



**Glebe
District
Hockey
Club Inc.**



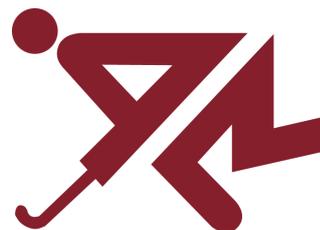
GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB

RED RAG NEWSLETTER

MAY 2012

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PLEASE NOTE: THE OPINIONS HEREIN ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE CLUB.



Letter From the Editor

Hello Glebiters!

Sorry for the late release of this issue and may I stress that our resident superstar writer Harry Wark was by no means tardy in his entries but it was in fact my own fault - work etc you know how it is. Anywho heres another edition of the coveted RED RAG! This month's edition has a big focus on highlighting our senior and representative players. I would like to congratulate them on reaching milestones in means of number of games, selections into representative teams and those who are racking up MVP points (at the half way point of the season). There is also a very interesting article on the recent tragedy that hit the hockey world in Perth - the death of Lizzie Watkins. I'd like to thank Harry for this article and his medical input in the area being an expert in the field. Lastly I'd like to holla out to the great results in both the men's and women's teams in the last month. Firstly men's first grades fabulous win against Sydney Uni and all three top grades wins against Sutherland last week were hockey in style (calypso you might say!!!). And then of course the amazing results of the womens 1st and 4th grade teams who are both sitting at top of the tables, with only one loss each the whole season! GO GIRLS!!!! Finally with winter approaching everyone rug up and get ready for more hockey to come!

Stay tuned for the Band Night June Edition!
Over and out,

Josie Barron



Games Played Milestones

Half Season MVP Shout outs!

Congratulations to Anthony Charge and Aleks Manou in first grade and Aaron Oman, Luke Rodgers and Zach Farlow in second grade for ranking in the top 10 MVP list for their respective grades at the halfway point in the season. Keep up the goodwork boys!

Games Played Milestones

Matthew Wark

Matthew Wark played his 200th Senior Game for Glebe against Ryde at the Ryde Turf on Saturday 31 March 2012

Matthew Wark played his 200th Senior Club game for Glebe on 31 March 2012 against Ryde at the Ryde Turf. The match resulted in a 3-3 draw, with Matthew scoring a goal from a penalty corner. Matthew had his first senior game for Glebe in 1999, when he played one game aged 14, probably pulled off the sideline to make up the numbers one Saturday afternoon when a Glebe lower grade side was short. In his 14 years of Senior hockey for Glebe Matthew has risen from the seventh grade to be now a key member of the Club's current first grade team. He won a second grade premiership in 2003 and first grade premierships with the 2005, 2006 and 2008 Glebe teams.

His presence on the field lifts a team and his enthusiasm for the game is infectious. To any Club Juniors reading this article I would recommend that you ask your parents, nicely of course, to take you out to a Glebe first grade game and watch Matthew play. I am sure you will enjoy yourself and probably learn a lot about hockey as well.

Matthew plays with passion, skill, nous and commitment. His willingness to be totally committed to helping his team play to the best of its ability has meant that he has collected a few injuries along the way. A dislocated shoulder, requiring a shoulder reconstruction, a troublesome back and a severely torn hamstring have kept Matthew out of the game for extended periods. He rivals Aaron Nilan (270 Senior Club Games 1987-2012), as the most committed and fearless player I have seen play for Glebe in my 55 years of watching Glebe teams play.

Currently he is fit and well and is one of the best players in the Sydney first grade competition. He is tall, fast and athletic, reads the game well and has one of the best overheads I have ever seen. Matthew can flick the ball 60 metres and more. Glebe is fortunate to have Matthew in its first grade team; he is a tower of strength.

Cont.



Games Played Milestones

Matthew started with the Glebe Juniors in 1992 at the age of 7 years, and played 186 Junior games for the Club. His last Junior game was in the 2002 season.

In 2004 and 2005 he played for the NSW Under 18 Team

In 2005 and 2006 he played for the NSW Under 21 team

In 2005 and 2009, 2010 and 2011 he played for the NSW Senior team.

Matthew married Angela Phillips in October 2011. Angela is the Women's current Club Captain and has played 146 senior games for Glebe. Angela, a school teacher, played her junior hockey with the Santa Sabina School teams. Matthew's sister-in law Anna Phillips plays in the Women's second grade team. Matthew comes from a hockey family his father Robert played 542 games for Glebe from 1967-2004. His brother Peter played 237 Senior games for Glebe from 1996 to 2009 and played 131 Junior games for the Club from 1992 to 1999. His sister Catherine played 129 Junior games from 1997 to 2004 and 134 senior games up until 2008. His father, Robert, was Club President for five years from 1987 to 1991. His Grandfather, Ken, played 491 games for Glebe from 1947-1977. Ken played for NSW from 1947 to 1956 and Australia from 1952-1954. Matthew's uncle Ken played 444 Senior games for Glebe from 1974-2009 and 213 games for Australia from 1988 to 1996.

Matthew is an Air Conditioning Tradesman and runs his own Air Conditioning business. In the summer months he is a keen sailor and a good one at that. He has sailed since he was a young lad mainly at the Drummoyne Sailing Club in the 16 footers, at the Manly Sailing Club in the 16 footers and at the Australian 18 foot League at Double Bay, where in 2012 he sailed as the for'ard hand in Pure Blonde. Pure Blonde competed in the NSW and Australian 18 foot championships

For the last few seasons Matthew has coached a Glebe junior team. He has not coached one of the Club's top teams but has coached a team in the B Division of their age group. Matthew has been an outstanding role model to the children, young adults in these teams and his generosity in making this contribution to the young people of the Club is an inspiration to his fellow Club Members. He performs this coaching role not because of any kudos it brings, but because there is a job to be done and he puts himself forward to help.

