

AUSTRALIAN

Lacrosse

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JOURNAL

**Under 15s
Australian
Tournament**



The future of your journal



Robin Cornish

The future of the Australian Lacrosse Journal is presently under review. The review has been included in the terms of reference of a new initiative of *Lacrosse Australia*, which, amongst other objectives, will review the way we as a lacrosse community communicate both between ourselves and with the wider public in general. The project, due to be completed by April of 2001, is being managed by the youngest member of the Lacrosse Australia board, Robin Cornish. Robin has recently been appointed as Director of Special Projects, and sees that amongst his various duties, one of his primary roles will be to identify and convey to the board the needs of our younger players. It is these players who are, after all, the future of lacrosse in Australia.

In its brief history, the Journal has played an important role in breaking down the distance barriers experienced by our lacrosse community, and in

promoting our sport to the "un-initiated" as a "progressive, widely recognized and popular team sport throughout Australia". Current indications are, however, that the future viability of the publication is contingent upon all member states participating in the subscription program. This is presently not the case, and we therefore seek your input to the following specific questions. Do you think the journal should continue to be published? If so, what could be done to improve its appeal? Is the design, layout, and content appropriate for our younger readers especially?

If you have a suggestion or comment in relation to these questions or any other matter related to the future of the journal, please contact Robin Cornish at rcornish@safetylink.net.au. The results of the project will be freely available after April, and all respondents shall be provided with a copy by email.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our loyal readers.

Editorial Editorial Editorial Edit

Undoubtedly the most significant event in Australia since the last issue of the Lacrosse Journal was the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Although it did not include lacrosse as a sport, no doubt many people in the sport would have felt part of it or indeed may have been involved in some way.

Whether you were involved as an athlete or a friend or relative of an athlete, a volunteer or paid worker, a spectator or television viewer, I am sure you must have experienced a great sense of pride to be an Australian.

It was not just pride for the amount of medals won, but for the spirit and professionalism in which the Games were conducted from athletes to officials, volunteers, paid employees and event organisers. The Games were a credit to all Australians.

I had the privilege to be involved in the Games in my role with the Australian Olympic Committee as a media liaison officer for the Australian team and, apart from feeling very proud to be an Aussie, it was also a truly inspiring and motivating experience.

I hope the memories of the Games continue to motivate Australians to keep up the high standards of sporting excellence in terms of event organisation and performance, but more importantly that Australians support all sports and all Australian teams and major sporting events in this country with the same passion and enthusiasm they unashamedly displayed in Sydney in September 2000.



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Tracie Spicer

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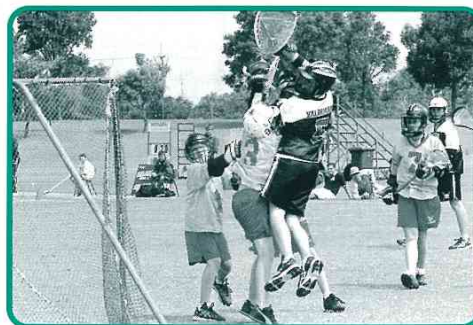
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The extra colour pages in this issue of the Lacrosse Journal have been made possible, thanks to an anonymous donation.



A clash of bodies in the Australian Under 15s Tournament.

Australian Sports Commission

Lacrosse Australia

acknowledges the support provided by the Australian Sports Commission.

In the Net

Scotland

Team History: Prior to the Lockerbie Air Disaster in December 1988, the men's game had not been represented in Scotland since the turn of the century. The tragedy of Pan Am Flight 103 saw many Syracuse University students perish and on a memorial visit one year later the University's Lacrosse Team were surprised they could not play against the Scotland Men's National Team. "We were challenged to pull together a bona fide squad; this was achieved some eight months later and following the 1990 World Championships the men's team played their first representative match. We have now played memorial games against Syracuse (currently ranked No. 1 US College Team and 2000 NCAA Champions) during visits to Lockerbie to pay their respects to those lost in the disaster." A memorial match was played on Sunday August 6 at 10.00am at the European Championships.



LA Directors

The recent LA AGM saw current Directors, Peter Hobbs and Mavis Owens, both re-elected for a further two year term. Gary Mortimer was elected for the first time. Gary, a resident of South Australia, has a long history in lacrosse having served in many capacities at club, State and Australian team level. His wealth of experience will benefit the management of lacrosse in Australia.

Gary together with Robin Cornish attended their first LA Board meeting on November 10-12 in Melbourne where decisions were made regarding funding, championship format, strategic planning and future directions, coaching and refereeing development, to name a few.



