

A Blue A Gold A White

<mark>B Blue</mark> 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 10 October 2023

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<u>Bereavement:</u> Our deepest sympathies go to Peter Stevens (Saturday and WA Country O/80s) who tragically lost his wife Melva during the tournament.

<u>Vale George Winning:</u> Members of WHM attended the memorial service for our inaugural WHM President George Winning on 5th October at his beloved Wesley College. His family gave the large crowd a comprehensive portrait of our leader emeritus and WHM Life Member. His name lives on in the George Winning award, presented at the annual Christmas Party to the individual who has given meritorious service to WHM during the year.

WHM Annual Gala Day - Save the Date (From Dan Hill):

Our annual Gala Day is booked for Saturday 2nd December. Save the date now. More details and calls for nominations will be on their way after the Nationals are over. We expect a similar format to last year with all challenged games played again!

Spam Attacks Continue - Be Alert - Protect Yourself (From Dan Hill):

Unfortunately, the spam attacks using publicly available WHM information continue. Members are reminded that:

- 1. You will NEVER be asked via email to pay an invoice to WHM by Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank account.
- 2. You should NOT reply to any suspicious looking email purporting to be from any WHM Committee members. Look for odd domain names, block the sender and delete the email.
- 3. DO NOT click on any links in a suspicious looking email.
- 4. Email contacts for WHM Committee members and Division Coordinators are listed on our website Home-Western Hockey Masters-revolutioniseSPORT

WHM has been assured by revolutioniseSPORT (our data base and webpage provider) that there has NOT been a data breach and all member data is secure stored.

Dates For The Diary:

2023

October 14th: Saturday Hockey AGM and end of winter season dinner. Herdsman's Hotel.

Mid to late October: Next WHM Committee meeting.

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

December 2nd: Annual Gala Day at PHS.

December 2nd: No Saturday hockey at Perry Lakes.

December ??: WHM Christmas Party.

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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>Tournament Results:</u> Those of you who know all about the altiusrt site and how to navigate it will already be across the match scores and other details. For the benefit of anybody else here are match results for WA State and WA Country in the age groups applicable to WHM, with the results of the bronze medal matches included too. I have also incuded a link to the website at the end.

O/50 (1): 28/09: NSW (3) WA (1). 29/09: WA (7) ACT (0). 02/10: WA (2) Qld (1). 30/09: Tas (1) WA (3). 03/10: WA (3) Vic (1). **SF2:** WA (2) Qld (2) S/O 3-2. 05/10: **SF1:** NSW (3) Vic 1; 07/10: **Gold:** NSW (0) WA (1). Bronze: Vic (1) Qld (3). **O/50 (2):** 28/09: WA G (2) WA B (1). 29/09: WA B (5) Vic (1); NSW (1) WA G (2). 30/09: WA B (2) Qld M (2); Qld G (2) WA G (5). 02/10: WA G (5) Vic (3); Qld (1) WA B (4 03/10: NSW (1) WA B (3); Qld M (1) WA G (1). 05/10: **SF1:** WA G (4) Vic (2). **SF2:** WA B (1) NSW (2). 06/10: **Bronze:** Vic (1) WA B (0). 07/10: **Gold:** WA G (2) NSW (1). **O/55 (1):** Qld (1) WA (1); SA (1) WAC (2). 29/09: WAC (0) Qld (2); WA (3) NSW (1). 30/09: WAC (1) WA (3). 02/10: NSW (0) WAC (1); WA (3) Vic (1). 03/10: Vic (1) WAC (1); WA (5) SA (0). 05/10: **SF1:** WA (2) WAC (1). SF2: Qld (2) Vic (1). 06/10: **Bronze:** WAC (0) Vic (0). S/O 4-3. 07/10: Gold: WA (0) Qld (0). S/O 1-2. O/55 (2): 28/09: WA (0) Qld M (1). 29/09: WA (2) Qld G (1). 30/09: Vic (0) WA (2). 02/10: NSW (1) WA (4). 05/10: SF1: Qld M (2) Qld G (0). **SF2:** WA (3) NSW (0). 07/10: Gold: Qld M (1) WA (1). S/O 4-1. 06/10: Bronze: Qld G (0) NSW (2). O/60 (1): 28/09: WA (2) Vic (3); WAC (1) SA (1). 29/09: WAC (1) Tas (1); WA (4) Qld (3). 02/10: Qld (0) WAC (2); WA (3) Tas (0). 30/09: NSW (1) WA (3). 04/10: WAC (0) WA (2). 03/10: Vic (2) WAC (1); SA (1) WA (8). 06/10: NSW (3) WAC (0). 07/10: **Gold:** Vic (0) WA (5). Bronze: NSW (0) Qld (1). **O/60 (2):** 28/09: NSW (0) WA (4). 29/09: Vic (1) WA (2). 30/09: WA (7) ACT (2). 02/10: WA (3) NT (0). 03/10: Qld (1) WA (1). 05/10: **SF1:** WA (1) NT (1) S/O 3-0. **SF2:** Vic (0) NSW (0) S/O 0-2. 06/10: Bronze: NT (4) Vic (3). 07/10: Gold:WA (2) NSW (3). **O/65 (1):** 28/09: WA (6) Vic (1); ACT (1) WAC (0). 29/09: WAC (0) NSW (2); WA (8) ACT (0). 30/09: NSW (0) WA (2); WAC (1) Qld (3). 02/10: Qld (0) WA (2); Vic (1) WAC (0). 03/10: WA (9) WAC (0).