As well as coaching a Junior team, Matthew is Assistant Coach of the Club's Women's First grade team in which his wife Angela Wark plays. He is assistant coach to Mr Martin Bishop who does an outstanding job as Women's first grade coach.

I am sure all Club Members and Supporters will join with me in congratulating Matthew on his achievements for Glebe, both on and off the field of play. Congratulations Matthew, well done my friend.

Cont.



Games Played Milestones

Will Noller

On 21 April Will Noller played his 100th senior game for the Club when he played first grade against Gordon at the Ryde Turf. Glebe lost this game 4-2. Will is currently an apprentice carpenter. He started with the Glebe junior's in 2001 and had his last junior season in the Club's Under 17 team in 2009. He played a total of 166 junior games for Glebe. His senior hockey playing career started in 2008 and he has worked his way up the grades and in 2012 is a regular in the first grade squad. Will's three brothers play, or have played for Glebe. Elder brother Sam played junior and senior hockey for Glebe, but now lives in Canberra where he is a student at the Australian National University. Younger brothers Ed and Mac play in the Club's junior teams. Mac in the under 15 team and Ed in the Club's under 17 team. Will's dad Mark is the Club's current junior Convenor, a position he has held since 2005. Will's mother Deb is the mastermind behind the Club's Web Site. She established the Club on the Web ten years ago and has recently guided the Club onto a new improved Web Site in 2012.

Adrian McKeown

Adrian McKeown played his 100th game against Ryde on 14 April 2012. The game ended in a 2-2 draw and Adrian collected a head cut which required four stitches to close. Adrian is a town planner by profession. Adrian started with the Club in the under 11 team of 1984. He played with Aaron Nilan in the 1986 under 13 team coached by Vernon Howe and Eric Fraser.

Adrian had his first senior game for Glebe in 1989, but in his teens he developed other interests and stopped playing hockey. He started playing hockey again in 2007 and has been a great contributor to the Club, holding the position of lower grades Club Captain for several years. Adrian's two brothers Peter and Lewis also played junior hockey for Glebe. Peter McKeown now lives in Tacoma, Washington State, America. Lewis is a strong supporter of the Club and plays at the club's Band Nights under the Arch at Jubilee Oval Glebe. Adrian's parents Ted and Alison have been supporters of the Club since their children started playing with the Glebe juniors in the early 1980s.

Andrew Goodrick

Andrew Goodrick played his 400th Club game on the 28th of April at the Moorebank turf field against Moorebank. Congratulations Andrew on achieving this milestone. Andrew works in the metal trades industry maintaining machines that produce aerosol cans.

Andrew started playing hockey for Glebe in the under 10 team of 1979 coached by Graham Gilmour. Interestingly, Graham Gilmour had played with Andrew's late father Barry Goodrick in the under 14 team of 1955. Players in the 1979 under 10 team were Andrew Goodrick, Julian Dell, Brett Stubbs, Paul Nelson, Mark Jordan, Brent Gilmour, David Rochester, Shane Nilan, Shane Kirkland, David Ryan, Scott Sheppard, Dimos Moriatis, Matthew Bleasel, Robert Casali, Peter Cruden and Nevio Casali. Andrew's last season of juniors was in 1985 when he played in the under 17 team coached by Danny O'Brien that won the premiership by defeating Moorebank 3-1 in the grand-final. Players in this team were Jin Zamfiris (goal-keeper), Andrew Goodrick, Julian Dell, Shane Nilan, Alan Lambert, Grant Martin, James Fitzgerald, Mark Jordan and Ben Carter. Danny O'Brien in 2012 is the first grade manager. Cont.



Games Played Milestones

Andrew commenced his senior hockey in 1984 and played every season until the end of 1996. At the end of the 1996 season he had played 194 senior games. 1997 until 2000 Andrew spent at Cobar in the far west of New South Wales, where he worked in the mines and then ran a pizza shop. He came back to Sydney to help his late father Barry run the family business and commenced playing hockey again in 2001. He has played every season since 2001 playing hockey and has picking up a few premierships on the way.

Andrew's late father Barry played senior hockey for Glebe from 1957 to 1969 and played 191 games for the Club. His mother Denise has been a keen Club supporter for many decades, ever since she married Barry. Andrew always keeps Denise well informed about Club affairs. Denise often attends Club Presentation nights and Anniversary Dinners.

He was the Club's Equipment Officer in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. In 2010 he became the Club Room Manager, a position he currently holds. For several years Andrew has coached lower grade women's teams. His coaching skills are legendary among the lower grade women players. On and off the field Andrew is an outstanding Clubman, being generous with his time, talents and energies. He is a great contributor to the life and times of the Club and frequently supports other Glebe teams from the sideline and goes out of his way to be positive and encouraging to others.

Thank you Andrew for all that you do for the rest of us Club Members, it is much appreciated by us all.

Adam Campano

Adam Campano played his 400th senior Club games for Glebe in the third grade game against Briars played at 5.30 pm Saturday 5 May 2012, Olympic Pitch Homebush.

Congratulations Adam on achieving this milestone.