Australian Under 19s

Expressions of interest are called for the important positions of Executive Director and Head Coach of the Australian Under 19 Team. Details of the next Under 19 World Championship should be confirmed by ILF in May, 2001 at the next ILF meeting in Berlin. In the meantime, LA wants to hear from you if you have aspirations in these vital and rewarding areas of lacrosse. Details should be forwarded to LA Director of Competitions, Peter Hobbs, 83 Greenhill Road, Wayville SA 5034, email shd@shd.com.au

Government Grant to Eltham

Eltham Lacrosse club recently received a \$2500 grant from the Victorian State Government to assist the club in purchasing safety equipment for junior players.

Eltham applied to the State Government for financial assistance to purchase safety equipment, including helmets, gloves and body padding, for the clubs junior players. Any Victorian clubs interested in applying for such grants are encouraged to contact the Victorian state government for further information.

A Coach for Germany

Germany has requested a coach to conduct player and coach clinics for a six week period in April/May 2001. If you are interested and consider yourself capable to undertake this coaching appointment contact Peter Hobbs, 83 Greenhill Road, Wayville SA 5034 or email shd@shd.com.au. Germany's website is www.dlaxv.de



Lacrosse On The Move

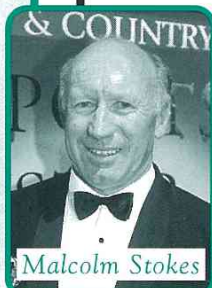
Most of us would be unaware of the lacrosse development taking place around the world. However, at the last ILF meeting in Scotland in August, the ILFDC reported that the following countries are all involved in some form of lacrosse: China, France, Hong Kong, Hungary, Holland, Argentina, Italy, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland, Tonga.

ILF Members are committed to support this development, with USA undertaking the lion's share so far, whilst Japan is providing ongoing support to near neighbours, Korea and China. Australia recently expressed its support to this international development by offering to pay the ILF subscription for newest member, Korea.

ALL-TIME HIGH

The combined contribution of Malcolm Stokes and Doug Fox to the Lacrosse Australia Board is probably without parallel in the history of lacrosse in Australia. Both have achieved high accolades on many occasions throughout their sporting career. They have set the "bar" at an all-time high. Their expertise will be missed on the Board but both have accepted new positions with Australian lacrosse - Malcolm as Executive Director of the 2002

Australian Team and Doug as LA Historian. The old adage still applies... "You can't keep a good man down!"



Malcolm Stokes

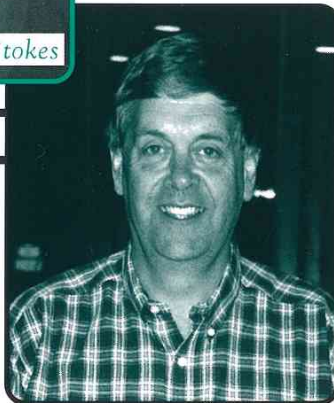
Malcolm Out - Robin In

Following the mid-term resignation of

Malcolm Stokes, WALA was required under the LA Articles of Association to nominate a replacement for the remainder of his term of office. The subsequent nomination and appointment of Robin Cornish was duly endorsed at the LA AGM in October. Robin is well known in lacrosse circles having played at elite level both within Australia and the US and coached at Subiaco and State level. His enthusiasm, talent and love of the game will add another dimension to the LA Board.

Lacrosse Australia Historian, Terry Allington, retires.

Terry Allington, long time stalwart of lacrosse, recently announced his intention to hand over the "Historian" reins. Reluctantly this was accepted by the LA Board. Terry has been LA Historian for many, many years and has records dating back to the 1870s. At the recent LA meeting retiring Director, Doug Fox was appointed LA Historian for a three year term. Doug's application contained a detailed proposal to record and catalogue the material that Terry has so diligently gathered. One could say... "the hard work has been done (thanks to Terry) - now the fun begins (good on you Doug!)"



Doug Fox

Calling All Coaches

Ever wanted to travel to remote parts of the globe? This may be your big chance! The International Lacrosse Federation Development Committee (ILFDC) is preparing a roster of suitable coaches to assist developing lacrosse nations. This may include countries like Korea, China, Argentina, Italy, New Zealand. Peter Hobbs, Lacrosse Australia Director of Competitions and a member of the ILFDC would welcome your expression of interest. Send your lacrosse coaching resume to P Hobbs, 83 Greenhill Road, Wayville SA 5034 or email shd@shd.com.au

International Program Coordinator

Alec Inglis has been appointed to the position of LA International Program Coordinator (IPC) for a three year term. This followed extensive advertising of the position, interviews and thorough assessment of applications. Alec, a former Australian Coach, is well placed to initiate and implement the aims and objectives LA has for this new position. Good luck, Alec.