<u>Punology One:</u> Albert Einstein was a genius and worthy of praise and study. His brother Frank was an absolute monster.

SF2: NSW (0) Qld (2).

Bronze: Vic (0) NSW (2).

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05/10: **SF1:** WA (6) Vic (0).

06/10: **5th/6th**: ACT (1) WAC (3). 07/10: **Gold:** WA (0) Qld (1).

Tournament Results (continued):

 O/65 (2): 28/09: WA (3) Qld (1).
 29/09: WA (1) NSW (0).

 30/09: Vic (0) WA (5).
 02/10: SA (1) WA (1).

 05/10: SF2: Qld (2) NSW (0).
 06/10: SF2: WA (0) SA (0).

07/10: **Bronze:** NSW () SA (). *Result unk*nown **Gold:** Qld (0) WA (0). S/O 1-3.

<u>**O/70:**</u> 28/09: Qld (0) WA (3). 29/09: Vic (0) WA (1); ACT (0) WAC (1).

30/09: WA (3) NSW (3); WAC (0) SA (0). 02/10: Qld (0) WAC (0); SA (0) WA (5). 03/10: WA (2) ACT (2); WAC (0) Vic (3). 04/10: NSW (5) WAC (0).

06/10: WA (3) WAC (0). 07/10: **5th/6th:** WAC (2) SA (0). 07/10: **Gold:** NSW (2) WA (1). **Bronze:** Vic (3) ACT (0).

0/75: 28/09: WA (0) Qld (1); WAC (1) SA (6). 29/09: Vic (3) WAC (0); SA (4) WA (1).

01/10: NSW (0) WAC (0); WA (2) Vic (0). 02/10: WAC (0) WA (5). 04/10: Qld (3) WAC (1); WA (2) NSW (0).

06/10: **5th/6th**: NSW (0) WAC (1). **Bronze:** SA (2) Vic (2). S/O 4-3. 07/10: Gold: Qld (0) WA (0). S/O 2-4.

O/80:28/10: Vic (0) WA (1).29/09: WAC (0) Vic (2).01/10: WA (3) WAC (0).02/10: WA (1) Vic (0).04/10: Vic (2) WAC (1).05/10: WAC (1) WA (4).

07/10: **Gold:** WA (1) Vic (1) S/O 3-4.

Those who want to have a more detailed look at some some of the matches will have to go to the site and navigate. At the time of writing the games come up under the 'In Progress' button but that may change. To go to the site's home page use this link:

https://hockeyaustralia.altiusrt.com

You will need to scroll to find the age group you want - and possibly may need the "Previous" button.

<u>Omissions:</u> It was customary following a tournament for Masters Matters to include a table of the WHM players involved sorted by age groups and states. That could not happen following the Gold Coast event last year as I had no access to the WHM data base or the tournament booklet. I have just (10/10) managed to find the 2023 booklet and will include that table in the November issue. I have managed to produce the table of teams entered by state, which appears on Page 8. The "Tournament Impressions" can be found on Page 10. In addition to this I've been unable to access the Players of the Tournament in each competition from the site and the only one I know is Ron Venables who won the O/80s award. Congratulations Ron from MM.