Adam commenced with the Club as an under 11 player in 1987 and has played every year and has been continually involved in Club life and affairs since. His last year in the junior ranks was in the under 17 team of 1994. At the conclusion of the 1994 season he had played 119 junior games for Glebe.

In his last year in the under 17 team, 1994, Adam commenced playing in the Club's senior ranks and in the 19 years since that time he has clocked-up 400 Club games, winning several premierships along the way. Adam was a vital cog in the 2011 Third Grade Team which won the Sydney Hockey Association Premiership in 2011. Adam is affectionately known as Campo to his friends and plays as a defender, mainly as a wing half or a full-back.

Adam won the best and fairest award for the 1987 Glebe under 11 team, which finished fifth in the Central Area Competition. The Most improved forward award went to Ben Howe; the most improved back award went to Helen Howe and the encouragement award went to Hugh Rutherford. Players in Adam's under 17 team were Dean Benfield, Ben Sully, Scott Sheppard, Helen Howe, Ben Farrowell, Matthew Bass, Shane Casey, Mark Baxter, Peter McKeown, Garth Fain and Brook Atkinson.

Cont.



Facebook

Glebe's Facebook Site

It is good to see the Hockey Club's Facebook Site becoming active. New information is added on a daily basis. It is regularly updated. Make a point of reading the Club's Facebook Site on a daily basis and stay abreast of Club activities. Ideally all teams should post their results up on the Facebook Page shortly after the game finishes. Club Members like to follow the results of the Club's teams and appreciate the effort fellow Club Members go to get the team's results posted on the Facebook Page. Hopefully by season's end if you look at the Club's Facebook Site on a Sunday night you will see the results of all teams displayed men, women and junior results.

Ian Paterson, Adam Campano, Alister Cullen, Louise Tapsell and Lynsey Askew are prominent journalists on the Facebook Page, but all Club Members are encouraged to post their news/contributes to the Page. Thank you to these people for your interest and efforts in keeping your fellow Club Members up to date with current Club affairs. It makes the Club a more vibrant and exciting organisation and draws people into contributing and helping where and when they can. The dissemination of information via Facebook will hopefully be entertaining and interesting for Club Members, Supporters and the wider Community.

London Invitational Hockey Tournament

Australian Team Selected for the London International Invitational Hockey Tournament from 2-6 May 2012 and the European Tour that immediately follows the London Event

Team selected: London Test

Nathan Burgers(QLD) Joel Carroll(NT) Luke Doerner(TAS) Fergus Kavanagh(WA) Liam De Young(QLD) Chris Ciriello(VIC) Jonathon Charlesworth(WA) Tim Deavin(TAS) Matthew Butturini(NSW) Mark Knowles(QLD) Glenn Simpson(VIC) Rob Hammond(QLD) Eddie Ockenden(TAS) Simon Orchard(NSW) Kieran Govers(NSW) Jason Wilson(QLD) Matt Gohdes(QLD) Russell Ford(VIC)

Players included for the European Tour -Test Matches against Belgium and Germany
Des Abbott (NT) Graeme Begbie (WA) Andrew Charter (ACT) Jamie Dwyer (QLD) Matthew Swann (QLD)
Glenn Turner (ACT)

Unfortunately Glebe's Mark Paterson was not named in the Squad, which is disappointing, but I suppose someone has to miss out. Mark is understandably disappointed but he knows that life rolls on and is buoyed by the fact that his Glebe friends and team-mates will welcome him with open arms when the time comes for a return to Sydney. Mark is a qualified teacher and when he eventually comes back to Sydney he will be able to slot into a satisfying, rewarding career.

Cont.



London Invitational Hockey Tournament

It is still some time before the Games start in late July and injuries and illnesses to Australian Squad Players are realistic possibilities. The future is difficult to predict and although he is now only an outside chance that Mark will represent Australia at the London Olympic Games, such an outcome is still possible. Commiserations Mark, we all feel for you, missing-out is never easy. You can be proud of what you have achieved at the Australian level and a spot in the Glebe first grade awaits you on your return from the West, whenever that might be.

I cannot help but wonder about the conflict of interest matter that must have been present in the selection of the Australian Squad. The perception is wrong, Coach Rick Charlesworth sitting on a selection panel, which picks his own son above other equally qualified and skilful players. Jonathon is a good player, but having a father on the selection panel must give him an "in"

Am I making too big a thing of this conflict? What do other readers think?

Lizzie Watkins Accident

'No one to blame' for freak hockey accident: family

Gene Stephan and Phoebe Wearne, The West Australian May 7, 2012, 4:18 am

[lizzie Watkins.](#)

Update, 5.30pm: The family of an elite hockey player killed in a freak accident during a game have described their devastation at the loss of their "angel" but said no one was to blame.

"She was an angel, she was a good sportswoman. She had more friends than anyone I ever met," Elizabeth Watkins' father Frank Watkins said.

He said his daughter had lived life to the full.

"She had a lot of plans, a lot of things she could have accomplished. For someone who died at 24 she crammed a whole lot into it, no regrets."

Ms Watkins was fatally injured when a ball deflected off a stick and hit her on the back of the head during a State League game between North Coast Raiders and Victoria Park Panthers at Curtin University yesterday.

Her older sister Catherine Carroll, who was playing alongside her, rushed to her aid. Attempts were made to revive her before an ambulance arrived at Perth Hockey Stadium and she was breathing when she was rushed to hospital but died on the way. An emotional Mr Watkins spoke out about his daughter's death today, saying his sympathies were with anyone on the field when Ms Watkins was struck and fell unconscious to the ground.

