



Approved 11 December 2019

MINUTES
of WA Masters Hockey General Meeting
The Western Australian Hockey Association (inc)

Meeting held on Wednesday 5 December 2018
In the Eastman Room of Perth Hockey Stadium, Bentley
Commencing at 6:38pm

1 OPENING

The Masters Hockey Chairman, Peter Connolly (PC) opened the meeting and welcomed the Delegates from Clubs and other parties from Masters Hockey.

He introduced his current Committee Members.

2 ATTENDANCE

23 persons attended for all the Meeting, including Committee Members, Club Delegates and Proxies and other interested parties, as listed on the attached Meeting Attendance, along with several apologies. (Peter Westlund, HWA Vice-President joined the Meeting towards its conclusion.)

3 WA MASTERS HOCKEY 2018 ANNUAL REPORT by PETER CONNOLLY, CHAIRMAN

The Chairman tabled his Annual Report and spoke to the main points in it. His Report was accepted by the Meeting and a copy of it follows:

Charter

The WA Masters Hockey Committee is a committee of Hockey WA and is responsible to the Management of Hockey WA and encompasses all matters relating to Masters Hockey and Masters Hockey State Teams.

Chairman's Report

The WA Masters Committee Members holding office in November of 2018 and their portfolio responsibilities are

- *Jill Van Duuren – State Women's Representative and HA Women's State Delegate*
- *Keith Gilbride – Men's State Representative*
- *Sinead French-Bluhm – Finance*
- *Scott Macdonald – Assistant Men's State Representative and Men's Local Competition*
- *Suzi Wood – Assistant Women's State Representative*
- *Cameron Robinson – Communications and Technology*
- *Jean-Marie Rudd – Women's Local Competition and Assistant Chair*
- *Peter Andrews – Secretary*
- *Peter Connolly – Chair and HA Men's State Delegate*

I acknowledge and congratulate all Committee Members' for their enormous enthusiasm, energy and significant contributions throughout the year.

Two members of the current Committee Sinead French-Bluhm and Jean-Marie Rudd have each completed their elected 3 year terms. They retire and offer themselves for re-election to the committee to be held at the 2018 Annual Meeting in December.

As the Charter specifies, the Committee has significant advisory and operational responsibilities. In its advisory capacity, the Committee provides advice to Hockey WA management and staff on a wide range of local competition issues and policies, and the development of Masters Hockey for the hockey community. Its operational responsibilities encompass the selection of Coaches, Managers and Players to participate in the annual Australian Masters Championships, this year held in Bunbury/Busselton W.A. for the Women's Teams and Lismore/Ballina N.S.W. for the Men's Teams, and the significant associated logistical arrangements in sending 16 teams to the Championships.

Local Competition

Seventy-five teams took the field in Men's Masters Saturday afternoon competitions, the same as 2017 while 9 teams participated in the Over 40 Midweek Division on Monday night an increase of 1 from 2017.

Thirty-four teams took the field in four divisions of the Women's Wednesday Night Masters Competitions, a decrease of one on 2017.

Western Hockey Masters is a Masters only club organisation with around 180 members which plays on turf at PHS on Wednesday afternoons in three grades from Over 50s up and also runs a social Over 65s competition on Saturday afternoons at Perry Lakes grass fields all year round. I am extremely supportive of the efforts of this organisation, they are increasing participation in our sport in creative ways.

In 2017 the Committee with the assistance of Hockey WA conducted a comprehensive survey about the WA Local Masters competition. The purpose of the survey was to gain an understanding of where and how the competition should and/or should not evolve.

The survey was sent to Hockey WA registered players from the age of 30 and up, over 5200 recipients at the time. More than 800 responses were received, a response rate of over 15%, which is typical for this type of survey.

The Committee have been in consultation with Hockey WA's Competition Group to make the following changes to local competitions for the 2019 season based on strong supporting evidence from the survey results.

1. Midweek Hockey

a. Women

- i. Rae Blunt fixtures only on Wednesday night*
- ii. Other grades on a consistent night as much as possible*
- ii. Introduce an Over 45 competition which will replace Division 4*
- iv. Rae Blunt competition, change the underage rules for players to be the same as the midweek men (i.e. 3 + GK up to 5 years younger in any fixture*

b. Men

- i. Over 40 Division 1 Midweek fixtures move to only on Wednesday night*

2. Introduce some artificial turf fixtures to Men's Saturday afternoon Over 40's Division

- a. Aiming for two fixtures per week*
- b. Home games for clubs with a home turf*
- c. Played only Saturday afternoon between 12:00 noon and 5:30pm*
- d. Clubs without a home turf will still have home fixture on grass*
- e. Finals to be on artificial turf*
- f. Review at end of 2019 season*

3. Introduce some artificial turf fixtures to Men's Saturday afternoon Over 50s Division 1

- a. Aiming for one fixture per week*
- b. Home games for clubs with a home turf*
- c. Played only Saturday afternoon between 12:00 noon and 5:30pm*
- d. Clubs without a home turf will still have home fixture on grass*
- e. Finals to be on artificial turf*
- f. Review at end of 2019 season*

4. Strict application of the promotion/relegation rules unless there are extenuating circumstances in which case HWA will, in consultation with WAMHC, determine the best outcome for the grades involved.

