

<mark>A Blue A Gold</mark> 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

Issue No 6 June 2023

Regular Features:

Dates For The Diary: This Page.
Department of Health: Page 3.
Department of Corrections: Page 4.

Letters to the Editor: Page 4.
A Division Blog: Pages 5 and 6.
Saturday Hockey Masters: Page 6.
The Balinese Bulletin: Page 6.
B Division Report: Page 7.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge: Pages 8 and 9.

Irregular Features:

Western Hockey Masters AGM: This Page.

May Omissions: This Page.

Membership Administrator: Page 3.

Tribute to Janet: Page 3.
Raffle Update: Page 4.

Birthdays This Month: Page 4.

Venue Changes: Page 4.
Trans Tasman Scorers: Page 6.

Tribute to Simon Thomson: Page 10.

<u>Our AGM:</u> Despite the difficulties which our playing schedule present there were enough attendees and proxies in place to start the meeting on time - well done to those who did the leg work in collecting them. As has become customary in recent years the business session did not take long due to the thorough preparation of our executive. Well done to Simon Thomson, Dan Hill Steve Farrar and Tony Jones. Our office bearers after the AGM are now:

President: Tony Jones.

Vice-President: Adrian Rutter.

<u>Secretary:</u> Dan Hill: <u>Treasurer:</u> Steve Farrar.

General Committee: Russell Wood, Colin Howell.

Congratulations to all those elected, who will face the challenge of guiding us through the major changes planned at PHS. The night also marked the end of Simon Thomson's 19 year term at the top and we all owe him a huge debt of gratitude for today's WHM. A full tribute appears on Page 10.

There's change at the top of the heap

TJ's done his time as the Veep

ST now will be

Just like you and me (I jest of course)

The young blokes have made a clean sweep.

<u>Editorial Errors:</u> The May edition did not include two 'must have' items. The major one was that we neglected to pay tribute to John Halley's partner Janet Purdy, who passed away in April - this can be found on Page 3 in this issue. The other was that we neglected to provide an answer to the John Sanders hockey question for April, which can be found on Page 8. Any more oversights such as these will result in a "Situations Vacant" advertisement for a new Editor.

Dates For The Diary:

2023

June 7th: State team trials for O/65, O/70 and O/75. PHS 11:00 am.

July 5th and 12th: Venue changes. See Page 4.

July 16th to 23rd: European Chanpionships Valencia. Southern Cross and Alliance.

Masters Interstate Championships for Men and Women. Home State WA.

September 21st to 30th: Women.

September 23rd to October 1st: Men O/34, O/40, O/45.] Venues to be confirmed September 28th to October 7th: Men O/50 plus.] PHS is primary location

]

November 20th to 26th: Asian Continental Cup. Hong Kong.

<u>2024</u> To be advised: Masters Interstate Championships for Men. Home State Tasmania.

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.

<u>Department of Health:</u> Scott Blackwell suffered a nasty finger injury at Perry Lakes and has had to miss quite a lot of hockey. Hope the Spanish trip is still OK. <u>Les Waldon</u> added a hamstring problem to his pending wrist operation and it may be a while before we see him back on the field again. <u>George Bradbury</u> has been unable to play for a few weeks but should be back soon. <u>David Horsley</u> has now had the skin grafts and is hopefully on the road to recovery and resumption. <u>Hector D'Rozario</u> has missed a lot of hockey with an ongoing shoulder issue. <u>Ian Hill</u> is missing games due to a variety of issues, the latest being an injection in a shoulder. In better news <u>Peter Murray</u> has been able to resume following his dislocated shoulder. Best wishes from MM to all, including those we do not know of, for a rapid and complete recovery.

Membership: The Administrator has sent MM the following:

Whilst numbers have grown slowly this year and C and D Division player numbers are slowly creeping upwards, we must also note that the A Division has suffered a number of players losing their ability to continue playing hockey each week. This is a sad event for those unable to continue, however the other side of the coin is that to keep the A Division active it will require another yearly injection of players. This annual migration is the very life blood of this Club and its high regard among the hockey community.