Ms Watkins' brother-in-law John Carroll agreed that no-one should be blamed for the accident that claimed his sister-in-law's life at the age of 24.

"It's happened hundreds of times and 99 out of 100 times nothing happens at all, it's just an absolute fluke. There's no blame to be apportioned here," he said.

Cont.



Lizzie Watkins Accident cont.

Mr Carroll said Ms Watkins' organs would be donated "so someone can live even half the life she has lived". Mr Watkins said he hoped the team would play as scheduled on Friday, and encouraged people from the hockey community to show their support.

The team will retire the number 2 jersey worn by Ms Watkins as a sign of respect. Hockey WA has launched an investigation into the incident, which has devastated the hockey community around the nation through the social media network. Australian players competing in the pre-Olympic tournaments in London have worn black armbands as a tribute. Hockey WA chief executive Kevin Knapp yesterday said it was a shocking tragedy and would be investigated. Today, Hockey Australia chief executive Mark Anderson said Sunday's incident was a very sad day for the sport. "On behalf of the entire hockey community I would like to express our support and sympathies to the Watkins family at this very sad time. Our thoughts extend to all involved at the North Coast Raiders Hockey Club," he said. "Hockey is a sport that is known for its strong sense of community. I know that members of our two national teams and players involved at all levels of our sport are saddened by this tragic event. "The Kookaburras wore black arm bands in the final of the London International Invitational Tournament on Sunday at Olympic Park out of respect for Lizzie and her family.

"I know that our community both nationally and particularly in Western Australia will pull together to provide as much support as possible to all involved."

Hockey WA is working closely with its community and the North Coast Raiders Hockey Club to ensure all possible support is provided to those involved in the accident. Raiders president Craig Vallipuram said Ms Watkins had spent her entire playing career with the club.

"Everyone associated with North Coast are in deep shock," he said.

"It was a terrible and tragic incident and one which has devastated everyone who knew her.

"She was such a great girl."

Ms Watkins' coach Colin Brandis, a three-time Australian Hockey League winning coach with the WA Diamonds, said the accident was midway through the first half.

"It was a fairly innocuous incident which occurs 100 times each game when she rushed from fullback to make a tackle but the ball deflected and hit her on the back of the head," Mr Brandis said. Mr Brandis said the competition in which she was playing was one of the best in the world with a huge number of current and former Olympic players.

"This was not a backyard game of hockey, this is the strongest local competition in Australia, if not the world," he said.

The Watkins family have had a long association with the club and Ms Carroll is one of the State's leading hockey umpires but was playing yesterday.

Tributes were flowing on Twitter last night for the young hockey star, with Kookaburras players Glenn Turner and Jamie Dwyer sending condolences to her family.

Cont.



Lizzie Watkins Accident cont.

Dwyer said he was devastated and the Australian Kookaburras' thoughts were with the family. "Such a sad day in the hockey world," he said.

Hockeyroos player Anna Flanagan said: "You are in our thoughts and prayers. Our heart goes out to your family at this terrible time."

Comment by HJW

The Glebe District Hockey Club extends to Lizzie's family and friends our heartfelt condolences. In all my years in hockey this girl's death is the first time I have become aware that anyone has died as a direct result of a hockey injury. Moderately severe injuries can occur but are uncommon eg fractured limb or facial bones, dislodged teeth, traumatic cataracts of the eye, loss of sight in the eye, fractured skulls, and liver, spleen, and kidney lacerations. I have heard of deaths occurring on the cricket field and on the golf course as a result of being struck by a ball. Bad luck happens I suppose, in any sport.

From all accounts Lizzie was an energetic, loveable lady. Her life was 24 years well spent and I am confident she is now enjoying her Eternal Reward in Heaven.

Why did she die?

My guess is that she was struck by the ball in the temple region between the eye and the ear. Behind the skull in this area is the temporal artery, which is encased in bone. The flying ball hit the skull overlying the artery. The artery was ruptured and bleeds inside the skull. The resulting haematoma inside the skull pushes the brain down through the hole/opening at the base of the skull called the Foramen Magnum. The Foramen Magnum is where the brain becomes the spinal cord. The mid brain controls blood pressure levels, the breathing centre and the cardiovascular centre. As her brain was pushed through the Foramen Magnum the mid brain was compressed and functioned abnormally. Blood pressure, breathing and heart rate/contractility control then became disturbed leading to death. In this type of injury there is often little blood to seen on the skin. The bleeding is inside the skull.

The Western Australian Coroner will be conducting an investigation into what caused Lizzie's death and we await this Report with interest.

Whatever caused her death, it is a tragedy of the worst order.



Self Discipline Required

At the start of a new season it is appropriate to remind all players that self discipline is a quality which all hockey players should strive to achieve. Hitting the ball away after the whistle, talking back to umpires, sloppy tackles, diving tackles, using the hockey stick above the shoulder and the pushing and shoving of opposing players are some of the indiscretions that need to be eliminated from our play.

On Saturday 14 April 2012 in middle of the second half of the men's first grade game against Norwest Strikers a Glebe player hit the ball away after a free hit was awarded against him. The offending hit was not that late, but late it was and the umpire took umbrage at the action and gave the player a yellow card five minute suspension. Even with a full complement Glebe was under the pump for the first 20 minutes of the second half clinging precariously to a 3-1 lead. Reduced to 10 men the team were at a significant disadvantage. Two minutes after Glebe was reduced to 10 men Norwest Strikers scored a goal to make the score 3-2 and Glebe looked to be in a lot of trouble. Fortunately Glebe kicked on and eventually won the game 4-2. Playing a man short in a close encounter can be a significant disadvantage.