<u>Department of Health:</u> <u>Ian Hill</u> and <u>Jim Malcolm</u> were both mentioned in the column last month and it was very good to see them appear to sail through the tournament in fine style. <u>KY Lee</u> was also mentioned and too seems to have completed the tournament well. <u>Neil Scaddan</u> unfortunately missed it all due to an unexpected appendectomy in the fortnight prior to the first match. Another who missed out was <u>Brian Soares</u> with an injured leg, fortunately not broken as suspected. I have heard several stories about <u>John Halley</u> - apparently he suffered another heart attack while at PHS to watch the play. I have not heard how he is recovering. I understand that Peter Livingstone has been a good friend and arranged for John's car to be returned home as well as caring for the dog. Best wishes from MM to all, including those we do not know of, for a rapid and complete recovery.

<u>Grumpy Old Men And Women One:</u> "People everywhere confuse what they read in newspapers with news." A. J. Liebling (1904 - 1963) who was an American journalist closely associated with the New Yorker. Fortunately Masters Matters has never claimed to be a newspaper. Ed.

PHS Redevelopment Update (from Dan Hill): Members may have seen the media on 28th September headed <u>"WA Government threatens to seize Perth Hockey Stadium land from Curtin University after unreasonable demand'."</u> HockeyWA CEO, Fabian Ross was quick to assure all Club Presidents: Dear Club Presidents,

You may have seen within the media today, a piece on the \$135 million upgrade to Perth Hockey Stadium at Curtin University, which I have included below. (See link above)

The piece references that negotiations between the WA State Government and Curtin University, which has carriage of the land site, have ended.

Please be assured that the project has not, and will not, be affected by this outcome. The project will continue to progress as expected at the Curtin University site, and in accordance with timeline expectations.

Hockey WA has had a long relationship with Curtin, and we will endeavour to continue to work closely with them, notwithstanding the news today.

If you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to call me. [That does not mean us] Kind Regards – Fabian

<u>Letters To The Editor:</u> Our September issue included a copy of my 2017 submission regarding the timing of the interstate tournament in school holidays when air fares and accommodation are costly. It actually generated one response:

"A possible reason against changing dates from school holidays times is that many of the 60 and 70 year olds actually have, and enjoy, grandchild minding exercises during this time, while younger parents are still working.

I know we do and actually plan ahead to be able to spend this time with the little ones." Rob Ainsworth

Thanks Rob - any more comments from readers? Ed.

<u>Department of Corrections</u>: The editor was greatly relieved to find that the A Division blog for the 2nd August showed that the match scores added up to 7 goals, had only 6 scorers' names and claimed that the totals goals were 12. Apologies are due to Butch Worth who was the missing scorer in the 7 goals. The editorial tyrant again has an excuse to deny pay rises to his entire 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 October birthdays to all the following:

<u>A Division:</u> **5th** David Horsley (1942) **14th** George Bradbury (1942) **22nd** Colin Murray-Smith (1949) **23rd** Peter Dennis (1947), Tony Marshall (1942) **24th** Terry Gaston (1947) **27th** John Burt (1943).

<u>B Division:</u> 7th Peter Vogels, Len Walker (1950) 14th Alan Oldfield (1957), Brian Thomas (1952) 19th Mike Robinson (1949), Martin Whitely (1959).

<u>C Division:</u> **11th** Crez D'Vaz (1965) **12th** Kevin Taylor (1960) **14th** David Elliott (1957) **24th** Simon Walsh (1957).

<u>D Division:</u> **1st** Craig Burgess (1960) **12th** Peter George (1973) **15th** Geoff Colgan (1968), Lyle Kenny (1959) **23rd** David Berryman (1966).

Non Playing: 11th David Mellor (1950) 25th Jeevan Joseph (1969).

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, mostly including those names too. Ed.

Quotable Quote Number One: "I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice." Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865). But ump, it only brushed my foot!

<u>'A' Division Blog:</u> Now we are back to normal from October 11th. This is of course subject to the weather as well as our numbers which are often down after a tournament.