A report discussing all of the findings of the survey will be published on www.wamastershockey.com in early 2019.

Rewards

The following WA hockey stalwarts were recognised at the National Championship in Bunbury/Busselton with awards for Outstanding Contributions to Women's Masters Hockey in WA

- *Gail Anderson*
- *Susan Gallinagh*
- *Avis Holtham*
- *Dale Keiley*
- *Janese McDougall*
- *Allison Rieck*
- *Vicki Silich*
- *Jill Van Duuren*

Congratulations to each of you, worthy recipients all. I would like to thank you for your many years of excellent service to WA Masters Hockey.

Australian Masters Championships

Women

Bunbury/Busselton hosted the Women's Australian Masters Championships. Seven teams from Over 35 through to the Over 65 were entered in the Championships. The WA results were Over 35 Bronze Medal; Over 40, Gold Medal; Over 45, Bronze Medal; Over 50, Gold Medal; Over 55, Silver Medal; Over 60, Bronze Medal ; Over 65, Bronze Medal.

Eleven players and six shadow players from Western Australian teams were selected to play in the Australian Women's Masters Teams for the 2019 Trans-Tasman Challenge at the Gold Coast in April/May 2019.

Also selected, Allison Rieck as Coach of the Women's Australian Over 35 Team.

Men

Lismore/Ballina hosted the 2018 Men's Australian Masters Championships with WA Masters Hockey fielding 9 teams in Over 40 through to Over 75 divisions. Results for the Championships were Over 40, 5th; Over 45, Bronze Medal; Over 50, Gold Medal; Over 55 Team 1, Silver Medal; Over 55 Team 2 7th; Over 60, Silver Medal; Over 65, Bronze Medal; Over 70, 4th; Over 75, Silver Medal. WA were unable to enter an Over 35 team due to a low number of nominations.

Sixteen WA players and seventeen shadow players were selected in Australian Teams to participate in the 2019 Trans-Tasman Challenge at the Gold Coast (numbers include both WA and WA Country players).

Also selected were Cameron Fairbrother as Coach of the Australian Over 55 Men, Rob Lawson as Coach of the Australia Over 60 Men and Paula Dick as Manager of the Australian Over 50 Men. Congratulations to our successful WA teams and Australian selections.

A further ten players and one shadow player were selected into the Australian Over 70 and Over 75s teams who will be travelling overseas to play.

The overall performance of the WA Masters Hockey Women's and Men's Teams in 2018 continues to demonstrate our ability to perform above expectations for the size of our player base and shows the strength of our local competition, our Selection Policies and Procedures and team preparation.

A huge thank you and congratulations to the Coaches, Managers, Selectors and sports health professionals who helped deliver these excellent results.

The venues for the 2019 National Championships are the Gold Coast for Masters Women and Bunbury/Busselton for Masters Men.

Committee Outlook

The Committee makes a significant contribution to the development of Masters Hockey in WA to meet the needs of participants. This work is undertaken with volunteers. The committee could not deliver these results without the support of Hockey WA and I would like to acknowledge and thank the Hockey WA Board, CEO Stuart Gilsenan and the staff of Hockey WA for their considerable assistance throughout the year.

I would like to make special mention of three people in particular for their considerable efforts, Graham Pilcher, Shayley McGurk Davy and Candyce Peacock. Thank you very much, your efforts are much appreciated.

The Committee has been very stable throughout 2018 operating with nine members. The appointments made at the 2017 General Meeting maintained or increased the diversity of participation in committee decisions by geographic location, age and club affiliation while strengthening the skill set of the committee.

In early 2018, the committee delivered a long awaited new web site in accordance with our media and communications policy. We are continuing to work within the framework of this policy to create closer links with the entire Masters Hockey community through direct communication to and from individuals.

Our strategic focus remains the creation and nourishment of an environment and culture which continues to increase the number of players and to improve the experience for all of those players participating in the game of hockey at all levels. Encouraging players who are reaching the age of eligibility for Masters Hockey to consider continuing their participation into and beyond the Over 35 and Over 40 competition is a critical activity.

These and other action plans to improve participation in, and enjoyment of, Masters Hockey are a focus of the WA Masters Hockey Committee 2019 agenda.