Do not place your team at a disadvantage by getting yourself sent off. Accept that umpires are human and will not always see the game as you do. Telling an umpire that they are wrong and arguing with them is a pointless exercise not to be engaged in, keep your mouth shut, as difficult as this may be for some people.

Respect your Team Mates

A cousin of self discipline is respect for your team mates and for the opposition. If a team mate misses an easy trap, does not read the game well, or duffs a hit or a push, telling them that they are hopeless is not helpful. Every team member should be treated with respect and courtesy. Encouragement and praise can be helpful to your fellow team members. Good behaviour is infectious, but unfortunately so is bad behaviour. Players having a tantrum, a frustration attack, a wobbly, a decomposition episode, a rant or a rave on the field will unsettle those around them and spoil the enjoyment of the game for their team mates.

All players should strive for courteous behaviour at all times on the field. If players are not behaving it is up to the team management, coach, captain and manager to quietly counsel that player about the offending behaviour. Persistent screaming, shouting and derogatory behaviour towards team mates should be dealt with by referral to the Club's Management Committee for urgent attention and disciplinary action if considered appropriate.



Sponsorship

The playing fees collected by the Club fall many thousands of dollars short of covering the costs of running the Club's teams for a season. The difference between the costs of running the Club and the playing fees have to be covered by the proceeds of social functions and contributions from sponsors. The Toxteth Hotel no longer sponsors the Hockey Club, so do not feel obliged to frequent the establishment. Club Members should be asking around making enquiries to businesses as to whether they could support the Hockey Club with a cash donation, or a contribution in kind, however small it might be.

The patronage of Hockey Club Members at a Pub after the game must have a value to that establishment. In return for Sponsorship the Hockey Club would advertise the business and encourage Club Members to patronise the establishment.

Current Sponsors are Galluzzo's Fruit Shop Glebe Point Road, Baker's Delight Glebe Point Road, George Ribaroski and Aussie Home Loans, and Just Hockey. Please support the Club's Sponsors if you can, give them your business when and where possible.

The Pleasure of Umpiring - True or False?

After the second grade game at Pennant Hills Synthetic Turf, won by Glebe over Norwest Strikers 2-0, Glebe's Mick Bougoukas commented to me that he was impressed by the way the umpires engaged with the players during the game. I was pleased to hear Mick's comments.

Umpiring can be a lonely business that often attracts the ire of players and spectators alike. Umpires are frequently talked to, talked at, and verbally hassled. Players are only human and when they perceive that they have been on the receiving end of a bad umpiring decision they can react in ways that are rude and disrespectful to umpires. When umpires are talked to, or not shown the respect they believe is their due they occasionally make quick, rash and emotional decisions. The cards can come out and players are sent off, sometimes for uttering very few words. It becomes a power struggle between the umpire and the player(s), with major faults on both sides. The players can perceive that the umpire is preoccupied with power and control and the umpire perceives that the player is an arrogant, rude, disrespectful lout. A them versus us mentality can quickly develop.

Umpires can know all the rules of hockey but nothing about human nature and the psychological aspects of supervising a game of sport, where emotions can at times run high. Umpires are only human and can get frustrated and flustered just like players can, and then start umpiring in a punitive, arrogant manner, which riles players.

It is encouraging to observe the behaviour of umpires when they engage with players and accept minor foibles in player's behaviour and enjoy the experience. It is encouraging to see umpires enjoy the umpiring experience and to have the ability to engage with players and enter into dialogue with them. Players appreciate being treated like this and are more likely to accept wrong/missed umpiring decisions with good grace and decorum.

Cont.



The Pleasure of Umpiring - True or False?

Many umpires I see on a Saturday afternoon seem to me, to act as if they are under siege all game. They do not seem to me to be enjoying their Saturday afternoon sporting experience. I believe if umpires could engage with the players a little more. Talk with the players rather than at them both umpires and players would enjoy their afternoons a little better.

When I played hockey down at Jubilee Oval Glebe on a Saturday afternoon, after the game was finished the players from both teams and the official umpires usually had a drink or two together under the Arch. The players spoke to the umpires and vice versa, a dialogue was entered into. There were frequently references to white sticks and blindness, which everyone laughed at including the umpires. Umpires frequently commented that they umpired twice as good as player X played. The banter was fast and furious and enjoyable.

With the development of synthetic turf hockey the social interaction between the players and the umpires has become negligible, which in my view is a bad thing. The siege mentality of umpires has heightened and the players view of umpires as reasonable human beings has declined. I think umpires should be treated better by clubs and when appropriate invited to join the team for a drink and chat after the game, win lose or draw.

Umpires might not be in a position to take up a club's hospitality offer, because of one reason or another but they would appreciate being asked. The social side of hockey has deteriorated substantially over the years and it might be time to try and reverse the trend.

All comments on my thoughts adverse, complimentary, or otherwise will be published.

Pennant Hills Synthetic Turf Has a New Carpet

A new carpet was laid during the off season at the Pennant Hills synthetic turf field. Glebe first and second grade played on the turf on 14 April 2012. The feedback from the Glebe players was that the turf was a pleasure to play on.