September 6th: The young(er) Blue team dominated midfield possession but even with all the play still had some trouble scoring. Opportunities were few and far between for the Gold and White sides, even when they played one another. Goalkeepers Barry, Graeme and John all refused to put a foot wrong, aided occasionally by some wayward shooting. Though the numbers based on original sides were down a little the overall player count meant that some rotation of players was necessary. The additional players included Rob Butler, Alan Bryce (all the way from Scotland), Howie Herbert, Bob Maley, Mark Faithfull, Peter Livingstone, Brian Soares and David (Sukhdev) Pandher. The goal of the day went to Nev Brown whose persistence in the circle earned him 50% of the day's tally. The results and the (very short) list of scorers:

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

Scorers: Blue: Nev Brown (2), Ken Eliot. White: John Mercer.

Team numbers at max: Blue (7), Gold (8), White (10). Total goals 4.

<u>September 13th:</u> I started with WHM in 2006 and there have been several days where we cancelled due to the weather. Until today they were all caused by high summer temperatures rather than the rain and gales which marked this Wednesday. I have heard that a few hardy spirits ventured to PHS2 but that no play occurred. Apparently some of the younger age groups took advantage of the slightly more clement weather later in the day.

<u>September 20th:</u> In our last pre-tournament outing all players ventured to the Hale Turf. The Gold and White sides played one another in the first match of the day and produced a 1-1 draw. This was to be the limit of their scoring as the youthful (comparatively) Blue midfield dominated the remainder of the day. Only excellent goalkeeping and wayward finishing prevented a greater tally of goals. Ken Eliot was given the award for goal of the day for two good hits which comprised 40% of the total. Our statistician was so tired after spending much of the day vainly chasing younger players that he failed to count the numbers based on original sides and instead just counted the shirts on the day. The results and scorers were:

White 1 Gold 1: Blue 0 Gold 0; Blue 1 White 0; Gold 0 White 0; Gold 0 Blue 1; White 0 Blue 1. Scorers: Blue: Ken Eliot (2), Terry Gaston. Gold: Ron Venables. White: Mike Harris. Total goals 5. Squad numbers in each team: Blue (12), Gold (13), White (11).

<u>Over 80s and Wednesday Comp:</u> Many thanks to A Division coordinator George Bradbury who has responded to my request for comment on the inclusion of tournament in our Wednesday afternoon games. I have yet to hear a negative viewpoint and think that it all went well. Ed.

The request and scheduling of the WA and WAC over 80s teams in our 'normal' competition has been well received.

The teams have been able to develop and the 'third' team, a combination of the non representative players has given the teams strong competition.

In addition we have been able to find space to allow the small number of non regular players included in WAC side game time.

The coaches and a number of players have made positive comments to me.

Thanks to all for your cooperation and enthusiasm.

George Bradbury

Over 80s and Wednesday Comp: As might be expected MM's limeriscist has a comment:

A tournament side needs to train
There's always a few who complain
So now in Div A
The whole team can play
And help the poor coach to stay sane.

From Saturday Masters:

We have 42 members booked in for the AGM and end of winter season dinner at the Herdsman's Hotel after hockey on Saturday 14th October.

I understand that we have two nomination for the two vacancies on the Committee. Thank you to the members who have put their hands up to play their part in making sure that our competition can continue to be the source of enjoyment that it has been since we started in 2013.

At the moment is almost certain that we will be cancelling play on 2nd December due to the Gala Day at Perth Stadium. So many of our players are required to make up the numbers of hip and knee replacements, recovered cardiac and cancer patients and Over 80s that it is highly probable that our remaining players would not be sufficient for a game.

We have been very grateful to Di Crocker from YMCA who has been a terrific support to us from the winter we first began. So much so that we have arranged to make a thank you presentation to her from the Club and a personal one from Les Waldon. The only problem has been that it's very difficult to get her along to the rooms on a Saturday and she cannot make our AGM on the 14th. I'd suggest that everybody keeps a sharp eye on their Inbox for when we have set a date.

We all should be social members of YMCA for liquor licensing reasons. Their AGM is being held on Sunday 19th November, presumably at the Perry Lakes clubrooms. It might be interesting to attend and see how our host club is going.

