

CIRCULAR

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN



LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

(Incorporated)

ANNUAL REPORT

F O R 1 9 5 2 S E A S O N

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN McNESS HALL,
PIER STREET, PERTH, ON THURSDAY, MARCH 5th, 1953, at 7.30 p.m.

O F F I C I A L S 1 9 5 2

Patron:

His Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-General Sir CHARLES GAIRDNER, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E.

President: C. E. M. HICKEY, Esq.

Life Members: I. J. TAYLOR, Esq., C. E. M. HICKEY, Esq., R. W. ELLIOTT, Esq.,
H. J. CARMICHAEL, Esq., A. R. V. PAGE, Esq., W. H. WHITEMAN, Esq.

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Chairman of Committees: H. V. HORNER, Esq.

Honorary Secretary: R. WHEATLEY, Esq.

Honorary Treasurer: A. A. SWAN, Esq.

Assistant Hon. Secretary: P. W. BYERS, Esq.

Honorary Record Secretary: W. O'LEARY, Esq.

Rough Play and Disputes Board: A. R. PAGE, Esq., L.
O. BURLINSON, Esq., A. BOXHORN, Esq.

State Selectors: C. E. M. HICKEY, Esq., H. V. HORNER,
Esq., A. R. BOXHORN, Esq.

Honorary Auditors: J. CRAIG, Esq., H. RUDDERHAM,
Esq.

Honorary Solicitor: W. M. NAIRN, Esq.

Delegate to Australian Lacrosse Council: I. J. TAYLOR,
Esq.

Honorary Historian: J. L. CARDEN, Esq.

Deputy Chairman: L. F. BANYARD, Esq.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I wish to submit the following report on the 1952 season for your approval, and in doing so would urge all fellow members to spare no effort in their attempt to make 1953 a better and brighter season than ever before, as this will be a crucial year for the game as a whole.

Registered membership remained stationary, but with the advent of smaller teams, a good competition was arranged in every grade. For the first time in W.A. history the Permit and Grading and Fixture committees worked in conjunction, and held preliminary grading matches to determine the clubs' right to participate in the grade of nomination. This enabled a very evenly matched fixture list to be arranged, and so gave the various teams in each grade a more than equal chance of defeating any of their listed opponents. It also became apparent from the results of the grading matches that it was necessary to make a new grade owing to the large difference in standard of "A" and "B" grade players, which left no scope for men who were above "B" standard but not quite strong enough for "A". Hence the "A" Reserve, which became the feeding ground for "A" grade teams when faced with an injury or shortage.

PREMIERSHIP MATCHES

"A" Grade

Six teams only were fielded this year, which gave spectators many thrills during some of the exciting games that were staged. With very little to choose between any particular team, they got away to a good start and after several weeks found Wembley and Fremantle with just an edge on other teams. Fortunes see-sawed but eventually Wembley secured the minor premierships honours from Fremantle, only to be beaten by this team in the first semi-final. However, Wembley were able to score a decisive victory against Midland Junction, who were leading at one stage, and so earned the right to challenge Fremantle again for the premiership. This match was a spectator's dream: good lacrosse, smart teamwork, beautiful goal-throwing and no time wasted. The scores remained within a goal or two of each other throughout, until Fremantle gained a break-away in the last ten minutes of play and went on to win by three goals (14-11).

"A" Reserve Grade

This grade had to be content with five teams, all of whom were knocking very loudly to be admitted to the senior grade competition. Wembley covered themselves with honour by taking both the minor and senior premierships, winning the latter at Midland Junction's expense with a score of 14-11.

Semi-final result: Fremantle 18 defeated East Fremantle 4; Wembley 17 defeated Midland Junction 6.

Final result: Midland Junction 14 defeated Fremantle 13.

Grand Final result: Wembley 14 defeated Midland Junction 11.

"B" Grade

Again five teams were the core of this grade, which included Bayswater, who had been in retirement during the previous season. This did not deter them from sweeping all before them and taking both the minor and senior premierships.

Semi-Final placings were as follows: South Perth 14 defeated Wembley 10; Bayswater 11 defeated Nedlands-Subiaco 9.

And the final saw Nedlands-Subiaco soundly defeat South Perth, which gave them another crack at Bayswater. However, it was to no avail, Bayswater winning by 18 to 16.

"C" Grade

A lot of good material is waiting to be used in this grade. Many lads deserve a game in higher grades to gain match experience.