*Peter Connolly
Chairman
WA Masters Hockey Committee*

Comments and Discussion arising from the Chairman's Report

Jill van Duuren thanked those who selected the nominees for the Outstanding Contributions to Women's Masters Hockey in WA.

How to get the message across that Masters doesn't have to mean 'old'? To date, communication has been via HWA to their list of Club contacts, who then should pass on the messages to their Masters Delegates, and their Masters teams. The Chairman said he would talk to HWA about improving the process and also encouraged all Masters to register on the new Masters website.

The Chairman stated that the Committee emphasis is on making local Masters grow by listening and giving people what they want

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MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The 2017 Minutes were taken as read and It was Resolved that these Minutes be approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Dennis Reid and seconded by Michael Gottschalk.

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The matter of Men’s local competition permits was raised, particularly the decision of a permit for Clay Faulds. The Chairman described the process and informed the Meeting that Committee was already reviewing the Rules to provide clearer guidelines for permits.

The new process for providing WA uniforms direct from Just Hockey has worked well in 2018 and should continue.

Some discussion was deferred to General Business.

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FINANCIAL REPORT by SINEAD FRENCH-BLUHM, FINANCE & TREASURER

The Treasurer tabled her report and spoke to its main points.

The Financial Report was accepted. Proposed by Sinead French-Bluhm and seconded by Suzi Wood. A copy of the Financial Report is part of these Minutes.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman advised that the Committee may have up to 10 Members elected at a General Meeting or appointed to fill casual vacancies. The current Committee has 9 Members. A Member who has served a 3 year term and wants to continue is required to nominate to seek re-election for another 3 years.

There were 5 Nominations for the 3 vacancies, namely Sinead French Blumn, Jean-Marie Rudd, Stacy Hamilton, Anna Taylor and Katy Vipond.

Sinead French-Bluhm retired from Committee by rotation and offered herself for re-election.

Jean-Marie Rudd retired from Committee by rotation and offered herself for re-election.

Stacy Hamilton, Anna Taylor and Katy Vipond were Nominees seeking election for the first time.

No further Nominations could be accepted from those present.

The **Resolution** was:

That 3 of the 5 Nominees named on the Ballot Paper, namely Sinead French Blumn, Jean-Marie Rudd, Stacy Hamilton, Anna Taylor and Katy Vipond are elected as Members of the Committee.

The 3 Nominees who were present spoke to the Meeting to put their case for election. Sinead French-Bluhm, Jean-Marie Rudd and Stacey Hamilton spoke, and then Jill van Duuren, read statements for Katy Vipond and Anna Taylor.

Because there were more Nominations than vacancies the voting procedure was by Ballot (voting 3-2-1). The Chairman reminded those present that only Club Delegates had the right to vote on Resolutions at this meeting. The completed Ballot Papers were counted by Jill van Duuren and Cameron Robinson.

The result was that Sinead French-Bluhm, Jean-Marie Rudd and Stacey Hamilton were elected to Committee for 3 year terms.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

It was suggested that the age for Men's over 60's teams should be an average age of 60 to allow younger players into that grade. The alternative is to allow a number of underage players aged 58 and older per team. Committee is to look into this.

It was agreed that the Committee Minutes should be circulated to Club Masters, via a 'closed' log-in page of the website.

Keith Gilbride, Men's State Representative raised his concerns regarding the new Hockey Australia Masters structure amalgamating Men's and Women's Masters. He pointed out that the Delegates, including WA, have no vote, only an advisory capacity.

HA are retaining all the State Championship moneys without providing accounts to date. Championship amenities are deteriorating and player costs are rising

The Chairman noted that as the WA Men's Delegate, for some time he has indicated to HA that WA Masters are not happy. His main concern is the apparent disenfranchising of the States by HA.

The consensus of the discussion was that the change to HA running the Championships is not better, nor transparent and that volunteers are actually doing more work in poorer venues.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.

FINANCE REPORT PROVIDED BY SINEAD FRANCH-BLUHM, TREASURER WAMHC

Accounts for the Year 2018

Overall the accounts are in a very good position. A few years back we had to get a loan from Hockey WA to get through the year as there were a lot of payables to be made early on before the teams were selected and this put a strain on the accounts. After implementing some admin charges, we have successfully paid back Hockey WA and have got a nice buffer which ensures we don't have any issues if any big bills need to be paid up front. We are hoping to use these surplus funds too to give back to the Master's community – watch this space.

Invoicing this year ran very smoothly. Hockey Australia did take a bit of time to send through the championship invoices but once received and invoiced out, the managers were very good at paying these promptly. I would like to thank all the work the Managers did. It is a big job and on behalf of the committee I would like to mention how much we appreciate all that they do.

