

# GLEBE DISTRICT

## HOCKEY

### CLUB

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

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AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

SEASON 1958.

Printed by ... The Red Rag Newspaper.

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GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB.

OFFICE BEARERS.

SEASON 1958

Founder	The late Rev. Bro. McCarten Keegan
Patron	K. Dickey Esq.
President	N. Walker Esq.
Senior Vice President	H. Wark Esq.

Life Members

J. Quinlan, J. Kenny, W. Ryan, J. Worley.

Honorary Secretary

R. G. Thorpe

Honorary Treasurer

G. Collett

Hon. Ass. Secretary

G. Harris

Hon. Ass. Treasurer

A. Halls

Club Captain

G. Harris

Club Vice Captain

H. Wark

Publicity Officers

P. Rogers, R. Matthews, R. Payne

Delegates to S.H.A.

N. Walker, H. Wark.

Management Committee

N. Walker

H. Wark

K. Wark

G. Collett

H. Butler

R. Gilmour

G. Harris

J. Taylor

R. Thorpe

Provisional Selection Committee

R. Thorpe

J. Taylor

K. Wark

L. Needham

V. Westacott

Honorary Auditor.

R. Payne-Scott F.A.S.A.

GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB.

SEASON 1958.

Report of the Management Committee and Honorary Treasurer's  
Statement of Receipts and Expenditure.

To the Office Bearers and Members of the Glebe District  
Hockey Club.

Gentlemen :

I have much pleasure in introducing this our  
26th Annual Report.

During the 1958 season, we have achieved many  
successes, both on the field and from an administrative  
point of view. However, to maintain our position among  
the higher bracket of District Hockey Clubs, our efforts  
in the coming season must be even more concentrated.

You are all aware of our great achievements on  
the field, which was a record for the Club, congratulations  
to each and every member for their part in this accomplish-  
ment. We have gained many new and fine young players, as  
well as retaining a very high percentage of our stalwarts,  
thus making also a financial membership record. This,  
combined with a wonderful "Esprit de Corps", contributed  
in no small way to our successes.

The Club administration during the season left  
little to be desired, except perhaps for the control of  
our junior players. It is almost impossible for a couple  
of people to carry out this task efficiently; and, as these  
boys are the lifeblood of our future strength, they must  
be properly supervised or they will be lost. Senior players,  
please give this matter much serious thought.

One of our most notable advances was the inception  
of our Club Newspaper, "The Red Rag". This addition has  
been a thriving success and will soon be in print again,  
being produced entirely from our own equipment.

In conclusion, after our success last season,  
let us repeat the effort in 1959 in preparation of the  
1960 competition when the district hockey will be limited  
to ten district Clubs. This, I feel, is very much a move  
in the right direction and will prove most beneficial to  
the game of Hockey.

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FIRST GRADE.

Once again the First Grade are to be congratulated on winning yet another Premiership. The fact that they achieved this honour after a disastrous start makes it all the more meritorious. At the end of the third round our record was 1 loss and 2 draws, giving us 2 points. At this stage we were sharing last place. Our goal average was 7 for; 11 against.

Many factors combined to bring us from this lowly position to Premiership honours. We had faith in the team and knew we could win; the team remained constant and this gave it a chance to work as a team; and the marked improvement of players in vital positions were some of these factors.

The team's defence, suspect early because of players being selected out of position, was the most solid I have seen it for many years. It comprised Ron Payne - goalkeeper; Ken Wark and Jack Taylor - fullbacks; Paul Rogers, Victor Westacott and Len Needham - halves.

This season Ron Payne was the best keeper in Sydney hockey. Many of Ron's clearing kicks were passes to the forwards on the halfway line. His anticipation and agility saved many certain goals and won the applause of us all. Ken Wark is still the best full-back in Australia. His play was a model of consistency. Ken's mere presence on the field demoralises many of our opposing forwards. Jack Taylor, a bit scratchy earlier, really found his form. Jack has been a very consistent player over the years, but this, I think, was one of his best. He very convincingly gave the lie to those who thought he'd "had it".

Our half line was probably the smallest and youngest in First Grade Hockey. Paul Rogers, our right half, in all games gave of his best and is to be congratulated on winning the J.W. Taylor Cup. Victor Westacott, centre half, excelled. He gets better every year - his trapping and passing to his forwards left nothing to be desired and as a result a mighty lot of goals were scored. Len Needham, old "tantrums" himself, played left half. In many games he showed he is the equal of any half in Sydney. His ability is undoubted and when he relaxes and concentrates, I repeat, there is none better.

