





**LETTERS FROM READERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**

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*Articles submitted should reach the Editor by the last day of the month prior to publication.*

★ All Articles must be signed.                      ★ A "Nom De Plume" may be used.

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**A VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION.**

(Registered for posting as a Publication — Category B)



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Having been manager of Under 16 State sides for the past six years, I feel that a lot of people would be surprised at the cost of sending and fielding a team in national championships.

This year the games were held in Adelaide, and the cost was in the vicinity of \$5500 for the week. Air fares alone cost \$2457. The compulsory equipment, consisting of playing uniform, tracksuit, uniform jacket, pair navy blue cords, two pairs of socks and a photo the cost of which multiplied by 19 was \$2698. Then most players want lacrosse bags, some need new runners or boots, then they need spending money. So you can see it is a fairly costly exercise.

Next year the championships will be held in Perth, and as air fares and equipment costs are rising all the time, I can see it costing somewhere nearer \$8000. Most of this comes out of the pockets of the parents, the Association gives \$100 to the manager to cover the cost of cordial, gum and drinks after the games, plus other emergencies that may crop up. It never is quite enough, and the officials of the team are always out of pocket.

Now with the introduction of Under 14 State teams I wonder where the money is going to come from.

I have always claimed that it is the duty of each club to raise funds to assist the players, but it is surprising the clubs that do nothing to help, then argue when the players want to leave and go to a new club.

It is about time the clubs and the VALA realised that their future lies with their juniors, and both should give more support than they have in the past.

R. ALAIMO

PS. At the time of printing this letter, the VALA has given each player \$14 per head.

**SEASON'S  
 GREETINGS**



## EDITORIAL

Communication . . . referees . . . coaching . . . administration . . .

All four areas are vital to one another if a sport is to prosper. Sadly, in lacrosse Australia-wide, we lack direction and expertise in all the above areas.

**COMMUNICATION:** I have consistently found it difficult to put together news, whether it be from clubs or association. Coming events are very rarely advertised to give, for instance, many past players the opportunity to attend social events at their old clubs or attend matches.

One example — fixtures for 1983 should be available in the first issue printed in 1983, Sunday matches and their venues should be outlined and advertised.

Pre-war the season's fixture books were first-class and contained lots of important data. These days very rarely has one been produced prior to starting the season.

**REFEREES:** Whether we like it or not, referees are essential to the game's progress. No system is perfect, and no doubt referees do make mistakes, but not as many as the players and coaches. In Victoria, approximately two years ago, clubs were issued with new rule books, but I doubt if 10% of the players have read them.

One of the biggest problems facing all the playing State's referees is the different interpretations applied to some of the rules. This is the most pressing problem facing ALRA (Australian Lacrosse Referees Association).

**COACHING:** Sadly, this aspect of our game is poor, and the future doesn't look too rosy in the short term. We read that South Australia have aborted two level 1 courses through lack of numbers. Victoria hasn't even got to that stage — are we that good? Western Australia were leading the field in this direction up to last year. Hopefully, they have continued on in the same vein.

Coaches have to be replaced, the same as players and referees, and to achieve continuity, top coaches in each State should pool their resources and expertise, gather promising material from their clubs, and assist in their development.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Without administration of the highest order, the areas cited above are battling against the wind. The governing body can do so much — advise and direct — but in the final analysis, the various States have to make it work. Lacrosse standards are slipping except for the elite few and will certainly slip further if drastic measures aren't forthcoming.

EDITOR

With season 1982 completed, I would like to be able to say that communication from clubs has improved, but regretfully such is not the case. With the exception of Eltham, who have consistently provided information, the majority of clubs only see the magazine as a medium to advertise, for instance at this particular time of the year, requesting coaches, etc.

Fortunately there are a handful of interested people who realise that communication is vital and offer information when they can. To those I say a sincere thank you.

Initiated originally in 1975 on the recommendation of the "committee of advice" meeting in 1974, "Lacrosse" enters into its 9th year of publication in 1983.

Its achievements? Not a great deal really — considerably less than it should have.

Let's take one example of poor PR work. All clubs have past players on the address list who are obviously still interested in their old club, yet not one club forwards a calendar of social events for the year, giving the past player an opportunity to attend when he reads the magazine.

Another example: At the recent VALA presentation night, a generous trophy was donated by a leading electrical retailer to the most improved player (from Victoria) in the Australian team at the recent World Games. The recipient was Ken Nicholls, an excellent choice from a very generous donor. Irrespective of the person or persons who initiated this excellent idea, two things should automatically follow

- recognition of the donor in "Lacrosse"; and
- an offer to the donor of a full page advert. in "Lacrosse" free of charge for 12 months.

This illustrates our amateurish ways. It could be argued that the donor was acknowledged on the night in question. That's not my point. There were hundreds of enthusiasts not at the presentation night, who would not have known anything about it.

1983 will be my last year as Editor of "Lacrosse", leaving me more time to gather or attempt to gather the vast amount of missing material on the history of lacrosse in Australia. The VALA have 12 months to find a replacement Editor. Hopefully moves will be set in motion immediately to achieve that end.

EDITOR

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL WOMENS WORLD TOURNAMENT

Australia's performance was outstanding — undefeated throughout the series — until the final match when, leading 6-1 at the long interval, the Aussies allowed the Americans to tie the score at 7-all. The match went into overtime with the Americans holding the Australians scoreless, finally winning 10-7. After ½ time the Americans outscored their opponents 9-1.

**Games results:** Australia defeated America 7-4, England 7-6, Wales 10-8, Canada 16-3 and Scotland 12-6.

**Play-off for 3rd and 4th positions:** Canada 9 Scotland 4.

**Play-off for 1st and 2nd positions:** America 10 Australia 7.

**Final placings:** America 1, Australia 2, Canada 3, Scotland 4, England 5, Wales 6.

Four Australians were chosen in the world team after the tournament: Sue Mellis, Margaret Barlow and Colleen Fogarty (Vic.) and Mary Pickett (SA).

Shirley Ploog (SA) was selected for the Most Valuable Player award.

Congratulations Australia — a great performance.

## THE SEASON THAT WAS

**WILLIAMSTOWN** obviously have pride of place for their three senior pennants, a 100% result, achieving the ultimate in State League, Divisions 1 and 2.

All their teams were on top of the premiership ladders all the year, Division 1 dropping a couple of matches towards the year's end.

State League infused some youngsters into their team at the start of the season and persevered with them all the year and it paid dividends. With their junior sections all playing off in the finals, 'Town appear certain to lead the way in the future.

**SURREY PARK** after their premiership win last year found it difficult to maintain that intensity required to retain top spot. Division 1 didn't set the world on fire, finishing 6th in an eight team competition with 5 wins. With no Division 2 or 3 sides competing there is a wide gap in resources to the U.19s who finished equal last in a five team competition.



With the Under 16s having only one loss for the season and the Under 14s making the Four, it could be said the club has bright prospects. With such a wide gap from Under 16 to State League standard, with not a great deal of class in between, Surrey's prospects don't look that promising.

**MALVERN** — Probably its best performance for the season was the State League final game against Williamstown, going down by 2 goals in a tight match. Considered opinion appears to be that Malvern will go on from there next season. Consistency has been a problem this year. When you take into account that the two top teams in State League had their coaches and 10 players absent for a long period, due to the World Games, the end results show a marked superiority by these two teams over the rest of the sides in State League.

Division 1 didn't set the world on fire and there didn't appear to be a great deal of material to work on. Discipline was poor on the occasions I saw them.

Division 2 finished on the bottom and the Colts just scraped into the Four on a percentage advantage of .17% over Surrey Park and were eliminated easily with only a small number of the team turning up for the semi. The Under 16s showed promise, winning Second Division and the Under 14s with 7 wins will improve.

The Under 12s stole the limelight, winning their division and defeating Williamstown in the Grand Final by a goal.

Malvern appear to have the job in front of them in 1983.

**GLENROY** improved immensely in the latter part of the season and finished third on the ladder. With the acquisition of two Americans their depth improved to the point where they were capable of defeating any side in the competition bar the top two if they so desired. With a new coach next year, hopefully they will sustain this improvement.

Division 2 finished last but Division 3 only finished two points out of the Four.

The outstanding club performance belonged to the Under 14s, undefeated all the year and defeating Williamstown in the Grand Final.

Lack of depth in the senior grades appears to be the Roys biggest hurdle to overcome.

**CHADSTONE** — Disappointing. A Jekyll and Hyde performance: play half a game, then go to sleep. A coterie of players appear to do their own thing. Discipline was poor, losing their last five matches, and were easily defeated by Malvern in the elimination final.

Division 2 only won three matches and without a Colts side, 1983 looks bleak.

The Under 16s won 6 matches, but with no Under 14 team in the competition, recruiting youngsters should be a top priority.