Uniforms

As usual Jill from Aussie grown made the Walk Out Top process ordering very simple and she was very accommodating close to the championships when we needed to order a few more. This year our Kukri uniforms were sorted by Just Hockey. This relationship was a very positive one for both sides. We had a collection point for our managers to collect the uniform's ordered and as we had some surplus items that could be sold, Just Hockey took the whole stock and managed to sell a lot more than expected. It was also very helpful for the women who had a lot of late entries due to injuries to be able to go to Just Hockey and order another uniform very close to the tournament.

Accommodation Deposits

The surplus funds in the account are used to help managers pay deposits for accommodation for the championships next year. This has worked very well over the last two years as the managers don't personally have to be out of pocket. All teams paid back their deposits by the end of August which was an improvement on last year! Please do not hesitate to request money to cover this cost by emailing finance@wamastershockey.com. An invoice will need to be supplied and this is usually paid directly to the accommodation.

Nomination Fees and Trials Expenses

We received a total of \$7,965.79 for men's nominations and \$6,766.29 for women's nominations for state trials this year. This totals \$14,732.08.

Cash Management

Our Term Deposit Account is currently on a rolling 3-month Term Deposit Account. Our interest rates have varied from quarter to quarter from 2.25% - 2.52% We have earned a total of \$1,188.38 interest this year since it's commencement. The total balance in the account is now \$51,188.38. The next maturity date is 25 Jan 2019 and a projected interest earned at maturity will be \$290.30.

Date	Description	Reference	Payment Ref	Spent	Received	Balance
25 Oct 2018	Westpac	Interest			323.09	51,188.38
25 Jul 2018	Westpac	Interest			283.74	50,865.29
25 Apr 2018	Westpac	Interest			279.08	50,581.55
25 Jan 2018	Westpac	Interest			302.47	50,302.47
25 Oct 2017	Bank Transfer from WA Masters Hockey Committee				50,000.00	50,000.00

Interest

This section shows the accrued interest for the last 3 financial years. [Learn more](#)

Current interest rate (p. a.)	2.25 %
Interest payment cycle	At maturity
Interest accrued since last payment	\$126.22
Projected interest earned at maturity	\$290.30
Next credit interest paid	25 Jan 2019
Interest earned this financial year (2018 - 2019)	\$606.83
Interest earned last financial year (2017 - 2018)	\$581.55
Interest earned previous financial year (2016 - 2017)	\$0.00

Accounts Payable

Currently we have \$2,732.62 payables which includes a few refunds to the Ladies' teams from the equalisation invoice, website expenses to be refunded and an invoice from Hockey WA. This is in relation to the Kukri uniform order that was collected through Just Hockey.

Accounts Receivables

We are waiting on two receivables totalling \$13,653.07 – one from Just Hockey who helped us to distribute and sell Kukri Uniforms which is due this month and a payment plan from a player who is going through financial difficulties.

Audit

A consolidated audit for the WAMHC accounts was completed along with Hockey WA accounts by Moore Stephens. These were presented and approved by the members at the Hockey WA AGM in March.

Balance as 5th December 2018.

The Master's Committee bank balance for today is \$53,573.26 and the Term Deposit has a balance of \$51,188.38. Total Balance \$104,761.64

(Note: The Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss Statement are not reproduced here, but were available at the Meeting.)

WA MASTERS HOCKEY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018 - ATTENDEES

Club Delegates & Proxies

Delegate's Name	Club
Dennis Reid	Curtin University HC
Michael Gottschalk	Modernises HC
Stacey Hamilton	North Coast Raiders
Geoff Riley	Melville City
Mike Sputore	Hale HC
Phillip	Kalamunda DHC
Kerry Foote	Canning
Proxy's Name	Representing
Peter Andrews	Western Hockey Masters &
Robert Baker	Wesley South Perth HC
Peter Andrews	West Side Wolves
Kate Main	Unit Associates (Women) HC
Paula Dick	Vic Park Xavier HC

Committee Members, HWA, Players, Coaches, Managers

Name	Category or Affiliation
Peter Connolly	Committee Chairman
Peter Andrews	Committee Secretary
Sinead French-Bluhm	Committee Treasurer
Jill van Duuren	Committee Member
Keith Gilbride	Committee Member
Scott MacDonald	Committee Member
Cameron Robinson	Committee Member
Jean-Marie Rudd	Committee Member
Suzi Woods	Committee Member
Coleen Dayman	WA Women's O60s Coach
Pat Scott	WA Women's O50s Manager
Trevor Don	North Coast Raiders
Peter Westlund (later)	HWA Vice-President

Apologies

Sandy Williams	Peel Hockey
Katy Vipond	Nominee Peel Hockey
Anna Taylor	Nominee Lake Grace
Dale Keeley	PC?
Sinjin Hammond	PC?
PC?	Whitfords