The forwards were Bob Fox, Harry Wark, Ray Thorpe, Frank Murray and Jim Grey.

Bob Fox, right wing, was a vastly improved player; countless times Bob put us on the attack and his passes across the centre gave us many goals. Harry Wark, inside right, played his best for many seasons. When Harry has the will to win the forward line works well. He has the ability to spread-eagle the defence with his fast take-off. This leaves the other forwards unmarked or with room to play - as a result, goals are scored. A fine year, Harry. It wasn't the last kick, was it?

First Grade (Contd.)

Ray Thorpe, centre forward, Captain of the team, was an inspiration to the team, scoring his usual quota of goals and is to be congratulated on a job well done. The father of the team was Frank Murray. He was just as solid as ever and sets a fine example to the younger players. This may have been Frank's swan-song, as it's rumoured he's taking up gardening. If so, Frank can retire with a fine record as he was a member of the First Grade Premiership side in 1940. Jim Grey, left wing, was having his first season with us. Jim gave us that quick thrust down the wing that we needed. Jim was never beaten. It must have been frustrating to his opposing halves to have Jim take the ball from them when they thought they had beaten him. A good season, Jim, keep it up.

While some of the above were away with the representative teams or on holidays we were helped out by Des Wise, an excellent hockey player and team man. Des played in any position selected and helped the Club a great deal. Others who helped us out were Jim Kenny, Bill Stubbs and Ben Dunne.

<u>Matches Played</u> :	Won	Drawn	Lost	<u>Goals</u> :	For	Against
23	17	5	1		88	26

SECOND GRADE.

After being Minor Premiers we were defeated by St. George in the Grand Final 3 goals to 1. The side consisted mainly of young players with a few older players to give the side experience. After the promotion of a few players early, the team moulded into a fairly strong combination. The general team spirit was good except in one game, when two players had a misunderstanding, which resulted in one player leaving the field. This is something I hope never to see happen again in a Glebe side. Special mention must be given to Jimmy Kenny, on reaching 400 Club games.

The team consisted of the following players :

J. Kenny (goalkeeper) - Whatever I had to say about this grand old player has already been said, but thanks very much for your services, Jim.

G. Harris (right fullback) - After coming down from the firsts, played some really fine hockey; was outstanding in defence.

G. Griffiths (left fullback) - Playing only a few games last season, this player reached Second Grade and played good consistent hockey. One thing to remember is to play the ball and not the man.

J. Buckley (right half) - One of the experienced players who set a high standard for the younger ones to follow. Unfortunately missed the last few games through work.

Second Grade (Contd).

V. Halls (centre half)- Another of the experienced players who gave the best of his ability all the time; was always dangerous near the circle.

M. Jeffs (left half)- Captain- is to be congratulated on his leadership throughout the season. He set a very fine example both on and off the field - well done, Max.

B. Stubbs (right wing)- This player, after coming down from the Firsts, and a change of position, played some really excellent hockey in this position. Keep at it, Bill, and you could climb the ladder again.

P. Nilan (inside right)- This young player would be one of the most improved forwards in the Club. The feature of his play was his good positional play; with a bit more experience could go a long way.

J. Whittle (centre forward)- Played some really good games and was our leading goal scorer. The main thing to learn, John, is anticipation of what the other player is going to do.

J. Thompson (inside left)- Would have been the hardest worker in the forward line, but marred his good work by too much talking on the field.

A. Westacott (left wing)- After coming up through the grades, played some good hockey. One of the main things to learn is not to let your temperament get the better of you.

I also wish to thank the following players who played with us during the season: N. Walker, H. Wark, B. Dunne, R. Fox, D. West, R. Payne and D. Wise.

<u>Matches Played</u> :	Won	Drawn	Lost	<u>Goals</u> :	For	Against
23	15	5	3		63	29

THIRD GRADE.

Early in the year it was evident that this team would reach great heights and in doing so, help to write another page in the Club's already great history. This was achieved by the players having confidence in themselves and as a team. On occasions the team played well below form, but for the greater part of the season, set a good standard in it's grade, which reached it's peak in the final. This team of mainly aged stayers (plus a dash of youth) once again proved that good team spirit and the will to win is part of the game of hockey; without these things our task would have been much harder.

