: Which of these statements about Olympian Dennis Kemp is NOT true: 1). He captained, and managed the 1952 Colts side to Brisbane aged 20. 2). He made history when he, Eric Pearce and Ted Brindal were chosen for the WA senior team in 1952. 3). He played in the half back line for the Old Modernians club. 4). He represented Australia at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. *From Rusty Phillips: "When I started playing hockey in 1958 Dennis Kemp was playing for Perth, so my answer is 3). Correct!* May's question is: Which Women's team made the most referrals to the video umpire at the 2018 Commonwealth games? Australia, New Zealand, England or South Africa. *Answer next issue.*

Well Done: April 'A' division umpires: Peter Evans, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, Roger Partington, John Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares and Ken Watt deserve our thanks for taking on what is becoming an arduous task. The 'B' and 'C' division umpires are as unknown to "Masters Matters" as what occurred in their April games. The April Saturday umpires: Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, Peter Brien, Ash Foster, Colin Gee, Marty Greay, Ian Hill, Richard Jewell, Geoff Roberts, Neil Scaddan, Don Smart, Brian Soares, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Graeme Walter, Ken Walter, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. Thank you to all the Perry Lakes workers on the 18th (as in 'A' Division report). And finally well done to the rostered caterers on Saturdays at Perry Lakes.

Punology Two: Conversation overheard on public transport:

"I just don't understand cloning."

"That makes two of us."

Music in Everything

Thanks to John Sanders for this candid photograph of a choir in full voice. No doubt readers will have their views on what they are singing. In my opinion it could only be: "Drink, drink, drink!" from "The Student Prince."

Please feel free to send in any alternatives.

Thailand Report - April:

Friday the 6th April, my BKK club side got an invitation to play in the annual "Pakistan Day Cup" held at the Queen Sirikit Stadium, a beautiful astroturf stadium about an hour from Bangkok. The teams competing were the Pakistan under 21 squad (2 teams), the Thai All Stars (Thailand's National team, and 4 University teams and us, a team made up of players from all countries (England, Australia, Belgium, Ireland, USA, and some other countries). The temperature was 36C humidity about 85% and after watering the turf, a steam bath, I have never been so dehydrated in my life. Two full games in one day, 10am and 4pm against the Thai National team and then one of the Pakistani teams. We all think we were / still are reasonable players. I can tell you I have never been turned inside out, run around and basically humiliated in my life. At nearly 67 I was completely way out of my league, some 45 years older than the opposition.

I did however make a freak save on the post from a drag flick penalty corner, so my reflexes are still pretty good.

The whole basis of this story I want to share with you is that there are still 3 basic elements of hockey which were highlighted to me during this experience.

1. Keep your stick on the ground at all times especially when you have the ball. It is so easy to get "pick pocketed" these days.
2. Marking your player is imperative, so calling and talking to each other is so important.
3. Possession, be safe, don't give the miracle pass, at our age we can't afford to give it away, getting it back doubles your workload.

After 4 days I am still so sore, I have muscles I didn't know existed, and still so dehydrated.

This experience was a great learning curve for me. The game is so fast now, and with an artificial knee, taught me a big, big lesson in reading the play and positioning.

Hope you enjoyed reading this, makes me realise we tend to overthink our hockey strategies, when we should concentrate on the basics. No mistakes tends to create no losses, and a positive confident frame of mind.

April 25-28 sees the Asian Youth Olympic Games qualifiers being held at the same stadium, both Men's and Women's competition.

Teams competing in the Men's comp are India, Korea, Pakistan, Malaysia, Japan, Cambodia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Bangladesh, Singapore, Hong Kong and Oman.

Women's teams included China, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Korea, India, Thailand and Singapore.

The results from the 1st day were quite extraordinary

Japan v Hong Kong 9-0

Korea v Thailand 11-5

Malaysia v Cambodia 23-0

Bangladesh v Singapore 10-4

Pakistan v Chinese Taipei 3-3

India v Thailand 23-0

Korea v Hong Kong 12-0

Final results: Women China (4) - India (1). Men India (4) - Malaysia (4). India won shootout 2-1.

On a personal note, I am getting married here in Bangkok on May 6th, to a beautiful lady, her name is Walaiporn Thamronglaohapan (Pak), dare you to pronounce the name!!!

She is a teacher at the International School Bangkok, her English is probably better than mine.

Hopefully she will be able to come to the Nationals with me in Lismore / Ballina.

I am also coaching the ACT O'65's this year.

Cheers all, I hope you are all fit and healthy.