Walk Softly and Carry a Big Stick



Courtesy of WA Newspapers

By Mel Moffat
Sports journalist The West Australian

Denic and Nichols gear up for 2002 World Series

Few sports are tougher or more intimidating than lacrosse with players wearing helmets and face guards (a'la Rollerball), padding up (a'la grid iron), and wielding sticks (a'la any dark European crusading tale you care to name).

The origins, of course, are imbedded in violence with native Americans inventing the game to train their warriors.

So, it should be appropriate that Australia adopt a mean, tough-guy

image leading into the 2002 World Series in Perth. Having a few opposition knees knocking at the thought of coming to the loneliest capital city in the world ... there's an ocean on one side and a desert on the other ... could give Australia the perfect psychological advantage as it chases its first title success in an event that has been dominated by the North Americans.

Step forward, "Elbows" and "JD".

There might be just the right hint of mystery and menace in the nicknames

of Australia's coaching gurus ... "JD" John Denic and "Elbows" Ken Nichols ... to suggest a godfather link. There is. Although it's probably less intimidating than the pair would care to admit.

They are both godfathers to the children of former lacrosse great Jeff Kennedy. Denic stood beside the baptismal font when Mitchell Kennedy came along and Nichols has Rebecca Kennedy as his godchild.

But, why spoil a good image.

Carry a Big Stick

Nichols, 45, has had to live with the "Elbows" tag since his young days of surviving lacrosse battles on the muddy fields of Victoria. With such an aggressive nickname, he should be the perfect enforcer when it comes to getting across Australia's tactics for the 2002 showdown.

"I found out the hard way how to take care of yourself in the game," said Nichols when he recently visited Perth to catch up with head coach Denic and view the championship venue, the hockey centre at the UWA Sports Park, McGillivray Oval.

"When I was a kid, one of the characters of the game gave me a lift under the ear during a tough contest. It happened a few times. I got a bit fed up and gave him one back ... a good one.

"Afterwards, he shouted hey Elbows' and it's been with me ever since. But I must say that I never struck anyone with my elbows."

The powerful frame of 45-year-old Denic certainly suggests a godfather image. His gentle voice might indicate otherwise, although remember Marlon Brando mumbled low and menacingly when he ruled the family in the movie version of "The Godfather".

Alright, we don't expect "Elbows" and "JD" to

stand in dark corners around Perth, cracking their knuckles, flexing their muscles and muttering warnings out of the sides of their mouths, in an effort to scare the opposition. But both are willing to make the right confident noises regarding the prospects of the Aussie Sharks (will that nickname be adopted again?) being involved in a feeding frenzy on the field.

Their optimism overshadows the fact that World Series success will be tougher than ever. There will be a record total of 11 nations chasing the lacrosse holy grail and another six or so up-and-coming nations fielding teams in demonstration events in what should be the greatest carnival the sport has yet witnessed.

Denic and Nichols teamed up in 1998 when the Aussies ran third in Baltimore. It was always going to be tough in the Americans' backyard. But they are confident it won't be a case of backyard blues when the Aussies strut their stuff on the slick astro-turf at the UWA Sports Field.

"A little thing in the back of my mind says we can do it," said

Nichols after having a first look at the compact venue, which will get a facelift with temporary seating for about 5000.

Okay, it's not the 30,000-capacity WACA Ground (the stage for the 1990 series in Perth), but it will be more intimidating with home fans perched on the sidelines, breathing down the necks of visiting teams. Another for the fear factor.

Denic, head coach for a third World Series, was even more forthcoming about Australia's prospects.

"I reckon America's decision to launch a professional league next year will help us, for there will be a direct clash in 2002 and possibly the US will not have its best players available for the world series," he said.

"About 250 of the top players will be used in Major League Lacrosse."

Both coaches are steeped in family

sporting traditions and know full well the demands, and rewards, of various sports.

Success in the Nichols family is second nature. Ken's great uncle was "The Blue Flash", otherwise known as Jack Donaldson, the fastest professional runner of his era. A crowd of around 50,000 saw him race in Sydney, and nearly 30,000 turned out in WA's Goldfields to cheer him. The Jack Donaldson Memorial Gate has been named in his honour at Stawell, home of the famous Stawell Gift.

Ken played in several World Series and his wife Frances was also an Australian lacrosse player. The couple's nine-year-old twins, Gabrielle and Christian, are also budding sports

stars. Gabrielle spends 30 hours a week pursuing gymnastics at the Victorian Institute of Sport, while Christian has already won several best and fairest awards in under-11 lacrosse.

Denic, who has been Australian coach since 1992, has led WA and East Fremantle to many titles. He still plays the game, face-off at second division level.