**CAULFIELD** — On past seasons' results, 1982 was a disaster. State League after 13 rounds only had 16 points on the board. A noticeable improvement began with youth being given the opportunity to show their talents and with two rounds to go had a chance for the Five. Discipline was poor early in the season.

Division 1 were mediocre, finishing second last with four and a half wins.

With no Division 2 or 3 sides in the competition due to a large loss of players, Caulfield were under-manned.

The Colts, premiers in 1981, finished second on the ladder and were surprisingly beaten by Camberwell in the Final.

Always strong in juniors, the Under 16s made the Grand Final and the Under 14s finished 3rd, only four points outside the double chance.

Caulfield have rarely gone through a year without a pennant in one section or another.

**MCC** started like a rocket after early season training, won their first three matches and caught the opposition on the hop. The defeat by Glenroy at their first meeting upset their calculations. Have material to work on particularly some players in the Division 3 premiership side. In the long term lack of juniors appears to be their perennial problem. The Under 16s won five matches and not fielding an Under 14 team leaves the cupboard bare.

**CAMBERWELL**, due to a loss of manpower, struggled for most of the season in State League. Signs were there in the later matches that improvement was forthcoming.

Division 3 made the Four, and though losing to Mitcham in the Semi, put up a good performance.

The Colts finishing third on the ladder, well behind Mitcham and Caulfield, turned it on to win their Semi Final over Malvern, and then eliminated Caulfield by three goals in the Final. Meeting Mitcham in the big one, looked promising in the first quarter with aggressive play, but couldn't sustain the pressure.

Indicative of how quickly a club can slip, Camberwell, always strong in juniors over the past few years, couldn't field an Under 16 team, which means lack of promising juniors being elevated to senior ranks. The Under 14s won 7 matches, a creditable performance. With no Division 1 or 2 sides in 1982, Camberwell have the job in front of them.

**MITCHAM**: With three open age teams all making the Finals, Mitcham could say they had a successful season. Division 1 finishing on top of the ladder were disappointing in the Finals series, losing both matches. Nevertheless, there is no substitute for experience and 1983 shows promise.

Division 3, third on the ladder, not far from the leaders, won their semi final but found Eltham too strong in the final. Had a good year.

The Colts, always the top side in this division, made up for their loss in the 1981 Grand Final. Players from this team will bolster the club's top sides.

The Under 16s won five matches and the Under 14s, with 10 wins, just missed fourth spot and went on to win Second Division from Altona.

One of the few clubs to increase their membership this year.

**UNIVERSITY**: Apart from Williamstown, Malvern, Caulfield and Camberwell, University now have a total membership above all other clubs, a legacy of a strong membership drive at the University over the past two years.

Division 2 missed second spot on the ladder by only two points. Injuries ruined their chances in the final against Altona.

Division 3, with many inexperienced players, only missed the Four by two points.

All in all University had a good year, and should show further improvement in 1983.

**FOOTSCRAY**: Division 1, after a poor start, finished on a high note, winning their last few matches to finish fourth. Defeated Malvern comfortably in the elimination final, losing a tight final to Altona. Division 2, with six wins, finished equal fifth with Coburg, and Division 3 trailing the field with only two wins.

The Under 16s performed well, finishing third, only one game from second spot, with a double chance in the finals.

The Under 14s with five wins in a section that was very even will ensure continuity of Under 16 players next year.

Footscray appear to be improving.

**COBURG**: With only one open age team, Division 2, and with limited manpower, Coburg performed reasonably well under the circumstances. Hopefully Coburg during the summer months will be able to recruit more members.



**ELTHAM** doubled their open age manpower from 1981 and entered Divisions 2 and 3. Division 2 finished fourth, losing two of their last four matches, and couldn't match University in the Semi.

Division 3, the leader for most of the year, lost their first match of the season with only three matches to the Finals. Like Division 2, they appeared to slip at the wrong end of the season.

Looking at their Finals matches, discipline and control appeared to be lacking in the bench area and more skilled players are needed. With three junior teams, one Under 16 and two Under 14s, Eltham, with a progressive and ambitious junior program, have lots of potential providing the youngsters receive good basic training.

**ALTONA:** Next to Williamstown it had the most impressive performances. Runners-up in Division 1 and 2, made their opponents (Williamstown in both cases) work overtime. Division 1 should have won their section, inexperience being the big factor. After an 11 goal loss in the Qualifying Final, they fought back to defeat Footscray and Mitcham, only to lose the big one in the last 30 seconds of the match.

Division 2 also had an 11 goal loss in the 2nd Semi, had to reach the Grand Final by defeating an under-manned University. Had Williamstown worried all day and improved by nine goals on their Semi Final performance.

Division 3 won four matches and the experience of this team will provide manpower for the top teams of the club.

The junior teams, both U.16 and U.14, performed well with the U.14s runners-up in Second Division.

Unfortunately I have no information on the Under 12 zone competition.

— EDITOR

### 1982 INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Investigation Committee met on 15 occasions in 1982. In addition a meeting was held on 21 December 1981 to deal with a report referred to it by the Box Lacrosse Commissioner. Comparative figures for meetings in recent seasons are: 1981—7, 1980—11, 1979—12, 1978—13.

**Membership and Attendance:** I. Ternes (Chairman) 7 meetings, W. George (Deputy Chairman) 14, T. Campbell 11, R. Morgan 10, K. Walte 10, E. Spreadborough 13, (I. Ternes absent overseas May-Sept.)

**Matters Dealt With:**

Referee Reports of Players — 14 (1981-6)

Coach Reports of Players — 2 (1981-2)

Bench Official Reports of Players — 1 (1981-NII)

Manager Reports of Players — 1 (1981-NII)

Inter-Club Protest — 1 (1981-NII)

Appeals against Permit Committee Decisions — 6 (1981-NII)

Report of Unsatisfactory Behaviour — Box Lacrosse Visit to Adelaide.

**Statistics:** The following is the break-up of the 18 reports of players and officials and the penalties imposed:

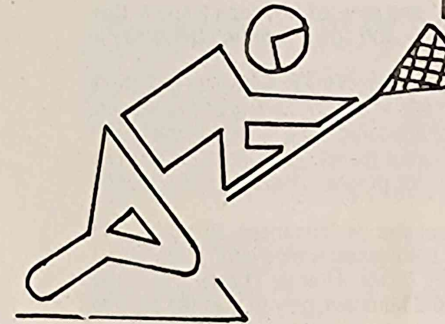
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**BY CLUBS:**

- Camberwell — 1 (2 weeks)
- Caulfield — 4 (33 weeks, 1 dismissed)
- Coburg — 1 (did not appear)
- Chadstone — 1 (2 weeks)
- Glenroy — 5 (12 weeks, 1 did not appear)
- Malvern — 1 (2 weeks)
- MCC — 1 (2 weeks)
- Mitcham — 1 (2 weeks)
- Surrey Park — 2 (3 weeks, 1 did not appear)
- Williamstown — 1 (4 weeks)
- TOTAL — 18 (62 weeks)

Note: The following players who did not appear before this Committee when called are ineligible to play until they have appeared:

S. Young, Coburg (U.16); D. Meredith, Surrey Park (38); Stewart, Glenroy (U.16); R. Gibbs, Glenroy (51).

**BY GRADES:**

- State League — 7
- Division 1 — 1
- Division 2 — Nil
- Division 3 — Nil
- Under 19 — 3
- E Grade (U.16) — 6
- F Grade (U.14) — 1
- TOTAL — 18

**COMPARATIVE FIGURES:**

	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978
Reports	16	7	16	15	23
Penalties	59	13	31	33	50

(1982 excludes penalties imposed on Box Lacrosse Team Players)

**Acknowledgement:** Thanks are again due to MCC Lacrosse Club for the use of their rooms for Investigation Committee meetings throughout the season.

(Many thanks to Mr E. Spreadborough for this report — Editor)

**V.A.L.A. BEST & FAIREST VOTING AND TOP GOAL THROWERS**

Voting for the various senior sections was the closest for many years with countbacks in State League, Division 1 and Division 2.

In State League, a three way tie between R. Tillotson (Surrey Park) Bruce Freeman (Chadstone) and Tom Marks (Glenroy) resulted in a win for Rick Tillotson with five 1st votes, Bruce Freeman four 1st votes and Tom Marks two 1st votes.

Division 1: three players tied on 19 votes: G. Smithwick (Footscray) A. Frydas (Altona) W. Halliday (Mitcham), with Smithwick (five 1st votes) winning from Frydas (four 1st votes) and Halliday (three 1st votes).

Division 2: Again a three way tie on 21 votes with T. Jenkinson (Malvern) with five 1st and three 2nd votes edging out G. Bell (Footscray) with five 1sts and two 2nds, and S. Melville (Coburg) four 1sts and four 2nds.