The answer is for the C and D Division players to keep reminding those they play with on Saturdays at club hockey that we would love them to join us and ensure the cycle of life for Western Hockey Masters continues.

Please act positively NOW! Bring your friends along to join us. Colin Gee

<u>Tribute to Janet Purdy:</u> I was very saddened to hear that John Halley's partner Janet passed away on 18th April. Those of us who had the good fortune to have been team mates with JH on interstate trips know what a wonderful person she was. Her life was celebrated in a function at Lake Karrinyup Golf Club which was attended by a good crew of WHM members and featured tributes from Janet's American family live from the USA. Our deepest sympathies go to John. A quote from his notice in 'The West': "A remarkable woman, humorous, irreverent and with a deeply giving and sharing soul."



Janet and John during a day off at the Sydney tournament 2013

PS: John was in hospital last I heard having contracted an infection while in for another matter. Best wishes from us all for a speedy and complete recovery.

<u>Raffle Update:</u> In our last issue MM's limeriscist had a moan about never winning anything in our weekly charity raffle. Lo and behold:

Our doggerel man had his say
And one thing <u>did</u> change during May
Perhaps in the main
It pays to complain
A bottle of wine came his way

Note: He refused to share with the rest of the MM staff. Ed.

Letters To The Editor: Last month we said "please feel free to contact MM." No one did.

<u>Department of Corrections</u>: Other than the two egregious omissions described on Page 2 nothing else was brought to editorial notice by either readers or MM staff.

<u>Player Birthdays:</u> If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercer@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 June birthdays to all the following:

<u>A Division:</u> **1st** Jim Wright (1944) **8th** Barry Rutter (1941) **10th** Colin Gee (1941) **17th** Rob Ainsworth (1949) **24th** (Jim Malcolm 1944) **28th** Graeme Sansom (1941).

<u>B Division:</u> **11th** Tom Long (1952) **14th** Darryl Andrews (1956) **15th** Gordon Jeffery (1949) **18th** Leo Welten (1953).

<u>C Division:</u> **4th** Ian Pestana (1951) **12th** Don Fini (1958) **19th** Stephen Needham (1955) **24th** Mark Hemery (1963) **25th** Rod Bickers (1958) **27th** Minder Singh (1959).

D Division: 8th Bruce Campbell (1964) 13th Andrew Johnston (1966) 14th Murray West (1965).

Non Playing:

Saturday:

I hope that you're named in the correct WHM Division. To try and make sure everybody has been included I have used the online membership register, including the names. Ed.

<u>Venue Changes For July:</u> Thank you to Peter Trend, who has sent in the details of where we will be playing next month. I hope that those of you who need a GPS already have one.

Division	5 July	12 July
Α	Hale	Lakelands
В	Lakelands	Whitfords
С	Hale	Lakelands
D	Hale	Hale

All divisions are playing at their usual times. Bar arrangements are a work in progress.

<u>Perth Hockey Stadium Redevelopment:</u> This project will have a major impact on our Wednesdays and a small sub-committee has been formed to plan for our continued hockey. The members are Colin Howell, George Bradbury, Michael Gottschalk and Russell Wood. I'm sure that Masters Matters will be able to keep you up to date as the timetable for changes becomes apparent.

Quotable Quote 1: "Compromise used to mean that half a loaf was better than no bread. Among modern statesmen it really seems to mean that half a loaf is better than a whole loaf." G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936) English author. The more things change the more they stay the same.

<u>'A' Division Blog:</u> Our injury list is now larger than I can recall it ever being. Surely our increasing age has nothing whatsoever to do with it. As far as I know there are not too many of us who have jetted off to warmer climes during the Perth winter.