Graham Wood (Woody)

Thanks Woody - congratulations and best wishes for the big day from all of us down here. Ed.

Barcelona Absentees: When the WGMA World Cup is held in Spain at the end of June both our Wednesday and Saturday competitions will be affected. So here is my take on the number of absentees by team for 'A' Division, with totals for 'B' / 'C' Divisions.

'A' Blue:	Australia: Ian Hill.	
	Southern Cross: Neil Patterson, John Ree.	Total: 3
'A' Gold:	Alliance: Terry Gaston.	Total: 1
'A' Red:	Australia: Howie Herbert, Ron Venables.	
	Southern Cross: Peter Murray.	
	Alliance: Peter Stevens.	
	Management: Bill Williamson.	Total: 5
'A' White:	Australia: Len Blyth.	
	Southern Cross: George Bradbury, Dave Horsley, Brian Soares, Scott Blackwell.	
	Alliance: John Mercer.	Total: 6
'A' GKs:	Australia: Bill Baldwin, John Harper	
	Alliance: Colin Benporath.	<u>Total: 3</u>
		<u>18</u>
'B' Division:	Australia: S Thomson, H Tyrell, R Osborne.	Total: 3
	S/Cross: P Andrews, A Challenor, M Robinson, L Welten, G Wood	Total: 5
	Alliance: Neil Miller.	Total: 1
	New Zealand: Dudley Evans.	<u>Total: 1</u>
		<u>10</u>
'C' Division:	Australia: W Cutler, G Miller, S Pestana, B Robinson.	
	T Jones, C Burgess, J Pestana.	Total: 7
	S/Cross: S Farrar.	<u>Total: 1</u>
		<u>8</u>

Managing Partners: In addition to all the above WHM travellers the Southern Cross O/70s will be managed by Wendy Looi and their O/75s by Irene Simpson.

WHM Numbers Comparison: The figures above show that WHM will have 36 players at the 2018 World Cups. According to 'Masters Matters' for May 2016 we had 50 at Newcastle and Canberra. In the Netherlands in 2014 it was 57, and there were 40 at Oxford in 2012. It seems that the restriction on second teams in an age group for Southern Cross and Alliance has had an effect.

Medal Found and Returned: The next paragraph gives a clue to the disorganisation currently having an effect on the production of "Masters Matters." I received an email from Kevin Dempster about some jewellery which had been found in the Swan River which included a Gold medal from the Newcastle World Cup (2016) for the O/65s. The medal was eventually re-united with its owner who was Peter Morgan. It sounds like a similar break-in to the one which was inflicted on my next-door neighbours earlier this year. Thanks to Kevin for his work in finding the right owner. I regret that this story was not included previously, as it would have been under normal circumstances (I hope).

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players: The notebook has malfunctioned again, not wanting to be left behind by my car, laptop and internet connection (April was not a great month). At PHS it managed to note Robin Bailey, Graham Challenor, Jeff Godfrey, Mal Horrigan and George Winning. And at Perry Lakes (including 18/04) the list has included Robin Bailey, Graham Challenor, Tony Marshall, John Mercer, John Milner, Bob Stidwell, Simon Thomson and Les Waldon. I think Simon may have just returned from an Australian O/70 training camp - it's hard to imagine him missing a game under any other circumstances.

Hockey Australia History Project



Get your own copy of all senior Hockeyroo and Kookaburra match and player details.

Mission Accomplished: Well done to John Sanders and Richard Aggiss. In their own words:

“For the first time in the history of Australian hockey participants, the media and hockey fans can explore every international match played by the country’s iconic Hockeyroos and Kookaburras and track the international careers of all their hockey heroes, family members and friends.

The ground breaking History Project is the result of more than six years painstaking work by former Australian coach Richard Aggiss and historian John Sanders. Reviewing match sheets, old newspaper reports, official reports, and cross checking with colleagues around the world, they have compiled the most comprehensive historical record of the Hockeyroos and Kookaburras.”

It is possible to obtain a compact disc of the Hockey Australia History Project for \$20. Or requests for an online copy should be sent to the address below. Contact John Sanders at:

Mobile: 0439 523 112.

Email: john.sanders1@optusnet.com.au.

Grumpy Old Men Two: “I never cease being dumbfounded by the unbelievable things people believe.” *Leo Rosten (1908 - 1997). US humorist and political scientist (not necessarily in that order).*

The Last Word: Getting this edition out has been hard work instead of the recreational activity that it normally is. My thanks to all who contributed, and my apologies if I’ve left anything out. Hopefully normal service will resume next month, before the Barcelona disruptions.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:

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