**VOTING DETAILS**

**State League:**

- 17 — R. Tillotson, Surrey Park; B. Freeman, Chadstone; T. Marks, Glenroy.
- 13 — S. Ellis, Malvern.
- 12 — C. Miller, Caulfield.
- 11 — R. Freeman, Chadstone; B. Smith, Williamstown.
- 10 — A. Pugliese, Malvern; J. Butkiewicz, Williamstown.
- 9 — G. Fox, Surrey Park.
- 8 — D. Sadler, Glenroy; J. Vazzoler, MCC; K. Nichols, Surrey Park; C. Hodgetts, Surrey Park.
- 7 — H. Gleason, Camberwell; M. Brown, Caulfield; D. Gibson, Glenroy; G. Campbell, Malvern; A. Gibbs, Surrey Park; G. Tillotson, Surrey Park; D. Newman, Williamstown.

**Division 1:**

- 19 — G. Smithwick, Footscray; R. Frydas, Altona; W. Halliday, Mitcham.
- 18 — M. Plant, Altona.

**Division 2:**

- 21 — T. Jenkinson, Malvern; G. Bell, Footscray; S. Melville, Coburg.
- 20 — M. Mottau, Eltham; A. Vague, University.

**Division 3:**

- 18 — D. Retalack, Footscray.
- 17 — R. Wilson, Camberwell; G. Dendle, MCC.
- 14 — T. Burton, MCC; T. Dolby, University.

**Colts:**

- 27 — N. Van Cylenburg, Malvern.
- 19 — W. Graham, Mitcham.
- 18 — A. Wunderlich, Malvern.

**TOP GOAL THROWERS 1982**

**State League:**

- 97 — C. Hodgetts, Surrey Park.
- 72 — N. Clark, Chadstone.
- 70 — R. Freeman, Chadstone.
- 69 — B. Smith, Williamstown.

**Division 1:**

- 82 — G. Mollison, Footscray.
- 63 — A. Frydas, Altona.
- 53 — P. Mollison, Footscray; M. Sverns, Mitcham.

**Division 2:**

- 85 — A. Vague, Melbourne University.
- 75 — T. McGuigan, Williamstown.
- 66 — R. Piovesan, Altona.
- 65 — R. McVeigh, Williamstown.

**Division 3:**

- 89 — T. Burton, MCC.
- 69 — P. Saker, MCC.



55 — T. Dolby, Melbourne University.

47 — G. Greenway, Eltham.

**Colts:**

71 — C. Peltiki, Caulfield.

55 — P. Gibbs, Camberwell.

51 — R. Compton, Camberwell.

49 — S. Cook, Mitcham; R. Weir, Mitcham.

### V.A.L.A. NEWS

1983 Senior National Championships will be held in Melbourne on May 17, 19 and 21, coinciding with the second week of school holidays.

★

A complete set of Press clippings and statistical data of the recent World Championships is available at \$4 a set.

★

1985 Box Lacrosse dates for World Championship: February 24 to March 2.

★

Team entries for 1983 to be submitted at December meeting.

★

Lacrosse Victoria, note new address from 1.12.82: Euston Rd, Hughesdale (opposite railway station entrance).

★

**Snippets from the Annual Meeting:**

Congratulations to our new President, Mr Graham Webb, ex-University, UHSOB, and currently with the Eltham Club. He takes over from Phil Humphreys.

Life Membership was awarded to Bill Taylor for his vast contribution to lacrosse over many years.

Ed Spreadborough received the prestigious Past President's Trophy for his behind-the-scenes work for lacrosse over the past 20 year.

Before a packed meeting the controversial University Rule remains as was. It is now up to clubs to abide by the rules of the association.

### CLUB NOTES

#### ELTHAM

**MOTTAU MUMBLINGS!**

After many years, the club fielded two senior sides — both playing in the finals. Division II lost the first final ending its chances for the year. Division II fought its way to the grand final only to be beaten by a much more aggressive and determined MCC. Our U16 side, which injected some of its more experienced players into our senior ranks, made up the numbers during the year.

Many thanks must go to Keith James for getting both senior teams fit, and also for his advice on injury and fitness problems.

Training nights usually fell on a Tuesday and Thursday.

Thursday nights seemed to be more popular for the players, perhaps it was Keith's easy training or is it Roy's pleasant face behind the bar, selling cans of lemonade? Thanks must also go to Roy's lovely wife Alma and to two of our newest recruits to the senior ranks, Joy and John Kaufman, who were always there to feed and keep up the everlasting supply of drink — weren't they Pete?

While I'm thanking people, a thought must go to Russell Wade for all his efforts for the junior and senior levels. Also congratulations must go to Russell on winning the Best and Fairest Trophy, although I can't imagine Joan ever winning one playing tennis with a squash racket. Never mind Joan you have other assets.

With Russell and his family being posted to Canberra early next year, we are sorry that this year with Eltham was his last. Everybody who has known Russell, I am sure, would wish him and his family all the best for the future.

Good luck to Allen Black, who also leaves to take up residence in Canberra. Knowing Allen, maybe Eltham might be playing Canberra in years to come. Allen Montague told me he will be lost on the forward line without Blackie. As a team man, a clubman and as a person we'll all miss Blackie.

Welcome back this year to Bruce Harley, Bob Traeger, Bo Trainor, Paul (Piggy) Kirkright, Hugh Russell, Chris Morris and the ever-so-green Max Evans who, like Paul Myers and Mark Kaufman, has never played lacrosse before. And of course our twinkle toes of the lacrosse field Rodney Bar-Kemp.

To all the senior players mentioned and not mentioned thank you for a very successful year.

— Martin Mottau,  
Senior Coach 1982

#### RUSSELL WADE

This is probably our last opportunity to write something in the newsletter about Russell Wade who, to our sorrow, has been transferred to Canberra.

Russell joined the club three years ago when he was transferred to Victoria.

We should point out that Russell is Major Wade, an engineer in the permanent army, and he seldom remains in one State for more than two years, so actually the club is lucky we've had his services for three years.

Originally from Adelaide, Russell played lacrosse in that city and also in Perth. His wide club background and extensive playing experience has been invaluable to a growing club like ours. Not only is he a first-class lacrosse player — he won the Division 3 Best and Fairest award this year — he proved a most successful coach, and an excellent leader, but we let him down.

As Senior Coach in 1981 Russ led us into the Grand Final, but we blew it.

This year he willingly dropped to Division 3, coached that side into the Grand Final and once again we lost. Whilst admitting that MCC was the better team on the day, the loss was no fault of Russell Wade. Apart from his high level of skill, no player tries harder than Russell and he is a magnificent example to every lacrosse player, both on and off the field. In this respect the club has been fortunate to have had his services in the area of junior coaching as well, and here again his example as a player and a man has raised the standards of all those who have been associated with him.

Like most of us, Russell would not have achieved his high level of success in his chosen sport and in his career without the support of Mrs Wade — Joan, you've "put in" as they say,



and made a splendid contribution to Eltham's successful expansion during your stay in Melbourne. We'll miss you.

We can't complete a story on the Wade family without a mention of the two lovely daughters — both players with our girls lacrosse team.

Russell is going to Canberra — we are willing to bet that before 1983 is out lacrosse will have started in the ACT and we extend an invitation to him to bring a Canberra team to Eltham at any time at all or alternatively we'll go to Canberra!

#### LEE MAKES IT HAPPEN

If there are those who talk about what should happen, others who make it happen and those who wonder what happened, then Lee Thornbury is definitely one of the make it happen type. This year she has been a real dynamo in helping get the newly formed Junior Management Committee operational.

Whether as a very vocal supporter at her son Peter's Under 14 games, as a social organiser for one of the junior teams outings, or as a fund raiser for the club, you will usually see Lee doing something somewhere.

As well as Lee, there are also many others in the junior ranks of the club, such as Margaret Cobern and Mary Montague, who are regular and tireless helpers, but for mine, in 1982, it has been Lee that has been the catalyst which has enabled the Junior Committee to establish itself as a worthwhile addition to the club's organisation. Thanks for a job well done Lee and for making my task so much easier.

— Ray Shannon

#### JOHN PALMER HOLDS THE JUNIOR CLUB RECORD

John Palmer has now finished his junior career, but not before clocking up the club record of 78 games. He joined the club in 1978 when he started playing lacrosse with our Under 14 team. Although he holds the record for the highest number of junior games played, he was closely pressed by James Myatt with 73 games and Kevin Jellie with 69 games. In future years he will be watching the progress of the following boys who could surpass his tally:

Under 16 — Peter Thornbury and Damian Shannon, each on 54 games.

Under 14 — Greg Cobern, 53 games; Grant Shannon, 46 games; Jamie Buchanan and David Czyski, each on 41 games.