Two of his daughters, Melanie (21) and Christy (18), are former national karate champions, while Alishia (13) has inherited her father's passion for lacrosse.

Both families might be left to watch events from afar over the next 18 months or so as Denic and Nichols oversee coaching sessions in various states for an initial squad of 83, which will be trimmed to around 30 in the selection trials next June.

Now that will be a real scary task.

Six-Two-Oh! to go

Australian Team Executive Director Malcolm Stokes brings us up-to-date with campaign arrangements for the Australian team to win the World Title.

There are only 620 days from the deadline date for this Journal till the commencement of the 9th World Lacrosse Championships - and preparations for the Australian team to compete in it are building momentum.

A key word in relation to this team is flexibility. Yes, we need players to be physically flexible as a function of their personal fitness and flexible in the positions they can play.

The team will be required to be flexible in the game plans it can use; the team personnel to be appointed; the preparation program it implements and many other areas. We must be prepared to change as more and/or better information becomes available to us.

This is already happening. The coaches considered a program involving a number of camps and a tour to USA as part of the team program. This was costed out and, with other factors influencing the USA tour proposal, several alternative programs have been discussed and considered. The program will not be "finalised" until playing squad members have had an opportunity to provide their thoughts on the program.

Consideration must be given to potential Australian players based in USA or other locations.

Consideration is being given to the impact of the Australian team preparation program on national and state competitions - and vice versa. A

suggestion has been submitted to Lacrosse Australia for the 2001 and 2002 Australian Championships.

We must be alert to developments at International Lacrosse Federation level and have already provided a solution for a game schedule difficulty that avoided the addition of another day on the championship schedule.

We liaise with the 2002 World Championship Organising Committee to offer support and provide practical advice from previous experience.

Eighty-three players have been invited to form the squad from which the 2002 team will be selected. Not all those invited will be able to accept the invitation.



Australian Squad Member, Darren Nicholas (Eltham) shoots after getting in behind the Williamstown defence in the Victorian State League Grand Final.

The selection process for various team positions is taking a long time because we wish to talk with applicants about the team, and that can only be done when someone travels interstate. The process is being managed within those travel/cost constraints.

Recommendations for appointments will only be made when the appointment is required and suitable personnel have been identified.

The ILF By-Laws specify the official party as 28 personnel which includes two referees. With a total of 23 players that provides Official Party status to only three additional personnel - and we have already appointed the executive director, coach (John Denic) and one assistant coach (Ken Nichols).

The Official Party receives championship entry tickets and presentation banquet tickets at no cost - every additional team position appointed incurs those additional costs that are shared among all team members.

Grants and sponsorships are applied to offset team costs which include travel and accommodation. Team costs are increased with every additional team position appointed.

The team must find a working balance between the control of costs and the resources required, including team personnel, to achieve the team objectives.

We believe the fact that we are playing this championship "at home" provides us with the opportunity to involve many people in support of the team without being appointed to official team positions.

The opportunity to be involved with this team as a "mate" will be more accessible than ever before and will ease the workload on team personnel by spreading the tasks required to be done among many "team-mates".

2002 Australian Lacrosse Squad

South Australia	Victoria	Western Australia	USA
S Robb	T Sparks	W Brown	N Roost
A Sargent	N Stiglich	R Brown	D Toy
M Sheidow	S Garnsworthy	M Schomburg	K Delfs
A Stone	B Fleming	W Curran	M Mcinerney
M Mangan	D Amall	B Smith	
C DeMello	M Civile	S Griffin	
M Windsor	C Flaherty	M Wann	
P Inge	T Garnsworthy	P Buettner	
J Inge	D Nicholas	N Rainey	
B Howe	R Stark	D Spreadborough	
L Perham	K Nyberg	D Whiteman	
W Green	K Morlang	T Forbes	
S Goad	G Moore	R Cornish	
S Dawson	M Cleveland	T Cahill	
H Sinclair-Ross	B Skepper	A Stammers	
T Machner	J Tokarua	J Redman	
M Norton	J Davenport	J Watson-Galbraith	
B Pallant	B Ross	K Fong	
A Feleppa	C Shepherd		
R Feleppa	C Barr-Kemp		
C Schicker	A Lewer		
J Casagrande	S Marquard		
N Wapper	W Kendall		
R Lawson	T Gathercole		
	L Ross		
	J Buchanan		
	J Brewer		

Note: Several other players either not yet decided or yet to respond.

Players commenced training in squads in each state from November. Camps with all coaches in attendance are proposed to be held in each state in February/March. At these camps the program will be discussed with players.

