

ACT Masters Hockey

Screech April 2022

Again we have had a very successful Life Night, this time spread over 2 weeks. We raised \$3483. And the winner ..

SOUTHS!

As we know, a number of ACT players move interstate. Some continue to play with us, like Danny Camilleri and Hoody.

Others, we meet playing for their new home States.

‘Tassie’ Dave Kerslake must be the most travelled of our players. He has finally settled back here and has kindly written an interesting and informative account of his experiences. Thanks Dave and welcome back.

Don’t forget to nominate for the Australian Championships

My Life in Masters Hockey – Tassie Dave



Over the past 30 years I have played Masters in Tassie, the ACT, Queensland, and WA, being fortunate to represent each at national championships.

When asked to compare my different hockey experiences for *Screech*, my thoughts immediately went back many years to my first Over 40’s national tournament, in Townsville, when in the tropical heat Tassie may have come last in the on-field competition, but we won the drinking by the proverbial mile. Since moving on to play with other states, I have proudly retained the moniker “Tassie Dave” (for which, if my memory serves me correctly, I have Scruff to thank). You can take the boy out of Tasmania but...

With both the ACT and Tassie, the stand-out feature was always the strong team spirit and camaraderie which prevailed. My experience with other states was similar for the most part (although on one notable occasion a coach of one of the other states bravely described the leadership group as the “generals”, the rest of us as the “foot soldiers”, much to the foot soldiers’ consternation). If there is one thing that stands out above all others in ACT Masters, it is the high level of inclusiveness.

On a week-to-week basis, we are fortunate in Canberra to have well-organised Monday and Thursday Masters competitions, although they differ in some respects from other states. Perth has a Wednesday afternoon Masters comp all year round, their numbers allowing separate over 50’s, 60’s and 70’s divisions. Teams are divided simply into different colours, with periodic redistribution of players to keep the teams of equal strength. Played in good spirit, but still highly competitive. In winter, they also have a Saturdays comp played on grass with finals, organised on a club basis: Over 40’s, 50’s and 60’s (8-10 teams per



division, some age groups having more than one division). There is a social over 65's on Saturdays through the summer, like our Thursday afternoon comp with teams picked on the day.

Brisbane has a winter Tuesday night masters comp, club basis, five different divisions, with finals. First division is basically over 35's, with varying ceilings on age as you progress down through the divisions. The aim is that players should be able to compete on an age-competitive basis - beats the hell out of chasing a 35 year old around the park! Throughout the year there are also two Masters Thursday afternoon comps operating in Brisbane, one in the north of the city, one in the south, identical to (and I think originally modelled on) the ACT's Thursday afternoon set up.

Arrangements may differ slightly from place to place, but the ethos and catering for all ages and abilities they all have in common.

My wife Mu Li and I have now returned to Canberra for good, to be with family, but it is also great to re-join the ACT Masters fraternity, where I hope to be able to play for years to come. Cheers (and thanks to our hard-working organisers)

Tassie Dave

LifeNight and the Jack Thompson "Keeper of the Flame" Trophy

\$3483 raised

Masters Hockey again held our annual fundraising event on 17 April. A great night was had, which will see \$3483 go to the Prostate Cancer Support Group ACT (PCSGACT), Rise Above and the Cancer Council. As well as the time and efforts of our committee, we thank the following for their generous support by making prizes available:

The Hockey Shop

Pick-Up-Stix

Coles

Bunnings

Cataldo's Hair Salon

Capital Chemist

Sutton Googy Eggs

VP Enterprises

Sports Medicine Australia

Scotty Clingan

Morris Trevethan

Not only do we raise money, but the part of the essence of the event is that it gets people together, fosters mateship by making you play outside of your usual team-mates, and as Andy Bewick said, "it is the only time you play hockey and everybody does something good". It is "something good" for people who suffer from illnesses that touch all our lives.

Thanks to the team coordinators who made the hockey happen and were polite enough not to notice that they were also asked to collect fees. Northside had Rosie Leonard, Steve "Goggles" Gee, AB (Andy Bewick) and Chappie (Alan Chapman). The Southsiders had Marcelle Kaye, Ian Laslet, Scot Clingan and John Nicholas (Nicho to all but his mother). Greg McRoberts from PCSGACT was nice enough to join us and offer his support on the night. Greg was keen to sell tickets, chat to people and be a part of the night. Some would say he made a considerable contribution to the success of the night by sitting with the winner of Cataldo's hair care prize and saving the rest of us.

As well as a night of fun and games, we played hockey over two weeks to ascertain which side of the lake plays the best hockey. We greatly missed teams from the Outside this year and hope they will return next year, although quite a few featured in both North and South sides depending on which side of the Molonglo claimed them. (I could have mentioned how a nearby town *struggled* to field a side, without actually saying *StruggleTown*, but decided that would just bait them for next year).

For the second year in a row, the Southsiders came out trumps. The results ended with four games to three in favour of the Southsiders. The results were

Women's division: Southside 2-0

Over 35 division: Southside 2-0

Over 50 division: Northside 2-0

Over 60 division: Northside 1-0 (game 1 was a draw)

Our President has vowed that the result will be changed next year, even if he has to rig the contest.



1st night action



Mateship 'outside normal team-mates'



Our Vice President

Powered by **revolutionise**SPORT