Under 12 — Andrew Montague, 31 games; Derek Rees, 30 games; Paul Mavric, 29 games; Travis Rooney and Andrew Hogg, each on 27 games.

#### WHEN FAMILY FUN MEANS PARENTS PAIN

Alma's Family Fun Open Day was again very popular with most parents joining in the fun of a game against their little ones and a tug-of-war to prove that big is better!! Only thing was that the little mites weren't easy to out-tug and even though the "big kids" did win the game on the scoreboard, we all paid for it dearly in the aches and pains department for days afterwards.

#### SECONDHAND LACROSSE GEAR WANTED

Any player having an old or surplus stick, gloves or helmet, etc., for sale should contact Ray Shannon (435 0129), so that he can arrange a buyer from the club's newcomers in our junior ranks.

No matter how old or battered, it could be used by one of our kids to get him/her started playing the game.

You name the price, Ray will try and sell for you. No work or effort involved!!

## ALTONA

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

This season has seen one of the Club's greatest moments, shown promise of glory and culminated in disappointment.

With our two top senior sides finishing in strong positions at the end of the home and away games, it was unfortunate that a premiership pennant was not forthcoming. However, our tremendous team efforts and obvious high club spirits indicated that Altona finished the 1982 season with honour.

Overshadowing our sporting achievements was the biggest event so far in this Club's history. The opening of our new grounds will now see a consolidation of our efforts in this new home of lacrosse in Altona. I trust that those among us who wish to keep their hand in over summer will take full advantage of the year-round facilities we now enjoy.

During the 1981-82 Box Lacrosse season several of our members were part of the successful Renegades team. Perhaps in the future we will see a full Altona side competing in this growing version of our sport.

In closing I would like to congratulate all those members who represented Victoria in their respective Australian Championships this year. The workers, of course, receive my gratitude for a job well done. A special note of thanks to those hard working members who got right behind our two under twelve teams. From these kids our club gains its strength.

— GRAHAM F. SHARPE

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

During the season 1982 a very important event in the history of the Altona Lacrosse Club took place. The opening of our own playing fields. For many people this was a very emotional day, as will be the day when we will hold a social event in our own clubrooms, and I promise you, if everyone tries that little bit harder whenever they can, it will happen a lot sooner than many people think.

Our thanks go out to the two committees of the club, the Management Committee for keeping things in good running order, and the Social Committee for providing some excellent recreation for players and supporters.

Our thanks to Bill Cambridge, Frank DeKusel and Ken Read for their time and effort in looking after some of the club's umpiring responsibilities.

#### COACHES

Division 1: Gary "Rabbit" Roberts

Division 2: Mario "Paz" Pacifici & Frank "Killer" DeKusel

Division 3: Neal "Wobbles" Worboyes & Graham "Masher" Sharpe

Under 16: Colin Nicholls & Mario Suban (Manager)

Under 14: Dennis Hardham & Graham Sharpe, Irene Hardham (Manager)

Under 12 SADLERS: Harold Doerner, Gail Caldwell, Darrel Benedierks

Under 12 KILLERS: Frank DeKusel, Joe Galea, Gerry Piovesan.

#### TEAM ACTIVITIES

With 16 players in their first year of lacrosse a great effort was displayed by the Sadlers to finish 4th. Kusel Killers with a mixture of new and experienced players also did well to finish 2nd. There is a lot of talent and potential in these teams and we have to do our best to encourage this. The coaches of these teams found the Zone Idea easy to handle and consider it was a success and it should be encouraged.



## AWARDS FOR 1982

Australian Carbon Black Shield and Best & Fairest Trophy: Angelo Frydas  
 Division 1: Most Improved — Lance DeKusel & Steve Christensen (equal). Best Team Man — Paul Newbold.  
 Division 2: Best & Fairest — Gerald Piovesan. Most Improved — Ron Gray. Best Team Man — James Shillingford.  
 Division 3: Best & Fairest — Paul Fairclough. Most Improved — David Fairclough. Best Team Man — Terry LeRoy.  
 Under 16: Best & Fairest — David White. Most Improved — Martin Arumets. Best Team Man — Phillip Martin.  
 Under 14: Best & Fairest — Dale Roberts. Most Improved — Joe Rubino. Best Team Man — Darren Brown.  
 Under 12: Best & Fairest — Shane West. Most Improved — Anthony Harrison. Best Team Man — S. Farrugla. Encouragement Award — V. Rubino.  
 Under 12 Sadlers: Best & Fairest — Jason Simpson. Most Improved — Zane Stevens. Best Team Player — Amanda Hardy. Encouragement Award — Andrew Cassar.  
 Allan Shaw Best Clubman Award — Gary Roberts.  
 President's Trophy — Irene Hardham.

Congratulations are also due to the following members for achieving selection in their respective State Teams:

Malcolm Plant & David Gerrard in the Victorian Senior Team; John Pacifici in the Victorian Under 16 Team; Dale Roberts, Darren Brown & Robert Hardham in the Victorian Under 14 Team; and R. Benedlerks, D. Gerrard, Shane Hanniver and John Hanniver in the Victorian Box Lacrosse Team.

## SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Again the social committee attempted to organise a variety of functions, the reasons for which are twofold, to raise money for the club and to encourage and maintain the friendly and social atmosphere which has developed over the years. I would like to thank the committee members for their hard work and to congratulate them on achieving their goal.

Canteen sales once again proved to be our best source of income and along with the running of the silver circle for which Gary Roberts deserves recognition for the time and effort he devoted to this project the social club had a good year financially.

The functions the committee organised this year included two square dances, a supper dance, Chinese tea, two BBQs and of course presentation night, which once again was successful. We thank the Nth Altona Cricket Club for the use of their club rooms as a venue for this function.

Most of the above mentioned functions were profitable ventures with the exception of the last square dance and the supper dance, which due to lack of support we barely covered costs. Some people may feel that the ticket prices to some functions are excessive, but they should realise that without our own club rooms the cost of hiring outside venues is expensive. For example the cost of hiring the Finnish Hall was \$200. So in 1983 because of the uncertainty of what facilities will be available to us at Paisley Park we must support the committees in whatever they propose.

In 1982 we moved to our new grounds at Paisley Park and the Lord Mayor of Altona officially opened them on 23 August. It was pleasing to see both council and VALA officials attend and we thank them for adding to the success of the day.

## M.C.C.

What a great night the VALA Presentation night was, almost 300 people in attendance including good representation from every club as well as the Women's Lacrosse and 18 members from the North Adelaide Lacrosse Club.

Congratulations to all those trophy winners, and a special thank you to "Billy Guyatts" for the award received by Ken Nichols for being the Most Improved Player in the recent Australian Tour.

Our presentation night was also a grand success and the trophies were awarded to:

State League (W. Gray Perpetual trophy): Fairest and Best — J. Vazzoler; Runner-up — W. Stahmer. Best Team Man — J. Neilson.

Division 3 (Tommy Williams Perpetual trophy): Fairest and Best — G. Dendel; Runner-up — V. Burton. Best Team Man — P. Bradley.

Special coaches award went to N. Robertson and the "Bucket" (Outstanding Service to the Club award) went to J. Neilson.

Congratulations to Division 3 for winning both the Lightning Premiership and the big one in September.

To Mick Jacobs, John McFall, Greg Colwell, Allan Couchman and Terry Brereton. special thanks for their great work with the Juniors this year.

There have also been two engagements just announced in the club: to Karen and Steve, and Margaret and Neil, our best wishes.

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Our Annual Players' Dinner will be held in the Delegates room, MCG, 6.30pm, Wednesday, 8 December. Our guest speaker will be Crackers Keenan, league footballer and horse owner extraordinaire. Cost \$20 per head all inclusive. For tickets contact: Bob Crawford (Home 531 5423, Work 665 6514) or John Torrens (Home 583 2870, Work 63 3741).

### UNDER 14 STATE TEAM REPORT

Victoria continued its dominance of Australian Under-age Lacrosse when it soundly defeated a touring Western Australian Under 14 school boys team 11-6 at Eltham on September 2. It was the Western Australian team's only defeat of their five-game, two-state tour.

The Western Australian team were a well drilled unit. Their team had been selected late last year and had been practising since January. In the warm-up games the Wests had comfortable victories over Mitcham and a representative VALA Under 14s President's team.

The Victorian Under 14 team was chosen only a fortnight or so before the scheduled game. But the team was very enthusiastic and attendance at the school holiday, lunch time practice sessions was excellent.

The team: Jamie Gibson — Glenroy (Captain); Reg Howell — Mitcham (Captain); Darren Brown — Altona; Lino Ettla — Caulfield; Micky Talbot — Glenroy; Bret Steet — Glenroy; Scott Pattie — Mitcham; Tim Schiunk — Footscray; Bret Smith — Caulfield; Dale Roberts — Altona; Cameron Orr — Williamstown; Sava Izeakil — Caulfield; Robbie Gleeson — Glenroy; Paul Larkins — Glenroy; Peter Thornbury — Eltham; Googs Laucls — Mitcham.