Next to the synthetic turf field was a grass field that looked a little unkempt and run down. I got the impression that not much grass hockey is played at Pennant Hills, which is a shame. Perhaps if junior games were played on this grass field the Men's senior games could commence at 12.30 pm, and not the 1 pm start time which is the case in 2012. The 1 pm start has occurred for the first time in 2012 and is a substantial retrograde step in my book.

Alternatively a new synthetic turf could be installed on this grass field, which would allow more games to be played at Pennant Hills and thus reduce the number of games that finish well after 10 pm on a Saturday night. There is nothing like the late game on a Saturday night to kill a passion for the game. Perhaps this suggestion might be taken up by the powers that be in Sydney Hockey sometime soon.

Cont.



Pennant Hills Synthetic Turf Has a New Carpet

Pennant Hills synthetic turf is in a lovely bush setting. On Saturday 14 April there were several Kookaburras watching proceedings from the branch of an old gum tree near the boundary fence. They looked to be enjoying themselves just like us other spectators. There are not too many other venues in Sydney where the hockey spectators can share the terraces with Kookaburras

Blast From the Past

Dennis Martin Operations & Development Manager of the Hockey Albury-Wodonga Hockey Association sent the photo of an old newspaper article shown above, to Club Captain Adam Campano on Friday 27 April 2012. The newspaper article and photo relate to a Manly versus Glebe hockey game played many years ago, which Dennis must have had stashed away somewhere at home, recently re-discovered and decided to share it with his old chum Adam Campano.

Dennis is a principal organizer of the Easter Albury Carnival and has been doing this job for many decades. Adam has been in the 10 or 11 Glebe Men's squads that have been to Albury and has organized the trip on behalf of the Club for most of those years.

In his younger days Dennis played goal-keeper for the Manly Warringah Hockey Club here in Sydney. The newspaper article that Dennis has sent us I suspect was originally printed in the Sports Section of the Manly Daily Local Paper. There is no writing on the news piece to positively identify the source, or the date of publication.



The field at which the game was played looks to me like Tania Park at Balgowlah Heights in Sydney, which abuts the Sydney Harbour National Park and Dobroyd Head. Looking East out from the field you can see between North and South Head. It is one of the most scenic hockey fields I have ever played at or visited. With the rise and rise of the synthetic turf field, hockey playing venues like Tania Park have disappeared from the draw and hockey is the poorer for it. On a windy day it was something else. The wind whistled off the ocean and buffeted the players mercilessly, as there was nothing between the Pacific Ocean and the Park.



Blast From the Past

The Glebe player to the goal-keeper's right is Glynn Pulling (60 club games). The Glebe player in front of the keeper is Les Wark (813 club games) and the player to the keeper's left is Pat Nilan (454 club games). Glynn Pulling represented NSW at the Under 21 level, Les represented NSW at both Under 21 and Senior level and Pat also represented NSW at Under 21 and Senior level and played 86 games for Australia, including the Tokyo (1964), Mexico (1968) and Munich (1972) Olympic Games Tournaments. In the early 1970's Pat Nilan was in the Australian team and was playing first grade for Glebe. He continued to play first grade until 1978. The game was without doubt a first grade game
In what year was the game played?

Glynn Pulling played three years for Glebe from 1971 to 1973, so the photo would have been taken during this three year period. Les Wark was born in 1955 and in 1971 would have only been 16 years old. My recollection is that he did not play first grade at such a young age. I was playing first grade in 1971, 1972 and 1973. My memory is that Les Wark started to play first grade off and on when he was 18 years old. In 1973 I did an intern year at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Camperdown, Sydney, and worked every second week-end. This meant I could only play hockey on an alternate week basis. When I was out Les was promoted up from second grade to cover for my absence.

Interestingly, Alastair Cullen (165 club games) the current first grade captain is in 2102 a Physiotherapy Intern at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and he will be missing many games during the 2012 season because of work commitments. I am sure his patients appreciate his sacrifice. I know how he feels about missing out on a game, though. Another interesting and connected fact is that Alastair's father John (135 club games), current Glebe sixth grade full-back, and I were medical students in the same year at Sydney University many years ago.

Putting it all together I believe the photo was taken in 1973.

Thank you Dennis for sending us this interesting photo, it brought back memories.
Any reader of the Red Rag is welcome to share with us any memories or experiences they have from these distant times.



Postponement of Fixtures

Postponement of some Men's First Grade Fixtures on 14 and 21 April 2012

The Saint George Hockey Club first grade team has finished well down the competition ladder in recent years and for the 2012 season it has recruited a new high profile coach reputed to be on something of the order of \$15-20,000 for the season. In addition it has recruited many players from the current NSW Under 18 team to the Club, presumably on some form of cash inducement, or fee wavering deal. I am only speculating here.

Having so many NSW Under 18 players in the Saint George first grade team meant that Saint George would have been substantially under strength if it played the first grade round games scheduled for the 14th and 21st of April, when the Australian Under 18 Championships were being played in Brisbane. Saint George did not play these games, one scheduled against Bankstown and the other against Ryde. As far as I can ascertain these games were postponed to an alternate date, when Saint George's representative Under 18 players would be back on deck and the first grade team back at full strength. I could understand the postponements being allowed if all the affected parties at the opposing clubs agreed to postpone the fixtures, but from what I can gather this was not the case.