The players are to be congratulated on their conduct, both on the field and off it. Each player realized he had a job to do for his Club and did just that with great satisfaction to all concerned; when a team pulls together the load is very much lighter and we found that so.

Third Grade (Contd).

Now a little about the players personally :

Bernie Watson (goals)- was with us most of the season and all will appreciate the good work he did in helping to keep the goals against to a minimum.

Keith Riley (right fullback)- has much ability and showed us plenty of it during the season; excellent in defence; good work, Keith.

John Waterson (Left fullback) Captain of this team; one of the most enthusiastic captains we ever had, who doesn't know the meaning of defeat. He certainly pushed the boys along to success.

Fred Needham (Left half)- one of the "stayers" and hasn't forgotten all he learned about the game - good work, Fred.

Noel Walker (centre half)- Ever tried to run through a brick wall? - that's the job Noel's opponents had and none liked the job. An excellent job, Noel.

Harry Butler (right half)- One of the two outstanding players of the team - Nothing can be said of Harry that has not already been said. He is a player to build a team around.

George Collett (left wing)- Has plenty of speed and youth, with more experience should make his presence felt in the future.

Bob Needham (inside left)- Did a good job for his team, still has a few tricks up his sleeve, hope to see you score more goals again next year, Bob.

John Sutherland (centre forward)- also a "stayer", still able to outplay his rivals. Well, done, John, hope to see you with us next year; John is also the leading goal scorer in the team.

Bennett Dunne (inside right)- Youth plus vigour, able to show flashes of brilliant hockey- keep it up, Ben, and you could be with the "big boys" again.

Don West (right wing) has speed and youth on his side; there is nothing a few years of hockey won't fix. Work hard at your game, Don.

Two players were unfortunate not to be in the Final team; they were Don Graham and Fred Letts.

Don did very well for himself this year, and as the season progressed so his form (in hockey) improved.

Fred, just breaking into the big time, played well up to standard and is a player to keep an eye on in the future.

Other players in the team during the year were :

R. Payne-Scott, D. Robertson, P. Nilan, R. Cullen, L. Hackett, R. Callaghan, J. Buckley, J. Kenny and A. Westacott.

In closing, I would like to say, team spirit, such as was shown by each player, is a wonderful morale builder; each player personally did a great job for his team and the Club- you thoroughly earned your success - congratulations to you all and hope to have the pleasure of seeing you ready for the fireworks next year.

Third Grade (Contd).

On behalf of the team I would like to thank Tom Pearce, St. George Club, for the pleasant spread put on by them after the game; we appreciated it very much, Tom.

<u>Matches Played</u> :	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Goals:</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
23	16	4	3		61	21

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FOURTH GRADE.

This year 4th Grade played under the Minor "B" section and finished the season with a brilliant 6-0 win over Mesman in the final. After a very shaky start, the usual performance for this grade, the old and young players settled down into a formidable combination and played consistent hockey to be Minor Premiers with a clean margin. After being defeated by Gladesville just before the semi-final the team excelled itself to win the semi-final against Gladesville, after being down 2-0 at half-time. They then went on to win the final in fine style.

The team was capably led by Harry Wilson, whom anyone would think had played for the Indians - judging by that mustache.

Allan (The Keg) Halls assisted Harry as Vice-captain and inspired the team with his play in the final.

The following players played most of the games during the season :

Brian Burke - "The Happy Wanderer", played a consistent game and when he wasn't out on the side line was a tower of strength to the forwards. He was always there when needed.

R. Weeks - played late in the season but was a much needed asset.

D. Callaghan - our flying forward, scored many valuable goals.

J. Leder - one of the boys who should go to higher grade this year. This boy has got lots of speed.

L. Hackett - A shaky starter, but combined well with other forwards to help the team along.

A. Payne - a good trier but needs to devote more time to training; you'll notice the difference then.

R. Cullen - always a good utility player but does not concentrate; there must have been some good sort on the side-line; don't forget the other 10 men, Ron.

B. Angus - The red-haired terror did a fine job as goal-keeper and full back.

J. McPharland - A quiet reassuring type of player - was often heard saying "leave it go, Harry, she's right" - that's confidence for you.