Coaches: Clive Sheppard — Glenroy; Don Sadler — Glenroy, formerly Maryland University; Jeff Goldberg — Glenroy, formerly North Carolina State University.

The game was an excellent standard. To see both teams (remembering the sides consisted of 12 and 13 year olds) using rides, zone defence, clears, well rehearsed fast breaks and several different man-up plays, all goes well for the future of Australian lacrosse.

Results: Victoria 11 defeated Western Australia 6. Goals: Gleeson 3, Orr 2, Gibson 2, Talbot 2, Ettla 1, Steet 1. Assists: Steet 3, Orr 2, Talbot 2, Gleeson 1. Best: Orr, Gibson, Steet, Smith.

Afterwards the players from both sides enjoyed a barbecue meal hosted by the Eltham Lacrosse Club.

### NON-PLAYING MEMBERS

All clubs have non-playing members, as such clubs do not register them except in isolated cases.

Such members could serve as President, Secretary, Social Workers, Coaches, etc. In other words, important people, necessary to make a club workable.

Such non-playing members who assist the club should be listed on that club's registration sheets under that heading. Such members would then receive the lacrosse magazine at the club's expense.

Surely a small price to pay for the considerable time they give to that club, year in and year out, after their playing days are over.

Over to you Club Secretaries.

### A NEW COMPETITION FOR JUNIOR GIRLS

The proposals put forward here for your consideration, and hopefully to be adopted in 1983, are set down with the main aim of getting more girls playing lacrosse in our existing clubs and to give the potential to develop new clubs.

This format has had input from Physical Education teachers and students, parents and junior girls themselves. Some of the ideas are not new; they were tried with limited success in 1981 with an Under 12 section.

With our school promotion and development program, over the past three years many children have been exposed to lacrosse, and it is now time we started to reap the benefits of this by encouraging more juniors to play lacrosse in regular competition.

To do this in the past we have encountered many problems in recruiting, and keeping what new players we get. Some of those difficulties are:

- The game is considered dangerous by nearly all outside people, so parents convince daughters not to play.
- Equipment is expensive and difficult to maintain.
- The only junior age group Under 16 is too high for most new players introduced to the game.
- Stick handling skills are difficult to learn, so newcomers lose the enthusiasm very quickly.
- Three or four experienced players can dominate a game and lesser players not involved lose enthusiasm.

To overcome these difficulties and increase the number of girl lacrosse players, the proposed features and benefits to be gained by both the new player and lacrosse generally are as follows:

#### Proposed Feature

That the VWLA commence a new Under 13 age group and that all Clubs be required to have at least one team in that age group.

The Under 16 section to still be maintained.

#### Benefits

- Recruiting of players in the 11, 12, 13 age group is much easier.
- It eliminates the wide age difference with only one junior section so new players do not have to play against experienced 14, 15, 16 year olds.
- Being able to play and participate in their own age group means they are more enthusiastic to compete.
- Parents are more inclined to let their children mix in with a similar age group.
- Under 16 players would benefit from greater competition against their own age group.
- Clubs will benefit by having experienced players come up to their Under 16 section.
- It will benefit the Club by having a constant flow-on of players to Under 16.

#### Proposed Feature

That the Under 13 section be played under a modified rules format. By adopting the modified rules format it means that:

- (a) We eliminate the "dangerous" factor and so more children will voluntarily play or are allowed to participate by parents.
- (b) The more children participating the greater the potential for parent involvement.
- (c) New recruits will learn the skills of the game much quicker and so stick at it longer because they are good at it.
- (d) Each player will have greater involvement and participation in the game.
- (e) We can encourage new groups or school groups to be formed and to participate.



**Proposed rules for VWLA Under 13 competition**

Goals — Standard size 1.82 m x 1.82 m to be used.

Ground size and markings — 55 m to 60 m between goals with 5 m behind each goal. Width 55 m to 60 m maximum. Boundaries to be defined or marked in some manner, eg. lines, flags, wickets hats.

Goal crease — 4 m radius ½ circle.

Centre circle — 4 m radius.

Substitution area — 5 m either way of centre point on side boundary line.

Benefits of field markings — Goal crease larger to give goalkeeper confidence, prevent overcrowding on goal face. Boundary markings — contains players in field, keeps game in that area, play is never far from all players.

Number of players per team — 8 players on the field with up to 4 substitutes who can be swapped on and off at any time and as often as desired. Player positions on field would be, Goalkeeper, 2 defence, 2 wings, (attack/defence), 1 centre, 2 homes.

Benefits — 8 players can cover small field adequately, it is easier to recruit 8 or 10 players than 14 or 20.

Substitution of players at any time — means that all players in the team can play that day, so they are involved. Children this age often have difficulty running for long periods of time so they can rest and then come back. It allows a team to carry extra players to make up for sicknesses, school camps, holidays, etc., etc.

Equipment — The game to be played with equipment as used in the school Soft Lacrosse Program, similar to the STX ball. The ball to be suitable for use with such equipment similar to the STX ball. The goalkeeper will wear a protective face mask and chest pad. No other protective equipment by any players may be worn.

Benefits — By using this style of equipment it means that we have:

- Greatly reduced the imagined danger factor of playing lacrosse so we can introduce more players to that game.
- Equipment that is economical and maintenance free so clubs can supply equipment to all newcomers.
- Easy to use and learn equipment that gives participants early success so they keep playing.

**Playing rules**

Checking — Stick checking in any fashion is not allowed. Body checking contact is not allowed.

Note: This does not prevent players from competing for a loose ball together or to catch the ball in the air. It does not prevent the usual body check as allowed in Womens Lacrosse to be used.

Holding the ball — No player may hold or control the ball at any time longer than 5 (five) seconds.

Benefits:

(1) This means that even at this early time of learning the game players are encouraged to pass the ball to a team mate so giving players an opportunity to increase their stickwork skills.

(2) It means that no 2 or 3 players will dominate a game so all players are involved so they will continue playing.

(3) Players will learn to make space or lead for the ball.

Trapping — No player may trap the ball with their stick or put their stick over the ball to prevent its free movement, nor shall a player place the stick on the ball to draw it back and pick it up.

Benefits:

(1) This means that the ball is allowed to roll freely and so packs do not develop as easily.  
 (2) It encourages players to develop a straight-thru pick-up at all times.

Note: The only player exempt from this rule is the goalkeeper whilst in the goal crease who may trap the ball, but may not pick the ball up with the hand.

Penalty for infringement of these rules — A free throw awarded to a player of the team offended against at the point of infringement except no free throw will be taken within 8 m of the goal circle. Other rules as per AWLC 1975 edition.

Play of the game — The team losing the toss for choice of ends would start the game with possession of the ball at the centre circle. The second half would be started in similar style by the other team.

No other player would be allowed to enter the centre circle until the ball has cleared the circle.

After a goal has been scored the team scored against would start the game in similar style as described above.

Out of bounds — When a player with the ball in their possession goes on or over a boundary line or the ball is played or thrown over a boundary line, it shall be ruled out of bounds. The ball will be awarded to a player of the opposing team to that which caused it to go out of bounds.

Time of game — Suggested time would be two periods of 20 minutes each.

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*This proposal was distributed to all women's clubs at their September meeting so that they could discuss it and make some decision on the proposals at the October meeting.*

*At the October meeting it was further discussed as clubs requested clarification of some points. From that meeting the VWLA has adopted this proposal "in principle" with details relating to when the teams play, length of season, registration, etc., to be determined at later meetings.*

D. MILLER,  
Promotions & Development Officer

### 1982 WORLD GAMES COMMENTS

Firstly may I say a very sincere thank you to the people mentioned below for their comments on the recent world games.

- Eddie Toomey
- Roy Freeman
- Gordon Elder
- Mike Hillsberg
- Alec Inglis

All have been connected with lacrosse for many years in different spheres of our sport, and their constructive analyses should provide a forum of discussion for the powers that be for future teams.

— Editor

### BALTIMORE 1982

Conflicting reports have been written about Australia's team for the 1982 World Games. Some people said a lot of youth should have been included in our team. But when you look at the other competing countries not one of them was overloaded with youth.

Looking to the future is the right way to go if you have a touring team, but to win a world games tournament you pick the best, even if 50% of the team is 30 or over. I was one of the privileged few Australians to witness the greatest world lacrosse tournament ever staged. Not necessarily the standard of the games (which was excellent) but the way the Americans presented them.

The Americans have been open in their comments that they learned a lot from our presentation of the 1974 world games and decided to follow our format and improve on it — which they did. Major sponsors, which included companies like W. H. Brine, made their job a lot easier, because of enormous financial support.