To my mind this decision to postpone the scheduled first grade games without total agreement seems on the face of it, a bad precedent and should have not been allowed by the Sydney Hockey Association. Saint George should have fielded the best team it could in first grade and played the fixtures as scheduled. The opposing players and some players in the Saint George team were denied their Saturday game of hockey to accommodate the representative players. This gives me the impression that the needs and concerns of the average first grade player and spectator are secondary to the needs and whims of the representative players. The grassroots of the game are substantially disadvantaged to fit in with the requirements of the rising stars of the game. It does not help the impression of impartiality about this decision was taken that the current President of the Sydney Hockey Association has played hockey for Saint George.

For mine there should be a quota of local juniors in the first grade team, probably at least five players from the Club's under 15 junior ranks. This would prevent clubs from importing an entire first grade team and neglecting its junior development program. Why develop promising juniors when you can buy them in from outside the club? This is an attitude in my view is detrimental to the sport of hockey.

Comments on this topic are welcome. Let us have your views.



Hockey Rule Interpretation

What do you think?

In a couple of Glebe first grade games recently the following sequence of events has occurred. An opposition penalty corner drag flick directed towards the roof of the goal has been saved by the Glebe goal-keeper with his hand. The ball has been directed down towards the turf from the hand stop, but hits an opposition player in the body on the way down. Another penalty corner is given to the opposition. On two occasions in the last two games the opposition has scored from the second penalty corner.

It seems to me that the opposition drag flicker has raised the ball at the Glebe defence who are standing in or around the goal mouth. The ball is stopped and directed down towards the turf in an effort to save a goal in a safe fashion and make the situation safe. Why is a breach called against a goal-keeper who has played a ball dangerously raised by the attacking team by directing it downwards towards the turf, even if the ball does glance the body of an attacking forward? The person who has created the dangerous play it would seem to me is the drag flicker who has lifted the ball at pace, at least two metres of the turf. In 2012 the umpires in Sydney do not seem to agree with my interpretation of danger and who created it.

While on the subject of goal mouth defence I find the rule which requires a penalty stroke to be awarded if the ball touched by an attacker in the circle strikes a defender in the body, chest or head, if that defender is standing in front of the goal and prevents the ball going into the goal, hard to reconcile with the interpretation of dangerous field play. If a ball is raised into the body of a player in general field play, the penalty hit goes to the person who has been struck by the ball. In the circle if the ball is raised high into the body of the defender in front of the goal the penalty goes to the player who has created the dangerous situation. Why the difference in interpretation between field play and circle play?

If the defender has not moved into the line of the ball travelling into the goal and has been relatively stationary before the ball hits him I would logically think that the team raising the ball into him in a dangerous fashion has created the breach. The umpires do not seem to see it my way on this one either. There seems to be one rule for dangerous play in field play and another rule for dangerous play in the circle. Why the difference?

Anyone else think it strange that a dangerous situation in field play is blow differently to a dangerous situation in the circle? What does the Red Rag Readership think about this one?

Editor's Word

I agree with Harry regarding high shots on keepers, and although it may seem biased as I myself am a keeper, I find this rule difficult to comprehend as I am faced with a high ball and seemingly under the rule I have to stop the ball from reaching the goal mouth but also protect any player in the vicinity. There is know where else in game of hockey that a player must be faced with a highball but then protect others. I believe a clean save should result in the defence being rewarded with the ball, as the defence is otherwise always in the wrong giving the attackers two bites at the cherry.



Letter to the Red Rag Editor

From Mr John Walzak

Josie,

Firstly, let me say I am always interested in reading articles about hockey from the perspective of others, and wish to comment on the April 2012 Red Rag, in particular the article concerning 'local player quotas'. For the continued growth and future of ALL hockey Clubs in Sydney, the development of local talent is a vital component. My son, Jeremy has been a member of the Moorebank Liverpool Club since he was their Under 13 Central Area team, and has continued to be part of teams from that Club since then. He is now 28, and has been a part of their Premier League squad since he was 19.

Perhaps he cannot be regarded as a 'local player', but the opportunity provided to him by participating in a higher level competition that he would normally have been involved in, has seen him be a member of a NSW State team since he was 13 and up until he was 23, with his last involvement being in the NSW AHL team.

It is quite appropriate to ensure that as many 'local players' are part of any Sydney Club team, regardless of level of competition, and according to the current SHA By-Laws, teams are limited to a maximum of four (4) players from any one 'other association', and 9 in total from all 'other associations' to play in any one team in any one competition game. Perhaps, these may seem excessive, but they are what Clubs have determined to be the By-Laws on the SHA competitions.

The game between Glebe and Moorebank on March 24, certainly showcased the potential of the current SPL competition, in which Moorebank actually had a total of 7 players from the 14, who have either played in a Sydney Junior or Senior Rep team, with 6 of these being a home-grown Moorebank juniors. i.e. have begun playing hockey at Moorebank. My son, as well as one other players haven't been included in these figures, but they can be regarded as local as they are from within the Sydney metro area.

This is vastly different from the 'one or two local juniors in the first grade squad' mentioned in your article, and certainly Clubs cannot import a fourteen man first grade squad with no junior players and win the first grade competition.

Your proposal to mandate junior player content in the Premier League competition has merit, and this should be extended to the junior Metro competitions as well. Added to this should be the continued development of male junior players, to ensure that the elite-level junior competitions are predominantly male, to ensure that these players can progress into the Premier Club competitions to which the mandate applies.

It is imperative that Clubs push for change, when change is required, and it would be paramount that any proposal for change should include a comprehensive development program at the junior level to ensure the sustainable future of all Clubs within the Sydney competition.