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

B Division Report September 2023:

The first three weeks of September saw the State O70's and O75's play as the Gold and Black teams to give them some good match practice leading into the State Championships later in September. Another team made up mostly of O70 WA Country players joined in as their lead up to the tournament. With almost all of B Division players involved in the tournament either as players for WA, WA Country, fill ins for other States or as umpires or officials it is heartening to see the enthusiasm and effort our group puts into the tournament.

With Wednesday Masters Hockey put on hold for the 2 weeks of the championships players were able to focus, concentrate their efforts and perform to their maximum potential. Well, as much as ageing bodies and minds will allow!

After 10 days of intense competition with teams playing 6-7 games in that time the end results were:

- + WA O75s won Gold in a penalty stroke shootout after a nil all draw with Queensland. As well as being Coach and Captain, Butch Worth scored 6 of their 10 goals.
- + WA O70's claimed the Silver after going down 2-1 in a close encounter with NSW. Their Coach managed to score only 1 of their 18 goals!!
- + WAC 070's came a creditable 5th place.
- + WA O65 Div 2 Won Gold in a Penalty Stroke shootout after a nil all draw with NSW.

With fatigued bodies and another State Champs completed a much heard comment during the after game celebrations and commiserations was "see you at hockey next Wednesday"!

Those who went into the "red zone" may take a week or so to recover but I'm sure will turn up when fit and able and have successfully attended to their list of neglected domestic chores!

So another great month of hockey for B Division players. Congratulations to you all for participating and happy hockey for the future!

PS: Don't forget to complete the post Championship survey and let your thoughts and ideas be known so as to improve future tournaments. Specially with regard to fixturing, venues, some of the rules, umpiring and organization!!

Dudley Evans

Thanks you Dudley for managing to provide a report for MM while coaching. Ed.

Balinese Bulletin No 84: Peter says:

"I wish I had more to tell you but alas ...living in Bali sometimes presents difficulties not encountered in Australia. On my surgery issues we need to have all the ducks in a row in order to proceed. We cannot move around as a 2 man team ...we are a 4 man team. Ourselves. Our Balinese Daughter (Putu), our Driver Made ("Family"). That said we also need to accommodate the ever present Balinese ceremonies.

The current state of play is that we are hopeful of getting back to the hospital next week to discuss the results of my MRI I had some 4 weeks ago.

Other than all this all is relatively normal. The weather has become a little more humid heading into the Wet Season beginning next month."

Thanks Peter - best wishes for a resolution soon. Ed.

<u>Shakespeare Said It:</u> "Let me yet know of you whither you are bound." Twelfth Night Act I, Scene V. Forward who has a very unpredictable teammate. I'm sure you can all provide an example.

"I speak no more than every one doth know." King Richard II Act III, Scene IV. Hopefully Masters Matters occasionally includes some things which all our readers do not know.

"I will a round unvarnished tale deliver." Othello Act I, Scene II. Such was the Masters Matters editorial policy. However, the need to space pages properly can necessitate a little varnish at times.

<u>Well Dones for September:</u> Wednesday's A Division umpires: Rob Ainsworth, Dudley Burress, Peter Evans, Ian Hill, David Horsley, Mal Jackaman, Jeff Kozak, KY Lee, Bob Maley, Ham D'Souza, Ken Watt. Thanks also to C Division player Geoff (Jeff?) Reynolds who helped us out of a spot by blowing the whistle for the last match on 20th September.

Saturday's umpires were: Dudley Burress, Ian Hill, Murray Matthews, John Smith, Simon Thomson, Les Waldon, Len Walker and Ken Watt. Our thanks to all.

<u>Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players August:</u> Noted at PHS: Jim Balding, Jim Banks, Hector D'Rozario, Jeff Kozak, Richard Osborne and Neil Scaddan. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, Ken Beer, Dudley Burress, Alan Oldfield, Rod Spencer, Les Waldon, Len Walker and Ken Walter.

Tournament Entries by State:

Grade	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	WAC
034	1	2		2				1	1
O40(1)		1		1			1	1	1
O40(2)		1		1					1
O45 (1)	1	1		1	1		1	1	1
O45 (2)		1		2			1	1	1
O50 (1)	1	1		1		1	1	1	
O50 (2)		1		2			1	2	1
O55 (1)		1		2	1		1	1	1
O55 (2)		1		1			1	1	
O60 (1)		1		1	1		1	1	1
O60 (2)	1	1	1	1			1	1	
O65 (1)	1	1		1			1	1	1
O65 (2)		1		1	1		1	1	
070	1	1		1	1		1	1	1
075		1		1	1		1	1	1
O80							1	1	1
Total	6	16	1	19	6	1	14	16	12

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

September's question was:

SYDNEY, August 15, 1937.-The Test match, Australia v. New Zealand, was played at the Sydney Sports ground yesterday, when approximately 3,500 people saw New Zealand defeat Australia, one goal to nil, in a hard, fast game.