A selection camp is proposed for July 2001 and this may be held in

association with the 2001 Australian Championships in Melbourne, depending on the timing and format of those championships.

The next 620 days will be full of excitement, drama and damned hard work to make the following nine days as enjoyable and successful as we plan them to be.

Lacrosse and television

By Malcolm Stokes*

Having been exposed to an overdose of sport on television with an intense Olympics period following a heavy AFL football season, the thought keeps coming up - why do we not have lacrosse on television?

When we see the television rights for the Olympics cost \$1.2 billion the figures are really scary. So what has been happening in the lacrosse/television world?

The only television exposure gained by lacrosse has been occasional games such as the finals of the 1990 World Championships and very rare Australian Championship matches. More recently the introduction of cable networks into Australia has resulted in some USA box lacrosse, NCAA finals and 1998 World Championship games being seen in Australia.

In November 1994 the Lacrosse Australia Board of Directors recognised the fact that the only television sport on a regular basis was national competitions and so set about the establishment of a National Lacrosse League, specifically for the purpose of gaining a regular television presence.

A legal and management structure was developed. Agents with specific expertise in the television production and broadcast industry, as well as marketing expertise to develop a lacrosse package to meet market requirements, were engaged to act on behalf of Lacrosse Australia.

In 1997 our agents advised that it would be necessary to offer an international competition to attract the necessary sponsorship and to enable costs to be amortised by broadcasting over a larger "footprint" of the countries involved.

Having observed the devastating rugby scenario with television promoters creating a rugby tournament in competition with the established rugby sport association, a proposal was submitted to the 1997 International

Lacrosse Federation (ILF) meeting. This resulted in Lacrosse Australia being appointed to negotiate and manage on behalf of ILF, an international league and associated television agreements. Our agents were then appointed to act on behalf of ILF and Lacrosse Australia until June 1999 and this was subsequently extended for two years to June 2001.

Various concept proposals were developed in association with the agents to assist in presenting this new "product" to the television sports world.

In 1999 a large organisation in USA commenced working on the establishment of a "Major League Lacrosse" and they played "Summer Showcase" games in six cities as a trial which was deemed successful. This is a professional league, with players being paid, which is planned to have eight teams franchised throughout USA. Some 250 players tried out for places on those teams at a "scouting combine" in November in Florida, USA.

Contact was made with the organisers of this competition to see if they would be interested in combining the two projects but this was not successful.

The USA is the largest lacrosse television market. The introduction of

what is in effect a USA National League (with the television broadcast rights probably sold to other countries including Australia) could make it more difficult to introduce the World Lacrosse League product into the television market in the short term. However, in the longer term it may stimulate the market and create television possibilities for lacrosse in Australia.

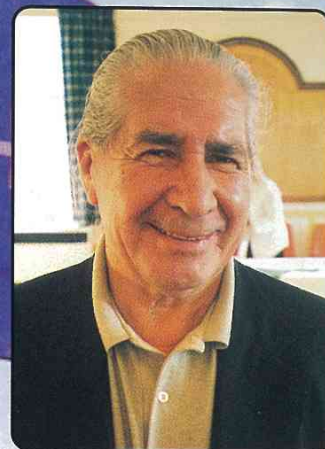
One objective from the commencement of this project has been to establish the regular television broadcast of lacrosse at no financial cost to the lacrosse community. That requires attracting sufficient sponsorship to enable the project to be implemented with no cost to lacrosse and no financial risk for lacrosse.

As is the case with the Major League Lacrosse project in USA, the game acceptable to television, at least initially, will probably be a modified version of the field game we play in Australia. The important move is to present the game to a television audience to gain exposure and create awareness of the game.



*Thanks to Malcolm Stokes for this article. Malcolm has driven the "Lacrosse on TV" project since 1994, both at Australian and International levels.

Step Aside Ben Hur...



Chief Jo Ag Quis Ho
(Oren Lyons)
Honorary Chairman of
Iroquois Nationals

WLX 2002 is on its way!

The Iroquois flag flies alongside the ILF and Australian flags during the 1990 World Championships.

It may still be 18 months away, but the 2002 World Lacrosse Championships are now well and truly shaping up as the biggest celebration of Lacrosse ever to be held.

Since September, contact has been made with clubs and associations as far afield as Switzerland, Pakistan, Greece and Korea, not to mention Brunei, Vietnam and the Philippines via the Japan Lacrosse Association.

These come on top of a record 11 nations already scheduled to contest the championships, not to mention teams in the Masters and Grand Masters competitions, which will also be held at the UWA Sports Park at McGillivray Oval in Floreat.

Original estimates of 5000 players, coaches, officials, spectators, assorted media are sure to be surpassed for the July 6 to 14 event, which aside from cementing Perth on the International Lacrosse map, will bring a smile to Perth tourism operators in what is traditionally one of the quietest months of the year.