I have always admired, and continue to do so, that Glebe is one of the few non-University clubs that continues to promote the development of local players within its senior club teams.

Regards
John Walzak



Letter to the Red Rag Editor

Reply to the Letter from Mr John Walzak from Harry Wark

John had noticed an Opinion Piece I wrote in the April 2012 Red Rag Titled:Should there be a local player quota for teams competing in the Sydney Hockey competition?

In my article I wrote "Moorebank only had one or two local juniors in the first grade squad". He points out that this statement is incorrect and that there are 5 or 6 local Moorebank juniors in the current first grade squad of 14 players. I accept that I am wrong and John Walzak is correct. Two of the local Moorebank juniors came to Moorebank as under 13 players having started playing hockey with other clubs.

Moorebank is one of the top Club's in Australian and has a long and proud tradition of supporting junior hockey and fostering its own junior players. I have nothing against Moorebank, it is a great Club. My intention in writing the article was to raise awareness that if all the talented hockey players end up playing for just a few clubs then it would be to the detriment of the Sydney Hockey Competition. Top teams would only have a few hard games throughout the season and the bottom teams would get flogged a lot of the time.

In my view the policy setting by the Sydney Hockey Association needs adjustment so that clubs are mandated to field at least 6 or 7 local juniors in a squad of 14 players. Moorebank do not make the rules, it operates within the framework established by the Sydney Hockey Association.

To better inform myself on the local content issue at Moorebank, the Moorebank first grade Facebook Page was viewed and the posted team lists perused for Moorebank's last two games played on 28 April and 4 May 2012. I then consulted with a fellow Glebe Club Member who is familiar with representative hockey players. He advised me about the Association of origin of the players listed to play in the first grade team lists that were displayed on the Facebook Page.

As an aside all Glebe teams for each round are displayed on the Club's Web Site for all to see. In the round six game played on 28 April 2012 Moorebank fielded 6-7 local juniors, 4 players from Illawarra, and one each from Grafton, Goulburn, Newcastle and Parkes. In the round five game against South west Strikers played on 21 April 2012 Moorebank fielded 5-6 local juniors, 6 players from Illawarra, and one each from Grafton and Newcastle.

John Walzak mentioned in his letter that the Sydney Hockey Association By-Laws state that a maximum of 4 players from any one association can play in any one team in any one competition game. If this is the case Moorebank were possibly in breach of this by-Law in its match played on 21 April 2012. Please note that the team list displayed on the Facebook Page before the game may not have been the team that took the field on the Saturday.

There are other clubs in the Sydney Competition that have more imported first grade players than Moorebank. These players are attracted to these clubs by money, job offers, or a perceived leg-up into representative teams. If this trend is allowed to continue the competition will become lopsided and lacking in depth. Sydney Hockey would be the loser in the long run.
Cont.



Letter to the Red Rag Editor

John went on to say that the current Sydney Hockey Association rules allow for 9 players from non-Sydney Associations to play in a team. To my mind this is far too many. In addition to the 9 out-of-Sydney registered players, a club could buy a few players from other Sydney clubs and field a first grade team which could win the competition but does not contain a single player who has come from within its own local junior playing ranks.

The policy settings of the Sydney Hockey Association do not sufficiently reward Sydney clubs that actively promote their own junior players into the first grade team. The fostering and the nurturing of juniors into a club's senior ranks should be a priority of the Sydney Hockey Association. This does not seem to be the case at the moment.

I have said my last word on the matter.

Junior Redback's

Four of Glebe's Under 13 Redback Team of 2006 progress to First Grade in 2012 and play alongside their 2006 coach

Patrick Wark was the coach of the 2006 Glebe Under 13 Redback Team and in the game against Briars played on 5 May 2012 at the Olympic Pitch at Homebush, Pat ran on to the field with four of the players he coached in that team; Alex Sheard, Will Noller, Dominic Tintner and Alasdair Brown plus Ross Bougoukas who helped with the team's umpiring duties. Glebe beat Briars 4-1 in an entertaining game.

The 2005 team list was Ava Bartlett, Nathan Bougoukas, Devon Boyle, Alasdair Brown, Nicholas Derewlany, Phoebe Kershaw, Paris Litton-Strain, James McDonald, William Noller, Eoghan O'Donnell, Ivan Preston, Sophie Schlosser, Alex Sheard and Dominic Tintner. Alasdair's parents Shane and Jennifer Brown managed the team. Mark Noller was the Junior Convenor, Sam Noller and Ross Bougoukas helped with umpiring duties.

It is encouraging to be associated with a Club where it is possible for a Glebe junior team coach to six years later play with four of his players from that team in Glebe first grade side. It is an impressive performance where by six people associated with the same 2006 Under 13 Team played in Men's first grade on 5 May 2012. Pat Wark started playing for Glebe as a 7 year old. Pat's father was an ex-Glebe junior and Pat's grandfather was a Glebe Club Life Member. Will Noller and Dominic Tintner in 2012 are coaching a Glebe Under 13 team. Is history about to repeat itself?

The beat goes on. It is inspirational to witness the generosity of some of the Club's young men and women who contribute their time and energy to help with the Club's junior teams. In the words of the old Beatle's song written by Paul McCartney "Money can't buy me love"

This grand old Club of ours will only survive if we produce a steady stream of generous young men and women with the community spirit to volunteer and help the junior players of the day, play and enjoy the sport of hockey. The Club has no money with which to buy players and buy on field success.