The performance of the Australian team was by far the best we have seen in a world series. To finish second behind the US team was something to be proud of.

It is not an excuse, but the injuries we suffered were possibly the difference between winning and losing. If we are to beat America next time we should select a squad of players, possibly 28 or 30, who are prepared to tour. Our final team of 23 players should be selected just prior to the games.

The Canadian team was not final when they arrived in Baltimore; they had additional players to choose from pending the fitness of some star players. One American player had to pass a vigorous fitness test one day prior to the commencement of the first game. Also, it was rumoured that one of the US goalkeepers was lucky to hold his place due to an injury.



We had the misfortune to lose one of our players when injured in a warm-up game prior to the world games. This put pressure on our coaching staff and team managers to call on a replacement back in Australia. Many hours were needed worrying about methods of fundraising to assist a player at the last minute. It was also reported that a number of other players were not 100% fit. So, unlike USA or Canada, we were at a disadvantage from the start.

The English team was not faced with any injury problems early but they had their fair share after the games started. All teams suffered injuries during the games but Australia's list looked like a medical report from the war front. Players not normally known as front line or first team players found themselves leading Australia into attack. Many players excelled and did their country proud and proved to the critics how good they really are.

As far as future world games are concerned, I think the Australian Lacrosse Council should make special requests to the International Lacrosse Federation to stage more world games in Australia.

We have sent teams to England in 1978, USA in 1982 and we go back to the northern hemisphere again in 1986, this time to Canada. The amount of money the Australian has to raise compared to the other competing teams is probably more than the total of the others put together. How strong would the other teams be if they all had to travel down to Australia three times in a row? So under the circumstances our efforts in this year's world games is a credit to all players and supporters of lacrosse in Australia.

Our team for 1986 should have a short tour prior to the games in Canada. Playing warm-up games against teams selected by our coaching staff is very important. Many players can be tested against the best club teams in Baltimore, New York and Boston where the team played this year against the Brine club team. To have 5-7 emergency players on tour will give the assurance and back up the coaches need in the selection of the final team of 23 players.

Let's hope we can improve on the method we select our final team to take off the 1986 title, which I'm quite sure we are capable of.

EDDIE TOOMEY

#### BALTIMORE: WORLD LACROSSE GAMES 1982

Viewed through the eyes of a referee. . . Arrival at Baltimore was on 12 June, a Saturday when all involved were quite excited at the prospect of so much after the long build-up which had been going on since initial squad selection after the 1981 Australian Championships in Adelaide. It may be surprising to some but the referees involved on behalf of Australia at Baltimore had to undergo selection also, and this was conducted by the Australian Lacrosse Council at the end of October 1981.

The atmosphere at Johns Hopkins University, where the Championships were held, was electric, as we had arrived some six days prior to the opening. During the week before the opening all countries competing were involved in practice matches against the USA Reserve Team and comments by most observers agreed that these guys were not far behind those in the first Team. This also gave an opportunity for the eight referees (two from each country participating) to also get together and work out as officials for these matches. One lesson that was quickly learnt by all of us was that to wear anything other than a flat soled shoe on the astro turf was inviting disaster. As was attested by myself having suffered two quite painful ankle strains because of the grip afforded by the Nike astrograbbers, which were issued to all the travelling party. No fault of the shoe, just that their grip was too good and did not allow for the twisting and turning that is part of our job.

As you could imagine, a considerable amount of time was spent with the referees as a group, under Fred Eisenbrandt, International Referee in Chief, going over rules and interpretations which overall totalled over 80 hours during the two weeks at Baltimore. These sessions included discussions with Head Coaches and Assistants of each participating country and covered all aspects of the play of the game.

Like all groups charged with responsibility in overall conduct of the game, we too were not without our critics and prior to each game night, we had briefings and the next day all referees attended a meeting where our performances were put under a microscope. I am sure we all benefited from the spirit of co-operation that we experienced during the Championships and I say without hesitation that when any contentious issue was debated, we all had our say with a final democratic solution.

No doubt all players were more than pleased with the amount of equipment supplied by Brine and it is to this same company that we as referees expressed our thanks for the kind donation of our uniforms and footwear. Without Brine's support it would have meant referees participating in all sorts of striped shirts, shorts, socks and footwear, which certainly would have detracted from our appearance during the Championships.

The first Game of this World Championship was scheduled for 18 June. The stands were quite crowded and all teams marched out on to the ground for the opening. The one thing that sticks in my mind besides the incredible feeling of pride in actually being there and participating was the playing of the national anthem of each country, a very emotional experience.

I was fortunate enough to be chosen to officiate in four games during the week of the Championship including the Final on 25 June between Australia and the USA, a truly momentous occasion in my career. The crowd was the largest that attended any of the five nights, and I can tell all readers that I treasured every minute that I was out there and will replay it to myself many times in the years to come. With that experience I feel I can now have some empathy for umpires in VFL Grand Finals; it was fantastic.

The climax of the World Lacrosse Games was at the Baltimore Convention Centre where a Final Dinner and Presentation of Awards were held. Without hesitation all who attended were deeply moved by the still photographs projected by twelve slide projectors on to split screens at the rear of the Auditorium, which gave all in attendance a kaleidoscope of the week of the Championship and memories to carry always.

— GORDON ELDER

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH THE HEAD COACH OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TEAM

*Q. Would more top class practice matches tune our team to the pressures of international competition?*

*A.*

Practice matches are very important not only for new players, but also experienced players. Of course playing practice matches against United States club or university teams give the team the opportunity to experience a different style of lacrosse, a more high pressure type of lacrosse.

It also has some disadvantages, for instance — Tom Hardy breaking his arm against the Brine Lacrosse Team in Boston and two defence players receiving injuries in practice games.



In preparing an Australian team it is a first priority to have the team playing as a team. To do this we had two games against South Australian teams and one against a Victorian team prior to leaving and two games in America — Brine in Boston and the second USA team at Johns Hopkins. Five games in all.

*Have coaching methods changed since 1978?*

Since the 1978 World Games, I feel the American teams have gone towards the Australian style of game — open and free flowing, rather than the more controlled game. They played a basic 1-4-1 pattern when 6 on 6, then dodging from the front side or back of goal, waiting for the double to come and feeding the ball to either of the crease players.

The biggest difference in 1982 was the ability of the USA team to both clear the ball from defence and their ability to stop us clearing the ball. The aggressiveness of their midfielders and forwards was excellent. This was one of the main reasons they defeated us twice. But on the debit side, their man up attack was poor. In the two games against Australia they set a man up play 21 times and only scored once (not to detract from our good defence), but 1 from 21 attempts is not good.

*What are the most pressing problems to bridge the gap between Australia and USA?*

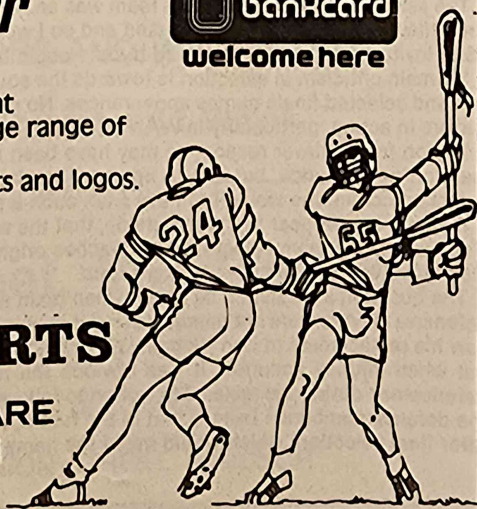
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The gap between Australia and the USA is not a big gap to bridge. The difference between 1978 and 1982 in the players approach to game situations and their ability to alter style and tactics during the game is improving and only requires more international competition to prepare players and coaches for the intense competition.

I have no doubts that Australia has the players to beat the USA but we must be able to take the best players.

*Did injured players (in particular J. Kennedy against USA in final) dent team confidence?*

Yes. The loss of Jeff Kennedy was a dent to the team's morale but by this stage the team was becoming used to these problems. We lost Tom Hardy against Brine with a broken arm. We lost Ray Duthy with a torn medial ligament against the USA in the round robin part of the tournament. Despite losing two captains and one defence player the team combined exceptionally well together and was a credit to Australian Lacrosse.

*Is it necessary and feasible to tour in 1984 in preparation for 1986?*

I have mentioned that international competition is very important to prepare Australian teams. We seem to be in a Catch 22 situation. The financial problem in Australian lacrosse seems to eliminate touring teams in preparation for World Championships. Not all the team could afford a trip in 1984 then again in 1986. The alternative of course is to have teams tour Australia. These teams that tour MUST be of extremely high standard to benefit an Australian team.

