

ACT Masters Hockey

Screech October 2021

Great news! After 2 months of lock down we are finally getting back to hockey!

ACT Masters Hockey is again leading the way for ACT sport. Monday night starts on November 1 and Hocky Happy Hour on the following Thursday.

Thanks to those working hard on implementing this.



Even more exciting is the unexpected announcement of the inaugural *Intercity Challenge – Merv Goodridge and Doug Dawson Trophy* - Sunday 12th December at Lyneham 10 am to 3 pm.

Rather than resting during the lockdown, our committee has been negotiating a one-day annual challenge with Sydney. Sounds a bit like the secret negotiations for World Series Cricket. It will be a great time of competition and socialising, as well as a chance to honour the work of Doug and Merv (from Sydney). Of course, we also want to win.

Games will be in age groups: 34-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-67 and 67+, and Pick Up Styx will be open for socialising and refreshment for players and spectators.

So:

Always wanted to represent the ACT but could not get away? Disappointed at the cancellation of National and NSW Championships? This is the perfect opportunity to get some hockey under your belt before the Festive Season

Nominate by emailing : selections@actmastershockey.com with the following info:

- a. Name
- b. Age Group
- c. Preferred positions (x 2)
- d. E-Mail address
- e. Mobile number

Mick Young and HA Masters Committee

As we reported last month, Mick Young has been appointed to the HA Masters Committee in the new two level Masters Committee / Operational Group structure. Mick is well known to followers of top-level ACT hockey as a first-grade umpire. While his busy life has meant that he has only rarely been able to give us the benefit of his skills on Monday nights, he coordinated umpiring for the Tradies Cup and has umpired for many years in National and other Masters tournaments. Indeed, he was going to umpire at the World Cup before Covid cancellations.



Mick started playing hockey in ACT while a cadet at ADFA until an injury called a halt to both Army and hockey careers. Much later he returned to Canberra and his daughter got interested in hockey. Like many of us, this prompted a return to hockey, playing for Centrals and Monday nights, before injury again led to his retirement. To our benefit he then focussed on umpiring.

Mick loves umpiring at the Australian championships. Umpiring at the top level, especially when former stars are playing, is a particular buzz. But he also enjoys umpiring all the levels and ages and is pleased to help enable participation and playing enjoyment for all. Like us, he also values the post-match socialising (play hard then friends over a drink), the general camaraderie of the event and making friends.

Mick and the HA Masters Committee are currently conducting in-depth discussions with State Female and Male committees exploring their different perspectives and practices. The Committee, with the States, aims to improve our playing experience and also identify efficiency gains to make Masters Hockey more affordable.

While Mick has specialist input as an umpire, he sees his role as more general. He particularly wants to encourage the stars to continue playing and build up the level of Masters Hockey. He is also passionate about maintaining and enhancing the wonderful participatory character of Masters Hockey, so that there is something for everyone at Championship and the local levels. This includes retaining Div 2 grades in age levels in Championships. Another priority is to further develop pathways for coaches, managers, and tech officials.

Mick would love to discuss your ideas and experiences. Feel free to chat informally at hockey events or via email (michael.young@transformed.com.au).