The 11 teams now set to contest the 36-game championships will be Australia, United States, Canada, England, Wales, Scotland, Czech Republic, Iroquois, Japan, Sweden and Germany.

All matches have been scheduled to play on either the eastern grassed areas or the hockey stadium's astro-turf facility.

With the wealth of grounds at McGillivray, the organising committee has been able to schedule up to five games per day, which on most days will commence at 1pm. The last game of the day will commence at 7pm to enable plenty of time for spectators to reach the venue post-work.

And on the subject of spectators, the organising committee is considering a two-tiered ticket system - standard and premium - with premium tickets providing covered seating at the hockey stadium.

Want to know how you can get a slice of the 2002 Championships action? Call committee Chairman, George Halleen on (08) 9448 6305 or Mavis Owens on (08) 9387 9754 or Website www.wala.lax.org.au/other/2002.html.

The 2002 World Lacrosse Championships games schedule appears on page 30.



Review - National U15 Tournament, Perth WA

The Best Games Ever

By George Walker



At the same time as the President of the International Olympic Committee Juan Antonio Samaranch, was giving his historical assessment of the Sydney Olympic Games, proclaiming them "the best Games ever", all the participants at the Smarter Than Smoking National Under 15s Lacrosse Tournament held in Perth were making a similar assessment of the tournament, and unanimously declared it the "best tournament ever".

Just as Mr Samaranch reflected on the high sporting standards of the participants, the professionalism of the officials, the friendliness of the volunteers and the local community, the high standards of facilities and the superb organisational skills of the organisers of the Olympics, the same features were evident throughout the under 15s tournament.

The tournament was hosted and

organised by the Wanneroo Lacrosse Club and was sponsored by the Smarter Than Smoking campaign and the City of Wanneroo. It was held at the Kingsway Sporting Complex in Landsdale, in Perth's northern suburbs September 23-30.

The weather was kind to all teams, being mild and mainly dry throughout and fortunately avoiding the extreme heat that can be evident in Perth at that time of the year. The grounds, normally the home of the Wanneroo Football Club, were in good condition - hard and fast, and improved throughout the week.

The tournament organisers adopted an Olympic theme during the week, commencing with the opening ceremony, parade of teams, the national anthem and players and officials oaths of good sportsmanship.

The players had exclusive access to their own tent village throughout the week

allowing them to congregate and mix with fellow players from around the country. They also had access to a range of lacrosse suppliers and a full range of excellent cheap food - a veritable lacrosse feast.

The tournament attracted eight teams from the lacrosse strongholds of Australia - Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. Victoria was represented by the Southern Crosse, Western Metros and Eastside Kings teams; South Australia by Eastern Eagles and Western Reds; and the host state, Western Australia, was represented by Northern Thunder and Southern Braves. The eighth team in the competition, the ALC Panthers, was composed of players from each of these states.

It was also great to see that referees and officials from each of these states were able to participate.



Braves never relented in their pressure and managed to keep the Panthers scoreless in the last quarter while scoring two goals themselves. The final score, 7-5 to the Panthers.

The Panthers showed the depth in this age group across the nation as they proved extremely competitive with the other regional-based teams and the Braves showed that they will be a force next year when most of their players are still eligible to play in the tournament.

The play-off for 3 v 4 between the Northern Thunder and Southern Crosse could easily have been for the 1 v 2 positions, had both sides not lost very close games earlier in the tournament. Neither side was disheartened by not playing in the tournament game and demonstrated excellent lacrosse skills, worthy of the top place encounter.

Northern Thunder dominated early play and established a 7-2 lead by half-time. Although the third quarter was a nip and tuck affair, the Thunder scored the only goal for the quarter and headed into the final quarter with a six-goal lead.



The format of the tournament, a full round-robin, allowed each of the teams to compete against all the other teams over the course of the week, culminating on the finals day where the play-offs were determined by results achieved throughout the week. It was very pleasing to note the consistency of standards across the country that was evident from this full round-robin fixturing.

Although the teams faced a rigorous schedule, playing eight games in eight days, it was evident from the standard of play achieved at the end of the week that the schedule was not too taxing on the players. However, everyone was very pleased that they had been scheduled a mid-week rest day allowing the players to do some sight-seeing and socialising, and the team officials to regroup (and play golf).