### ONE SPECTATOR'S VIEWPOINT

No members have seen their way clear to write anything about the recently conducted World Games in Baltimore. The following are some thoughts which I recorded following the event.

#### TEAM SELECTION

The selection procedure for this team was an improvement from that used in 1978. I still do not believe a perfect situation existed and so I would suggest the procedure adopted by the US in inviting 100 to 120 players to tryouts could be an improvement.

My main criticism in selection is towards the squad selection criteria, i.e. State representation and selected finals games appearances. No group of selectors can say they observed all players in action, particularly in WA. If for instance, a player in WA was unavailable for State selection for whatever reason, he may have been able to achieve selection in an Australian team on performance, but due to not representing his State or appearing in the finals, the Selection committee would not have seen such a player.

It would also appear from the outside, that the selection of the team was orientated to the clubs which the team selectors and coaches originated from. From a total of 23 players, 10 players played for the coaches home club.

The question also should be asked when team selection was carried out, why no alternate defensive players were not named. I bring this point up because the withdrawal of Alan Bower saw his replacement in Ken Nicholls, an attack midfielder. Ken Nicholls performed excellently, but when injuries occurred, it was obvious the team would need the services of an extra defenceman during the series. The action to follow saw Alan Bower fly to Baltimore to bolster the defence numbers. I believe that in the future, the balance of the team should be retained after final selection, which would mean the naming of defensive alternate players.



**TRAINING AND FITNESS**

This area is one where the individual coaches must evaluate the fitness standard which they consider is required. The pre-tour fitness certificates required by players need reviewing, in light of the apparent break-down where injured players were able to tour with the team, even though they received problem injuries prior to going away, which apparently went undetected.

No doubt the general fitness of this team was equal or better than previous teams, but the question to be asked is whether the fitness training was orientated to playing on astro turf. The number of leg injuries which occurred bring this question up. What type of training should be done for astro turf if what was carried out was incorrect?

**CHAMPIONSHIP PERFORMANCE**

Having witnessed only two of the games in which Australia participated, I am not in the best position to comment. Having witnessed Australia beat Canada, I felt that all players performed extremely well. In the championship play-off game against the US, I felt that Australia did particularly well considering injuries and the natural home town advantage.

Coaching styles, techniques and player usage can always be criticised by the viewers, but the fact remains that the coaches had plans which, had they worked they would now be considered super coaches, but since they failed, members may wish to criticise them.

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**TEAM MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORTER MANAGER**

The action of the team management whilst away was excellent and they should be thanked for undertaking their thankless task. There may well have been pre-tour problems, but once overseas, the operation ran smoothly.

A suggestion which may be helpful to teams on tour is: perhaps a designated manager be responsible to travel in front of the team to arrange accommodation and bus transfer arrangements. Obviously, this is when teams are travelling internally in one country.

We all know that this trip has seen many problems concerning the supporters group. Firstly, the undermining of the supporter group manager's position with relation to alternate bookings by team management and the subsequent lack of foresight on behalf of the supporters manager, by not actively being involved, whilst overseas, in organising the supporter group.

The above represents the past problems, to solve this area, a position should be created for an Assistant Manager responsible for supporters. In this way a co-ordinated effort can be achieved between team management and supporters. A portfolio should be created and included in the listing of duties for overseas tours. A further extension of this could be to make this person responsible for team travel arrangements as well.

**FUTURE PLANNING**

As suggested previously, the US approach appeals to me so long as a panel of selectors choose the squad. The final selection to be carried out by the 3 appointed coaches/selectors.

A summary of the US procedure:

- (i) Players nominate on prescribed forms.
- (ii) Panel of coaches (10?) review nominees.
- (iii) 100 or so nominees are invited to tryouts.
- (iv) Tryouts held over 2 weekends approx. 1 year ahead.
- (v) Team selected by final selectors and also include numerous alternates who would continue training with various state members.

By changing to a tryout selection on a set date and place, all players could register and then be invited, with final selection taking place 1 year in advance. If selection was done well in advance, members could save the necessary funds. If non compliance to training and coaches instructions occurred, then an alternate would replace that player. Other advantages are the increased exposure many players may achieve in trialling against the best players and the resultant improvement at various levels of club and interstate lacrosse.

**Tour Programming**

The next series is to be held in Toronto, Canada. I would suggest the program should not include warm-up games against minor club teams in US. A request should be made for two warm-up games against Canada No. 2.

**Fund Raising**

I believe a drive must come now from ALC and State Associations for the generation of funds for overseas teams. Fund raising should begin now for 1986, but will anybody be prepared to work at such a task? I doubt it!

**Player Development**

To those present at the World Games, the major thing lacking, comparing Australia with the US, was the relative individual skills of each player. It seems that nobody has given consideration to the future development of individual players. I would suggest that in each State a



select squad of between 10 and 15 young lacrosseurs be invited to undergo specialised training for a set period each year. The coaching squad in each State to monitor progress. Potential coaches for such specialised coaching would be in Victoria — Trevor Campbell, Alec Inglis, Terry Allington, Dennis Trainor; WA — Brian Griffin, Jeff Kennedy, Peter Cann; SA — John Carter, Roger Attenborough, Eric Granger. No doubt more names can be added to such a list. The above are suggestions. The players, to be selected by coaching panel and reviewed yearly.

I feel the main area of development is the defence area. A void exists of players who have skills to compete at international level. This might mean that some players who play other positions should be developed into defensive players.

#### Coach Selection

The correct selection of coaches is of paramount importance. I would suggest that for the future, coaching applications be called three years in advance, at which time a squad of 6-9 coaches be appointed to start reviewing players and working on team format.

Final selection of coaches to be done as normal, 15 to 18 months prior to championship and unless a particular person has outstanding coaching performances the appointees should come from within the coaches squad.

Others might have varying views. I would have expected that from an Australian contingent of 100 or more that somebody could write a letter to be printed via State magazines, or was the performance of the team so bad that nobody wishes to think about the tour and/or the championship game? Or, alternatively, is everybody resting on their laurels of the results achieved?

— M. HILSBURG

#### ... AND ANOTHER — BY ROY FREEMAN

When I spoke of the World Series to be held in Baltimore during the west coast matches of the Kookaburras in San Francisco and San Diego I was promptly corrected by the local lacrosse fraternity with the statement that in USA there was only one "World Series" — in baseball — and our lacrosse series was being called the World Lacrosse Games. Hence in the program — the World Games 1982.

One program ad. indicated that the firm J.S.A. Banks, Clothiers (a games sponsor) outfitted 63 males in official attire of blazer, etc. The break up was 23 players and 40 officials. The 40 officials included an organising body of 24. Thus there was little doubt, given a ready made venue with seating for 12,000 and the Lacrosse Foundation executive officers amongst the 40 officials, that the US would make an outstanding success of this World Games.

For the first time in the three World Games I have watched ('74, '78 and '82) Australia finished second and yet we have always had the second best field side. Why has this happened? In both '74 and '78 we appeared to be outthought on the bench by experienced Canadian tacticians — and it nearly happened again in '82 — admittedly by what was a better Canadian team overall than the '78 championship team. It was only in the final 15 minutes with two winning middles in Butkiewicz and Tillotson plus a magnificent burst of first home play from Kennedy that Australia was able to run away.

The match results and a resume from the US 'In the Crease' magazine appeared in the August issue of our magazine so I will make some other points on the world lacrosse games.

There are some players who lift their game and play to world championship standard whilst some, who would be expected to perform, disappoint. I have assessed players on their ability

to perform at world level in '78 and '82 — in '74 too much time was spent on administration duties to fairly judge although I must say I did not like the individualism of the Raggatt play — OK for players of his talent in club and possibly State lacrosse but not in world series if we wish to defeat USA.

To assess whether a player is up to world games standard one uses the US as a yardstick just as one uses Williamstown as the pacesetter in Victorian club lacrosse.

In '78 I considered 10 players made the grade, seven did not play enough to be fairly judged and six missed the bus. The 10 proven performers were Cann, Kennedy, Butkiewicz, Hobbs, Smith, Duthy, Jones, Daly, Lynch and Hardy.

Injuries as the games progressed, particularly to Hardy, Duthy and Nicholls, plus Kennedy's health problem ripped what should have been Australia's major midfield attack line to shreds and yet we still performed in the final against what was claimed to be the best ever American team.

Consideration should be given to inviting an extra three or four players to world games in North America where the experience of matches against top team squads would be nearly as valuable as playing the world games. We should take the opportunity to blood as many players as possible in the pace and style of the US game.

The US had done their homework. They played a defence middle with a king-size racquet to negate the Keka hook behind which rolled further on the astro turf surface. The stats indicated their success with this play. The attack squad used by the US was much more specialist than ours, with six top attackmen all good shooters and skilled racquetmen keeping our mixed defence on their toes. We lacked enough really dangerous attackmen to throw a winning goal total in this league.