Semi-Finals: Wembley defeated Midland Junction; East Fremantle 18 defeated Fremantle 13.

Final: Wembley 12 defeated Fremantle 8.

Grand Final: East Fremantle 12 defeated Wembley 9.

"D" Grade

Lads in these four teams, although getting away to a late start in the season, played the game with the fervour of champions, none missing an opportunity to learn something new from their senior grade coaches. Perth are to be congratulated in their efforts to promote our game through Perth Boys' High School.

FAIREST AND BEST PLAYERS

System of recording votes for fairest and best players was altered this year, so that the central umpire cast two votes only: first vote to receive two points and second vote one point. The results were as follows:

"A" Grade: V. Ellis (Wembley), 15 points; F. French (Fremantle), 12 points; K. Bayley (Midland Junction) and W. McColl (East Fremantle), 7 points each.

"A" Reserve Grade: W. Kynaston (Midland Junction), 7 points; B. Chilman (East Fremantle), 6 points; R. Fletcher (Mt. Lawley), 5 points.

"B" Grade: K. McGregor (South Perth) and N. Marshall (Wembley), 9 points each; V. Payne (South Perth), 7 points; J. Shenstone (Nedlands-Subiaco) and D. Mounsey (Perth), 6 points each.

"C" Grade: K. Stenhouse (Fremantle), 8 points; B. Chamberlain (Mt. Lawley), 6 points; R. Proctor (Midland Junction), R. Leavy (East Fremantle) and R. Mitchell (Fremantle), 5 points each.

"D" Grade: W. Grosser (Wembley), 7 points; Bayley (Midland Junction), Scott (Perth-Nedlands-Subiaco) and Woods (Perth-Nedlands-Subiaco), 5 points each; Leavy (Melville), 4 points.

TROPHY WINNERS

"A", "A" Reserve and "B" Grade trophies were presented at the Grand Lacrosse Ball, whilst "C" and "D" Grade trophies were presented at the Junior Sports Evening.

I. J. Taylor Shield and Pennant to Fremantle, Premiers "A" Grade.

Jubilee Cup to Wembley, Minor Premiers "A" Grade.

Lapsley Cup and Pennant to Wembley, Premiers "A" Reserve Grade.

Association Cup to Wembley, Minor Premiers, "A" Reserve Grade.

Clark Cup and Pennant to Bayswater, Premiers "B" Grade.

Clark Cup to Bayswater, Minor Premiers "B" Grade.

Liddell Cup and Pennant to East Fremantle, Premiers "C" Grade.

L. B. Bolton Cup to Wembley, Minor Premiers "C" Grade.

Fearon Cup and Pennant to Wembley, Premiers "D" Grade.

Carmody Cup to Melville, Minor Premiers, "D" Grade.

Victory Cup to East Fremantle.

GROUNDS

To date our association has been most fortunate in the matter of playing areas, due mainly to the astuteness of our members who are alive to the ever increasing necessity to have central grounds suitable and accessible to all clubs. This year we have already added to our already impressive list Rosalie Park, Subiaco, and Gibson Park, Fremantle. The former we share equally with Western Districts Rugby Association, but the latter has been solely placed at our disposal by the Fremantle City Council through the untiring efforts of our friend and counsellor, Mr. Reg Elliott. Although neither of these parks have changing facilities at present, it is understood that the various bodies controlling them have promised this accommodation in the near future. The Nedlands Road Board has also offered us a piece of land along the Nedlands foreshore, which will be a part of a huge playing area in this district. It is hoped that this will be available within the next few years.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN VISIT

There being no Australian Carnival to contest, it was with eager anticipation we looked forward to the visit of South Australia's No. 2 team, which arrived here on July 20, remaining until July 29, during which time they were royally feasted and shown the local sights. State selectors C. E. M. Hickey, H. V. Horner and A. R. Boxhorn had a most unenviable task in picking our representatives from the best collection of players to line up for many years. Their final choice must be praised for the forethought and new approach with which they tackled their job. The following had the honour of representing our State under the capable management of Mr. Joe Carden: F. French (captain), J. Brewer (vice-captain), K. Bayley, W. Brown, J. Cowling, G. Davies, V. Ellis, A. Moore, C. Mounsey, J. Roulston, M. Sims, T. Swannell, A. Weaver and R. Woods.