On each day throughout the tournament, teams were involved in close games and games did not always go as expected. Although there was the occasional "blow-out", most games were in the balance until well into the last quarter, with three or four games going into overtime. One of the really pleasing

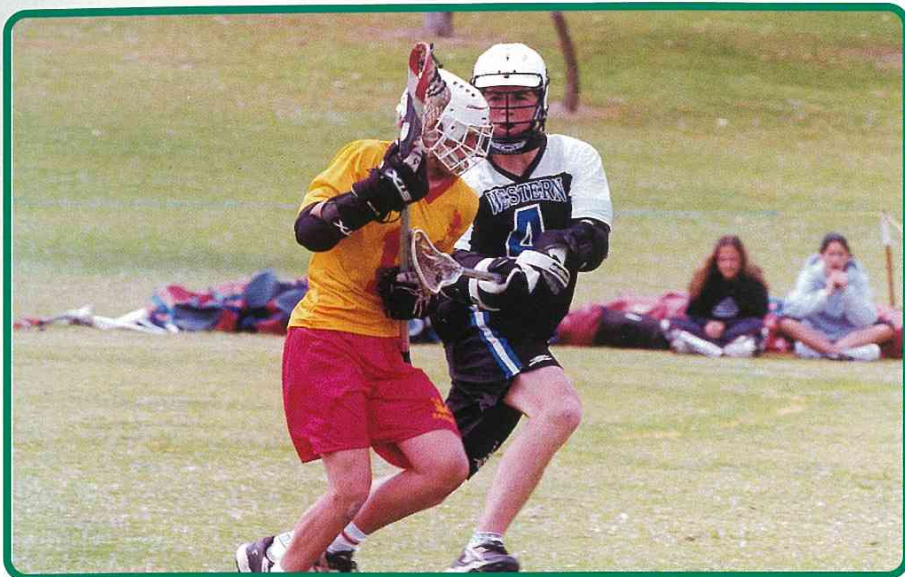
aspects of the tournament was that every team was able to win at least one game during the week.

The final day provided many of the playing highlights with each game being decided by a slender two-goal margin, a good indication of the spread of talent and skill throughout the nation. The 7 v 8 play-off game between the Eastern Eagles and Eastside Kings was typical of the games on the day, a low scoring affair, 3-3 at three-quarter time. It wasn't until late in the last quarter that the Eastern Eagles managed to establish their winning two-goal break.

The 5 v 6 play-off saw the very impressive ALC Panthers team matching their skills against the young Southern Braves. Although the Panthers managed to run out to a four-goal lead at the half-time break, the



Western Metros Troy Butson (3) would have preferred a pass rather than this shot!



Tim Hynes (Western Metros) holds up Benjamin Muxlow (Eastern Eagles).



In a typical display of courage and perseverance, the Crosse clawed their way back into the match with a rapid-fire series of goals and in a blink of an eyelid had put five goals into the Northern Thunder net, reducing the margin to one.

The last few minutes were full of drama and it took a solo run by a Northern Thunder long-pole defender, followed by a brave and successful shot, to increase the margin to two. The final score, Northern Thunder 9, Southern Crosse 7.

The tournament game was played between the Western Metros, with a very successful recent history in the event, and the up-and-coming Western Reds. The stage was set for a gruelling interstate contest, Victoria versus South Australia. Earlier in the tournament, the Metros had progressed through unbeaten, thanks to a very strong combination of attack and defence. The Reds only faltered once, going down very narrowly to the Metros, and having seen off a very spirited Northern Thunder side, beating them by a solitary goal. The Western Metros deservedly went into the final as favourites.

Right from the first whistle, it was clear that the Reds meant business and they shot to an early lead. They managed to put pressure on the Metros defence like no other team had done during the tournament and also held the potent Metros attack at bay. Goal followed goal and by the quarter-time break, the Reds were showing their dominance and lead a dazed Metros team by four goals to nil.

For the next two quarters, the game settled into a very close contest with neither attack able to establish any dominance, both being held in tight check by the strong defences of their respective oppositions. During this segment of the game, the Metros held the Reds goalless and were able to register a goal in each quarter. At the start of the final quarter of the tournament, the outcome remained in balance, with the Reds holding on desperately to their two-goal lead, 4-2, set up by their early dominance.

The Metros remained cool in a crisis and managed a couple of early goals to bring the game into balance, 4-4, soon to be followed by the goal which took them into the lead for the first time in the game. Although the Reds continued to persist into the last quarter, and managed to score to bring them on level terms, their early efforts and the energy they expended began to take toll and the strong Metros scored two quick goals and closed their defensive ranks.

At the end of the day, the best team for the week deservedly won the tournament game - Western Metros 7, Western Reds 5 - however, the Reds proved they were a valiant and worthy opponent, deserving of their place in the final.

Congratulations to the Western Metros for their excellent lacrosse during the tournament and their well earned tournament victory.