Which of these statements about the game are TRUE?

- a) A high standard of play was not revealed owing to the slippery condition of the ground caused by heavy rains on the two preceding days.
- b) New Zealand retained the Manning Memorial Cup, which it won in New Zealand in 1934.
- c) Two West Australians played, Jack Prosser and George Milner.
- d) The NZ team played each state during the preceding 1937 Australian Championships.
- e) This was the first time the Australian combination had played together.
- f) All of the above.

For an extra point:

True or False? The Test between the New Zealand hockey team on tour in Australia and Australia on August 7 was broadcast from station 2BL Sydney, the broadcast starting at 4.30 pm.

Answers: f) All of the above. True or False? True.

October's question is:

Which Pearce brother is shown here beating J. Mann, the Canterbury Captain, at Lancaster Park, during a tour of New Zealand?

Perhaps Cec, Mel, Eric, or Gordon? Too early for Julian?

Can you name the Year?

If it helps, this game ended in a 1-1 draw.



Answers next issue.

Quotable Quote Two: "Small minds are much distressed by little things. Great minds see them all but are not upset by them." Francois de la Rochefould (1613 - 1680). The trouble in A Division is that if you cop an incorrect hit against you it might be 10 minutes before you see the ball again. Though some might say that our advanced ages we should be accustomed to accepting the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune.

<u>Tournament Impressions:</u> This is a flashback to the pre-pandemic days when following our annual interstate event Masters Matters would include a story based on personal experiences. I welcome reader opinions for inclusion in the November MM.

This year's was the first time that all the women played in the same city at the same time as all of the men. This, together with the longer break between games has caused the matches to be spread far and wide and it has been difficult to get an overall impression (but why be deterred by that).

The organisation appeared to have been excellent throughout. Doubtless all of us will have formed our own impressions but the parts of the event I saw were very well run. Congratulations must go to the Tournament Director and all the officials.

The major criticism I heard concerned the umpiring. Sometimes a decision seemed a bit odd but so do quite a few on Wednesdays. Most of us just accepted the verdict at the time and got on with it, which we should also do on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

It appeared that many Wednesday and Saturday players were unable to moderate their tackling and quite a few of us received a green or a yellow in as a result. Some of us have been expressing our views on this for some time - which are that we get away with some very bad tackles which leads to bad habits and can expect to suffer the consequences in a tournament.

That longer pause between the games has been great in my opinion as it eliminates the rush to get hockey bags into the dugout and go and warm up. It was also customary to feel that you were being evicted from the turf at the end of a match which was no longer the case this year.

Initial responses to the idea of an O/80 Division were positive and after a long delay in obtaining an approval from Hockey Australia it went ahead. Unfortunately neither NSW nor Queensland was able to send a team as originally mooted so it went ahead with just Victoria, Western Australia and West Australian Country. Many thanks to David Horsley for doing the work in getting this up and running - let's hope we can build on this promising start.

Talking of O/80s the first goal ever scored in an Australian tournament was put in by Ron Venables. Ron had an excellent tournament, ending up with multiple awards.

The last say goes to MM's incorrigible limeriscist:

Our tournament's finally done
The medals are all lost and won
We hope those who came
All had a great game
With plenty of off-field good fun.

Many thanks to all coaches, managers and tournament officials for a job well done.

<u>Late News:</u> The story circulating on the last days of the tournament was that Tasmania next year will be held during July. Everybody I heard on the issue was not at all enthusiastic as the island state's weather can be bad enough in September/October.

<u>Grumpy Old Men Two:</u> "There's no secret about success. Did you ever know a successful man who didn't tell you about it." *Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930). US cartoonist, humorist and journalist.*

<u>Punology Two:</u> Did you hear about the employee who was summoned to appear before his boss to explain his poor work throughput. He claimed: "A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk I have a work station."

<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