<u>May 3rd:</u> Numbers were much better this week compared to 26th April when we had 23 field players and we managed to play the full fixtures. Despite the play being comparatively even Blue and Gold did not lose a game and White did not win one. It's been a while since we saw John Jeffreys and his comeback seemed to have caused no ill effects (hope that applied the next morning too). Players came and went (three left early) but after Mal Jackaman transferred from Gold to Blue fill-ins were minimal. Keepers Barry, Tony and John were quite busy and all did well. There were two hat tricks but as the one scored by Peter Wallis included a couple of fine tomahawks he wins the goal of the day award. The day's results and scorers were:

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

<u>Scorers:</u> **Blue** Peter Wallis (3). **Gold:** John Mercer, Ken Walter (3 incl PS). **White:** Ken Eliot, Peter Dennis. Team numbers at maximum: Blue (10), Gold (12), White (11). Total goals 9.

<u>May 10th:</u> The day promised to be wet and our numbers were so low that we decided to have just two teams. By some process the three slowest runners all ended up on the same side (no names, due to the ban on editorial selfies). This meant that most of the play was at one end. The midfield standard was not too bad but the attacking circle work was abysmal almost all day. White managed to miss about five or six gilt edged chances while I only counted a couple for Gold. Keepers Graeme, Tony and John refused to put a foot wrong so forwards had to take their chances when they came, which was beyond us for most of the day. The one exception fell to Nev Brown after an error or two and he proceeded to score the goal of the day. The day's details were:

Scorer: Nev Brown.

Team numbers at maximum: Blue (7), Gold (9), White (8).

<u>May 17th:</u> Despite two sides being short we managed to play all the fixtures with an abbreviated last match. There must have been some tired players at the end of the day as almost everybody who had to fill in played nearly 100 minutes. Blue regained many of their regular prime movers but had trouble converting their territorial advantage into goals, as did White. The midfield play looked good as long as short passes were in use but all too often an attempted hit went straight to an opponent's stick. Very little good attacking hockey was played in the circles but much of the defensive work there was excellent. Gold's strong deep defence stood them in good stead here and the goalkeepers (Barry, Graeme and John) generally stood firm when called upon. The goal of the day went to Nev Brown again for some excellent goal mouth pressure. The results and scorers were:

White 0 Gold 0; Blue 0 Gold 1; Blue 0 White 0; Gold 2 White 0; Gold 0 Blue 1; White 1 Blue 0. Scorers: Blue: Ash Challenor. Gold: Nev Brown (2), Ken Walter. White: Ken Eliot. Total goals 5. Team numbers at maximum: Blue (11), Gold (9), White (8).

May 24th: This week it was the White team with the long list of absentees (and only 4 players). It was Ken Watt's turn to be captain but he said that he had 10 injured and 4 away. As Gold had only 8 they combined with White and played the 12 man Blues four times. This was unfortunate for the three goalkeepers (Barry, Tony and Graeme) as one of them only got two 20 minute games. The two who played did not see a lot of action, particularly when facing the Gold/White attack. During the day Blue lost Les Waldon (hamstring recurrence) and Peter Galbraith (calf) and when Peter Blockley had to leave before the last game Colin Gee transferred to be their 11th player. It was great to see Ham D'Souza return to action after a very long break and several of us were amazed how well he played and moved. Blue produced some good hockey but only managed a couple of goals while Gold/White had trouble establishing team work and much of their passing was sub-standard also. Ash Challenor (classy deflection) and Ken Beer (hard shot after eliminating the keeper) share the goal of the day for obvious reasons. The scorers and numbers:

Scorers: Ken Beer, Ash Challenor.

Team numbers at maximum: Blue (12), Gold (8), White (4), including Steve McEntee.