Although we defeated the visitors quite soundly in both contests, their fighting spirit must be highly commended, and was greatly appreciated by all the lacrosseurs and spectators, for the game way they carried their loss.

Nevertheless, much valuable knowledge was gained by both teams and will stand them in good stead for future engagements.

Results of matches were as follows:

July 26—W.A. v. S.A., 34 to 13.

July 28—W.A. d. S.A.

To those good folk who opened their doors to the visitors, and especially to those who were kind enough to billet the players, we tender our sincere thanks for their hearty co-operation, and also to the visit committee for making them feel so much at home during their stay.

Mr. H. V. HORNER

After many years of active duty on various committees, our worthy chairman of committees has had to grudgingly retire from this position, due to his recent appointment as District Inspector of Schools at Katanning. To Mr. Horner this association wishes

the success he so richly deserves in his new role, and trust it will not be many years before a further appointment will bring him once again in contact with his many friends. To him we say "Good Luck."

ROUGH PLAY AND DISPUTES BOARD

It was only necessary to call the board together once during the season.

PUBLICITY

Assistance to publicise our game through the press has been made possible by the close co-operation of the "Broadcaster," "West Australian," "Sunday Times" and "Daily News," and also 6WF for radio announcements. To all those who have assisted us, we extend our thanks and appreciation for the trouble taken to help us in our efforts.

W.A. SPORTSMEN'S ORGANISING COUNCIL FOR PATRIOTIC FUNDS

Their generosity was again showered upon us by allowing our Permit and Grading Committee the mid-day use of their office for our weekly meetings. Their generosity is appreciated by all members.

ANNUAL WIND-UP

The season's activities were brought to a fitting close with a ball held at the Pagoda Ballroom, when pennants and trophies for successful teams were presented. A most enjoyable evening was had by all, their festivities ranging well into the night and the following morn. Our thanks are given to Mr. Billy Heaton for his part in making the evening the success it was.

Junior grade members once more celebrated their wind-up Games Evening, with ginger beer and savouries, and in general thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Mr. Hickey, president of the Association, was present to hand over trophies to fairest and best players and pennants to captains of the premiership teams.

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

Nothing but commendation can be given to this central body, which has the task of guiding the destinies of thousands of lacrosseurs to greater efforts. For their help and direction we will forever be appreciative in this new year of new trials, and we offer our co-operation whenever required.

To Mr. I. J. Taylor (Honorary Secretary of the Australian Lacrosse Council), who acted as our delegate, we extend our sincere appreciation for his willingness and co-operation.

LACROSSE AMATEUR REFEREES AND OLD PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION

This body of men has again been instrumental in controlling and guiding our players in the weekly matches, despite their shortage of registered members. Aply led by secretary Mr. F. Mackenzie, they have done a sterling job and must be commended on their efforts and record of not allowing a single fixture to go without a referee.

Again their annual dinner was a great success, and should be instrumental in bringing in further members to carry on this most important part of our game. May I appeal to any who feel they can give even only an occasional Saturday afternoon to their old sport, to please contact Mr. Mackenzie at 54 Roseberry Avenue, South Perth.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Attendance was in some instances disappointing, but clubs on the whole realised the uselessness of a controlling body which did not have a full roll call.

During the year nine committee meetings were held and the delegates' attendances were as follows:

Nine meetings: J. L. Carden (Hon. Ass. Member), E. Jewels (Vice-president), F. Mackenzie (Vice-president), R. Wheatley (Hon. Sec.).

Eight meetings: R. W. Elliott (Life Member), P. W. Byers (Hon. Ass. Member), E. Biddle (Perth), C. Mounsey (Perth), K. Bayley (MJ), K. Gay (EF), K. Lloyd (EF), M. Vinicombe (SP).

Seven meetings: R. Swan (Hon. Treasurer), B. Blight (MJ), E. Woods (ML), A. Moore (EF), J. Cowling (NS), P. Doyle (W).

Six meetings: C. E. M. Hickey (Life Member), J. Ferguson (Vice-president), W. O'Leary (Record Secretary), W. Whiteman (MJ), J. Thompson (SP).

Five meetings: H. V. Horner (Chairman of Committees), L. F. Banyard (Deputy Chairman), A. Forsyth (F), J. Bell (EF), A. Keen (NS), S. Crichton (NS), G. Parry (W), L. Kenworthy (W).