Our team improved 5 goals in the two games versus US, 10-23 to 14-22. I think this stemmed from our middles Johnson, Ellis, Balinski and Humphreys who gained confidence and played more naturally with more play in the finals. Two more matches on astro turf at the US-Canada pace of the game another 6ft-plus defender and two more faster moving/thinking attackmen were needed. We were overloaded with midfielders unable to help greatly in penetrating a specialist defence. Also we should look for 6ft-plus defenders for our national team in future even though Bower at 5'10" was our best in the '82 series.

The astro turf was a problem early as the bounce shot just propped up slowly for the goalie to take (helped Sears' stats!). Goal shots needed to be the "grubber" box shot (shades of Darcangelo's 20 yarders) or the in-close positioned shot. Our players initially had some running problems on the false turf and I was surprised that ankle and calf muscle injuries were not more prevalent.

Who made the grade for Australia in 1982? Our best defence — Walton, Bower, Haddad and Russell. Our best attack — Cann, Kennedy and Lynch with Fox adding a fourth when the specialist attack group was in action. I have noted at all world games there are very few top class reflex goalies and US goalies are open to the good top corner goal shot. Sears topped the goalkeepers but he had the opportunity to stop some desperation shots plus the aid of tight defenders and extremely fast middles in moving into defence.

England improved 100% between their two opening matches and their final match versus Canada — by giving up the stop-go game and short passing out of defence (their clearing in early games was abysmal) and using fast breaks and more speed and found some excellent goal shooting middles. Australia improved up to 50% and there appeared to be more room for improvement if the series had been repeated. Canada showed skills equal to the US for the first half of each game but lacked fitness and were run over by US and Australia.



Face-off stats for Australia were 23-11 (E) 18-19 (US) 26-17 (C) and 23-19 in the final. Keka only started to reach top form in the final term of the Canada game. Tillo won his share of the draws but got lost on the field occasionally — our immobile attack or too much direction?

Our man-up play was good and improved as the week progressed with our 7 goals from 12 US penalties in the final being by far the best performance. Other countries performed poorly.

In the States shots-on-goal is the name of the game. Over 70 shots were recorded by Canada in their two winning games whilst US had 71 (Can.), 78 (Aust.) and 77 to our 35 shots in the final. A winning total of 20+ goals generally came from 60+ shots. The only winning team with under 60 shots was Aust. (56) in the opening match against England.

The Canada (20 goals) England (19) match was a great game spoilt only by the stalling tactics of Canada when one goal up in extra time.

The US team was claimed to be the best ever and probably was the best stick handling and fastest-moving team in attack yet seen. However total shots to goals scored reveals a weakness in accuracy, partly due to the egotistical shooter, which was noticeable all through the States. How can we exploit it? If the US was so great our performance was an excellent one — a losing score of 14-22 is certainly not an irreversible one — ask Surrey Park.

The comment on future world championship player funding in the ALC report (VALA mag. Sept. issue) is pertinent. Vic. used a professional fund raiser (fee \$1000) in 1974 with virtually no success. The US series had \$320,000 in sponsorship and gate takings of approximately \$200,000. Hence the \$½ million gross spectacle comment by Don Hobbs. When I tried to obtain worthwhile sponsorship from Exxon Int. some 10 years ago they played the numbers game — said the sport was only a minor one both in the US and here and there would be little mileage for Esso/Exxon in any sponsorship. We should, however, start pestering sponsors early next year (Canadian firms based in Toronto?) and keep on pestering them. Third time lucky is a slogan that wins in chasing sponsors.

The Tent City was a great success. Very colourful and very social. Australians travelling to North America on trips such as the lacrosse Kookaburras tour are acting as ambassadors for Australia and should take tourist maps, brochures, souvenirs, etc.

The Kookaburras tour was a great success and provided 30 Aussies with the opportunity to see USA and 80% of the lacrosse scene in that country. The team played 14 games in 8 cities namely San Francisco, San Diego, Houston, New Orleans, Fort Lauderdale, Baltimore, Denver and Valle. The Denver game was covered by Cable TV. It was a close game of a high standard with the Kookas winning 18-16 so the TV spectacle was excellent. The tour indicated the great expansion of lacrosse in the States since 1974.

There are more players in Texas than in Victoria! One can only imagine the gap expanding between the USA and the other nations including Australia unless many more lacrosse players are willing to coach juniors and increase our Australian numbers. Note the remarks of the head US team coach Flaherty in 'In the Crease' magazine that he had obtained greater personal satisfaction from coaching a successful junior team than from his world games effort.

The Kookaburras tour was a credit to Ray and Jan Trevaskis and Lacrosse Promotions. Some 25 lacrosse people are heavily indebted to them for their efforts. My personal thanks to Ray and Jan. Lacrosse could do with another 50 Trevaskis families, each coaching a G grade team.

On behalf of all the touring Kookaburras I must take this chance to publicly thank all the US lacrosse families/players who hosted us during our five week tour. Their generosity and hospitality was tops and I can only say to any lacrosse person who has the opportunity to tour the US lacrosse scene: go-man-go — you won't regret it.

## INTERSTATE NEWS: WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Wembley broke the stranglehold of East Fremantle, winning the A Grade pennant. G. Date (ex-Malvern, now with Melville City) won the Regal Cup for the fairest and best.

	PREMIERS	FAIREST & BEST
A GRADE	Wembley	G. Date (Melville City)
A RESERVE	Wembley	F. Vella (Wembley)
COLTS	East Fremantle	P. Westlake (Nollamara)
C GRADE	Nollamara	M. Briggs (Fremantle)
D GRADE	East Fremantle	A. Groves (Nedlands Subiaco)
E GRADE	Nedlands Subiaco	
F GRADE	Nedlands Subiaco	
G GRADE	Bayswater	

### ANNUAL DINNER OF KULJAK

A record attendance of 88, excellent food provided by Mine Host, Kel East, an interesting display of memorabilia and photographs organised by Murray Redfern and Peter Cann and featuring the recent World Games held at Baltimore, USA, copies of English Lacrosse Gazettes forwarded by Kiwi Corbet and of the Victorian bi-monthly LACROSSE forwarded regularly by Terry Allington, mounted newspaper clippings of club games and interstate matches covering the years 1945 to 1952, and a 1947 State blazer, loaned by Bernie Grove, a member of that famous WA champion team made this one of the most absorbing and enjoyable annual functions ever conducted by Kuljak.

GUEST SPEAKER: The highlight of the evening was a fascinating account of the trip by the Australian team through the USA, of outstanding features of matches during the World Games and of honours gained therein, delivered by Murray Redfern, Manager of the Australian contingent. Murray's dramatic description of the final quarter of Australia's match against Canada, when the Aussies took complete control and blasted in 12 goals to Canada's 2 after the Canadians had been leading by 4 goals, gave a clear indication of why Jeff Kennedy was named the Most Useful Player in the Games and Peter Cann was chosen in the World Best Ten.

CROSSES FOR JUNIORS: Also on display at the Pirate's Den on 17 August were the nine crosses purchased in Baltimore by Murray Redfern on behalf of Kuljak. At the conclusion of the Dinner a representative of each club took charge of his club's particular crosse, a piece of artistry in club colours and with the club's name imprinted thereon. As published in the May issue of LACROSSE, it is Kuljak's wish that each be held as a 'Club' crosse for use as seen to be of greatest benefit to juniors.

HISTORY IS REPEATED: On display, beside the nine crosses donated to clubs, was a Lally hickory crosse, with the inscription still quite clear on the outer wall: "Presented to Ray Goddard, 1966, by Kuljak Club". This was the first presentation of many crosses to be made available to juniors and was presented to Ray by the then president of Kuljak, Eric Biddle. It is understood that this crosse is to be retained by Canning Club as an historical souvenir.

HISTORY OF THE W.A.L.A.: During the Annual Dinner, president Howard Knight formalised the function for 10 minutes to give all members in attendance the opportunity to discuss and vote on, the motion: "That Kuljak Club undertake the task, on behalf of the WALA, of mounting on foolscap sheets, encased in clear polypropylene envelopes suitable for filing, such newspaper clippings and Annual Reports as have become available from the historical records of the late Joe Carden, and such others as past and present lacrosseurs and supporters may make available, either as gifts or on loan for photocopying, the cost to be borne by Kuljak".

The motion received the wholehearted support of members together with several offers of help with photocopying and supply of information as requested.

APPEAL FOR RECORDS: As newspaper clippings and Annual Reports held by me at present cover the period 1945 to 1956 only, I appeal to all readers to rummage among their lacrosse memorabilia for any such information, particularly pre-World War II and after 1956, and make them available to me. I shall guarantee safe return of same after they have been photocopied.





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