'A' Division Blog (continued):

May 31st: After the first game the rain began and did not let up. In addition, numbers were down so we were only able to play the fixtures with plenty of fill-ins. Players started to drift away and we only lasted four games. Except for some of the hitting, which degenerated further as the sticks got wet the hockey was surprisingly good and goalkeepers Barry, Graeme and John needed to be on their toes. Several good goals were scored, among them a corner conversion from Steve McEntee and a very acutely angled push from Robin Bailey. However a fine early conversion from Ken Beer took the honours. Ham D'Souza made it back again and is still going as hard as possible. Many thanks to Ian Hill who umpired all four matches for us in the wet. Scores and scorers:

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

Scorers: Blue: Ken Beer, Ash Challenor, Peter Dennis, Peter Galbraith. Gold: Ken Walter.

White: Robin Bailey, Ham D'Souza, Steve McEntee. Total goals 9. Team numbers at absolute maximum: Blue (8), Gold (10), White (8).

<u>A Division Postscript:</u> Despite Peter Trend's fixtures including these details it appears that we often go the wrong way. Simply, the first named team in a match defends the Turf Two scoreboard end and takes the centre pass to start the game. No more debate necessary.

From Saturday Masters:

Our 3rd June barbecue went off very well and 37 members attended on what turned out to be quite a chilly night. Many thanks must go to the cooks who braved the weather on the verandah to dish up the steaks and sausages. Those I noted were Ivan Wilson, Peter Jones, Ken Beer, Neil Scaddan & Howie Herbert. Congratulations to Jim Wright and Ivan Wilson who did the organisation and preparation between them, and brought along the delicious salads. Many thanks go to Ken Walter for a wine donation and also to all members who assisted with the cleaning up afterwards.

The 17th June shapes as a difficult day. In addition to five home games for our host club YMCA there are three neutral ones as well. Hopefully there will be room for us too and it would seem to be certain that we'll be using the ground in the far N/W corner. Hope the weather is kind.

There is another general bye for Hockey WA games coming up on the 8th July. YMCA have fixtures at home for every Saturday after that up to and including 19th August so the July date will be our last own bar for the winter season. YM may or may not be hosting finals.

My thanks again to you all for the prompt payment of the winter fees. Everybody currently playing regularly has paid up. As at early June we have 44 full time players, 6 casual players, 4 goalkeepers and 8 social members. Any current or former Club Treasurer who has had to chase up outstanding fees will appreciate what a rarity it is to be in this position within the first two months of a season.

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

<u>Trans-Tasman Scorers:</u> Last month's issue added the match scores very late and ran out of space and time to include the scorers. Here are the WHM ones only and I hope there are no omissions:

O/65s: Peter Crowe (5), Colin Howell (2), Stephen Pestana (2).

O/70s: Peter Fogels.

<u>O/75s:</u> Simon Williams (4), Ash Challenor (2).

No Balinese Bulletin: Peter has not got anything this month. Due to his mobility issues he and Erin are not getting out and about very much and he is checking out some surgery possibilities. He does say that otherwise both of them are in relatively good health.

Hope the surgery option turns out to be viable Peter - please keep us in touch. Ed.

<u>Punology One:</u> Lance is an uncommon name nowadays. But in medieval times people were named Lance a lot. With apologies to Lance Woods.

B Division May 2023:

May was another good month for B Division with the bar well attended, the food quality maintaining its high standard and the wine raffle well supported. The first four Wednesdays were glorious autumn days with hardly a cloud in the sky. Perfect weather for hockey! The first week of May was noticeable for the absence of some players in NZ playing in the Trans-Tasman challenge. As usual the reports from the players as to how they performed, and the feedback received elsewhere, were slightly different! Other players through May were absent due to injury. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them back as soon as possible.

The last day of May was a classic! Played in constant light rain, all of the players who turned up endured a good drenching. Despite the conditions some very good hockey was played with a lot of players showing good touch and composure with the ball. With both Blue and Gold down on numbers the hockey continued until everybody had had enough. Ironically just as this was decided it stopped raining!