Four meetings: A. Liddelow (P), P. Reid (F), H. Balinski (MJ), V. Ashworth (NS), V. Ellis (W), C. Liddelow (W), G. Palmer (B).

Three meetings: T. Lundgren (F), R. Hawkins (W), A. C. Creed (Referees Assn.).

Two meetings: A. Yench (F) and D. Hosken (ML).

FINANCIAL

Although it was found necessary to increase Club levies this season, due to increased charges for hire of sporting grounds, the Association has been able to maintain its finances on a comparative level in 1952. Generally speaking, Clubs rallied exceptionally well regarding payment of their accounts. However, the response to social functions in most cases was very disappointing. Particularly so was our Annual Wind-Up and presentation of trophies, which was, from a money point of view, a dismal failure. It must be pointed out that while we appear to be maintaining a reasonable level, the 1953 season will have very large commitments to be met in Carnival costs and subsidies on junior sticks. You will agree it is imperative that we as an association do all within our power to foster junior players if the game of lacrosse is to survive in this State. Urgent action is necessary for a complete rehabilitating programme. Our Social Committee, which always has an eye to the future, has arrangements in hand for a number of social events, which, if properly supported by entire clubs' strength, will aid us in our programme to send our Carnival team away to South Australia in 1953 with all rail and hotel fares met. Your co-operation and assistance is therefore urgently requested.

STICKS

Although stocks of Pakistan sticks were not to hand as expected, it is hoped they will be available for the 1953 season. Several English brands came onto the market and have proved quite sound for junior use. The quantity, however, was limited, and the best of the sticks were snapped up early in the season.

The general shortage of reasonably-priced articles has not deterred many from joining our ranks, as evidenced by the inclusion of the new Perth-Nedlands-Subiaco "D" Grade team.

APPRECIATION

To all those association members and committeemen who have made my task so much easier in my first year of office, I offer my sincere thanks. Particular appreciation is extended to Mr. F. King (the retiring secretary), Mr. P. Byers (assistant secretary), Mr. A. Swan (treasurer), Mr. H. Horner (chairman of committees), Mr. C. E. M. Hickey (president), Mr. C. Mounsey (visit secretary), Mr. F. Mackenzie (secretary, Referees' Association) and Mr. W. O'Leary (records clerk) for their help and guidance.

NEW RULES

From the outset of the season it could be seen that it would be a year of "trials." The A.L.C. had approved of the reduction of teams to ten players, and the dimensions of the playing field to: 80 yards wide, 90 yards between goal faces, with a further 15 yards for "behind play." All clubs eagerly accepted this new set-up and agreed that nothing could be lost from such a move — on the contrary, much could be gained if treated in the manner in which it was intended. This was purely a trial run, to enable the various States to form an opinion and report to the A.L.C. their candid ideas. From early club reports, the "shortened" team resulted in a considerable speeding-up of the game, necessitating the club captains to employ quite different tactics than hitherto used. From a spectator's view, the game had an added zest, which was manifest particularly in the S.A. v. W.A. matches and in the finals. Result of the A.L.C. findings will be reported to this meeting.

OBITUARY

It is with misgivings that I report the passing of two stalwart lacrosseurs in T. Stewart and C. Sinclair. These men will live long in our memory for their long service and great popularity amongst members of this association. They have both given their all for the good of the game, and to their relatives we express our deepest sympathies.

RETIREMENT

Through pressure of business activities, and the knowledge that he has put in many years of active committee work, our assistant secretary, Mr. Phil Byers, has found it necessary to advise our General Committee of his intention to relinquish his present official capacity. For over twenty years now he has been connected with this association, during which time his duties have covered practically everything from the secretaryship down. Needless to say that we will miss his spirit at future meetings, for he has a flare for organising, for which few people are his equal. From members of committees and officials, I would tender to him our sincere thanks for a job well done.

R. WHEATLEY,

Honorary Secretary.

Talk about it

EVERYWHERE

you go!

THE W.A. LACROSSE ASSOCIATION'S

RIVER TRIP

will be held on

WEDNESDAY, 11th MARCH

★

The T.S.S. "Emerald"

will leave

Barrack Street Jetty

at

7.50 p.m. Sharp.

★

Niddy Roberts' Orchestra

Adults, 4/6

Juniors, 1/6

R. WHEATLEY,
Hon. Sec. (MU 3274)