The end of May also saw the first signs of the annual holiday makers and travellers on their way overseas, some to see family and friends, some in search of adventure, others on their way to Valencia to play more hockey and some going just to see how different cultures operate! As a result of this mini exodus numbers for June will be affected. Even with a few numbers away and a few injuries the hockey will continue. Wednesday Hockey Masters are a resilient lot and will turn up each week to make it happen!

We were at a party when my wife berated me, "That's the fourth time you've gone back for ice cream and cake. Doesn't it embarrass you?" Why should it?" I answered. "I keep telling them it's for you."

Dudley Evans

Thanks Dudley. B Division don't really have to go far to see how different cultures operate. A stroll down to Turf Two on a Wednesday would suffice.

<u>Shakespeare Said It:</u> "Shall I do any good, thinks thou?" Merry Wives of Windsor Act II, Scene III. Player has doubts whether he should nominate for the interstate tournament.

"I had a thing to say - but let it go." King John Act III, Scene III. Good idea if you are about to criticise the umpire. Sheep stations are not at stake, not even premiership points.

"But look, where sadly the poor wretch comes reading." Hamlet Act II, Scene II. Masters Matters editor dreams of enthralling his readers to this extent. If only.

<u>Well Dones for May:</u> Wednesday's A Division umpires: Rob Ainsworth, Jim Balding, George Bradbury, Bob Claxton, Ken Eliot, Peter Evans, Peter Galbraith, Colin Gee, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, Mal Jackaman, KY Lee, Steve McEntee, Neil Scaddan, Ken Walter, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts.

Saturday's umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Jim Balding, Ken Beer, Scott Blackwell, George Bradbury, Dudley Burress, Michael Gottschalk, Ian Hill, Peter Jones, Tom Long, Murray Matthews, Chris North, Alan Oldfield, Keith Platel, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Rod Soencer, Greg Street, Les Waldon, Len Walker, Ken Walter, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. Our thanks to all.

<u>Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players May:</u> Noted at PHS: Peter Andrews, Jim Banks, George Bradbury, Hector D'Rozario, Ham D'Souza, Colin Gee, David Horsley, John Mercer, Brian Soares, Ken Watt. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, Scott Blackwell, Bob Claxton, Ian Hill, Bruce Mercer, John Mercer, John Milner, Peter Murray, Col Murray-Smith, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Les Waldon, Len Walker, Ken Walter, Ken Watt, Ivan Wilson and Jim Wright.

<u>Grumpy Old Men And Women One:</u> "Always be nice to your children because they are the ones who will choose your rest home." *Phyllis Diller (1917 - 2012). US comedienne. These days it appears that choice is not an option as you take whatever is on offer - if anything.*

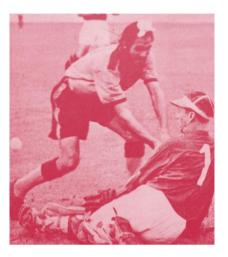
Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

The answer to April's question was not given last month despite a correct entry from Mal Horrigan. Here is a repeat of the question, together with the solution:

April's question was:

Indian hockey player Balbir Singh Sr. was in the winning team, India, scoring many goals, in the 1952 Helsinki Olympic hockey Tournament.

Here in the final against the Netherlands he scored how many goals?

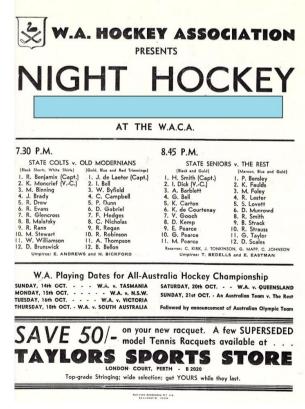


Was it: a) 2 b) 3 c) 4 or d) 5 goals?

For an extra point: Did India play Australia in these Games? Yes / No?

Answers: d) 5 goals and 'No.'

May's question was: Any ideas when these games were played?



Was it: a) 1976 b) 1966 c) 1956 or d) 1946.

For an extra point: Why did the Colts play the Old Modernians A2 side?? **Answers:** c) 1956 and: Mods A2s had just won promotion to the A1s.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders (continued):

<u>June's</u> question is: Many of you will remember Marj Rigg (Crossen), 'helping' her husband Tom coach a WA Masters team.



Did Marj play for Australia in the International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations tournaments of:

- a) 1953
- b) 1956
- c) One of them.
- d) Both of them, or
- e) None of them?

For an extra point:

Which of these tournaments was held in Australia??

Answers next issue.

The entire MM staff offer an unreserved apology to question meister John Sanders for our slip up. MM's limeriscist has been busy again and his comment follows:

Our Editor heaved a great sigh
The question for April was why
Missing solution
No resolution

No rise for that proof reader guy!

<u>Quotable Quote Two:</u> "If the automobile today had followed the same development cycle as the computer, a Rolls-Royce would today cost \$100, get a million miles per gallon, and explode once a year, killing everyone inside." *Robert X. Cringely - InfoWorld Magazine*.

<u>Flashback</u>: This verse from John Halley is topical again with the O/80s in the Perth tournament:

What to expect when you get to be 80

Wider feet, spreading seat

'Going' strained, varicose veins, low back pains,

Weaker stream, find the dream

Short of breath, news of death

Discontent, posture bent

Lost some height, poor eyesight

Falling boobs, clogged up tubes

Sagging skin, double chin

Losing hair, more despair

Life's unfair !!!

Punology Two: Poor Cinderella was dropped from her hockey team. She ran away from the ball.

<u>Tribute to Simon Thomson:</u> It is incredible to realize that what is now called Western Hockey masters has been going for 32 years this year (started in October 1991) and has only just installed its third President. What it is today has largely been due to the work of Simon over the years since he began his term in office as our second Committee Chairman in 2004.

We all came to WHM in different ways and Simon's story was included in the first pandemic issue of Masters Matters for May 2020. He first joined Wednesday Masters in 1996 and was a team captain by 1998. At this stage there were four O/50 teams. In the early 2000s the O/60s were added and by 2004 there were two sides in addition to the existing O/50 competition with some players in both sets of matches when a 50s team was short.

According to inaugural Chairman George Winning it was Simon who pushed for expansion of the Wednesday competition from the outset and by this year when he stepped down at the recent AGM there are four age groups with fourteen teams. At every step of the way Simon has been very closely involved and his vision has resulted in a lot of us having a most enjoyable game each week. In the Christmas edition of Masters Matters there is a Roll of Honour, and here are some quotes:

2013: "Simon provides direction and purpose while dealing with a lot of grumpy old men,"

2014: "Simon has again worked hard and well to get through a challenging year" (Turf 1 resurfaced)

2015: "Simon is still giving us hands-on leadership and is very closely in touch with everything."

2016: "Chairman Simon has now been providing good leadership for 12 years."

2017: "Wednesdays Simon copes with queries, makes the right decision & still plays good hockey."

2018: ".leadership, keeping in touch, good problem solving, adaptability, flexibility as things change."

2019: "Many things about the job have changed but Simon's dedication to the role has not."

<u>2020:</u> "Our team at the top in Simon Thomson (President) has functioned beautifully in what has been a very challenging year." (*The initial lockdown for Covid-19*)

2021: "Very well done to all (the executive) for smoothing out the bumps.

<u>2022:</u> "President Simon Thomson .. has done well in keeping us on track through a very tough year." Thank you Simon for a job very well done.



<u>Grumpy Old Men Two:</u> "Let us make a special effort to stop communicating with one another, so we can have some conversation" *Judith Martin. US columnist and author. This must have been written in the pre-internet days. At least Wednesday and Saturday hockey both feature bar conversation.*

<u>Change of Details:</u> 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 <u>gee.colin@gmail.com</u>.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to: John Mercer: A Division Gold team. Email: johnmercer@iinet.net.au