As well as many on-field highlights, the tournament organisers managed to provide a number of off-field features and events that added to the overall success of the tournament.

The tournament web site with its "Fan Club" feature was a runaway success,

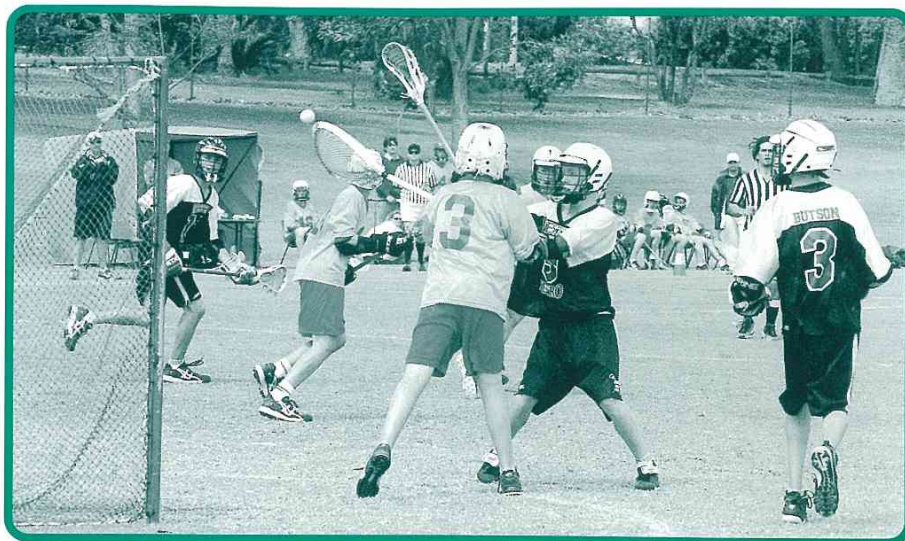


Lachlan Driver puts a shot away for Western Metros.

allowing parents and friends to view the results in "real time" and to send congratulatory messages to their favourite players.

From the response to this service, it's clear that many of our lacrosse players are very popular in their schools and local communities. The web site at <http://supacool.com/lacrosse> is currently being updated to include tournament photos, so a further visit to the site is well worthwhile.

Running a successful tournament dinner was one of the major challenges for the tournament committee and they managed to achieve this with flying colours.



Goal Keeper Clinton Barker clears the ball for Eastern Eagles.



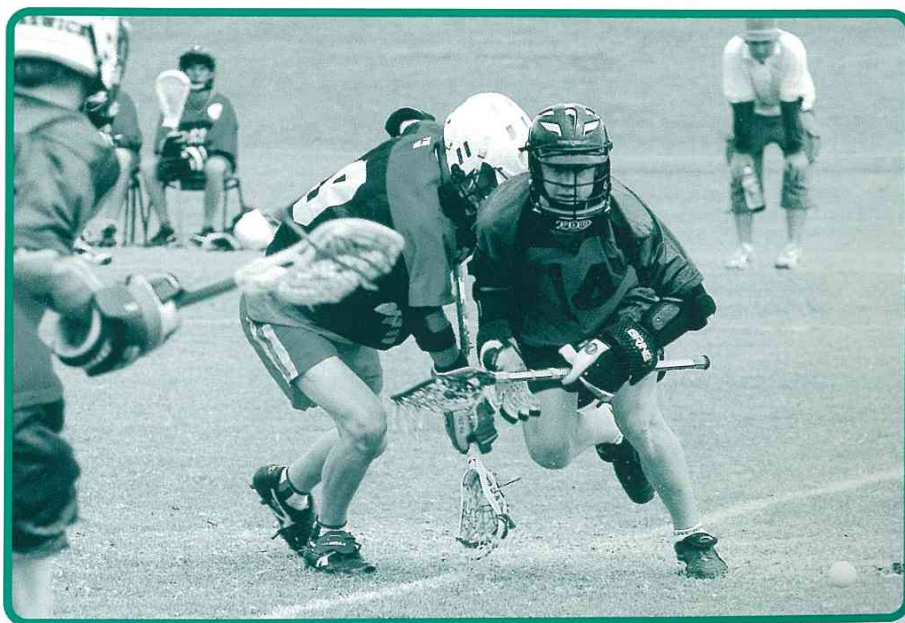
To briefly summarise the benefits of this tournament to lacrosse in Australia, the eight representative teams participating from across the country drew their players from about 30 local teams. Each of these players, the team officials and the referees all go back to their local clubs with new ideas and new levels of skills to use in their normal club games. The benefits of this diffusion of skills throughout the community are enormous. The challenge remains to spread the benefits to the other states who unfortunately were not represented at this tournament.

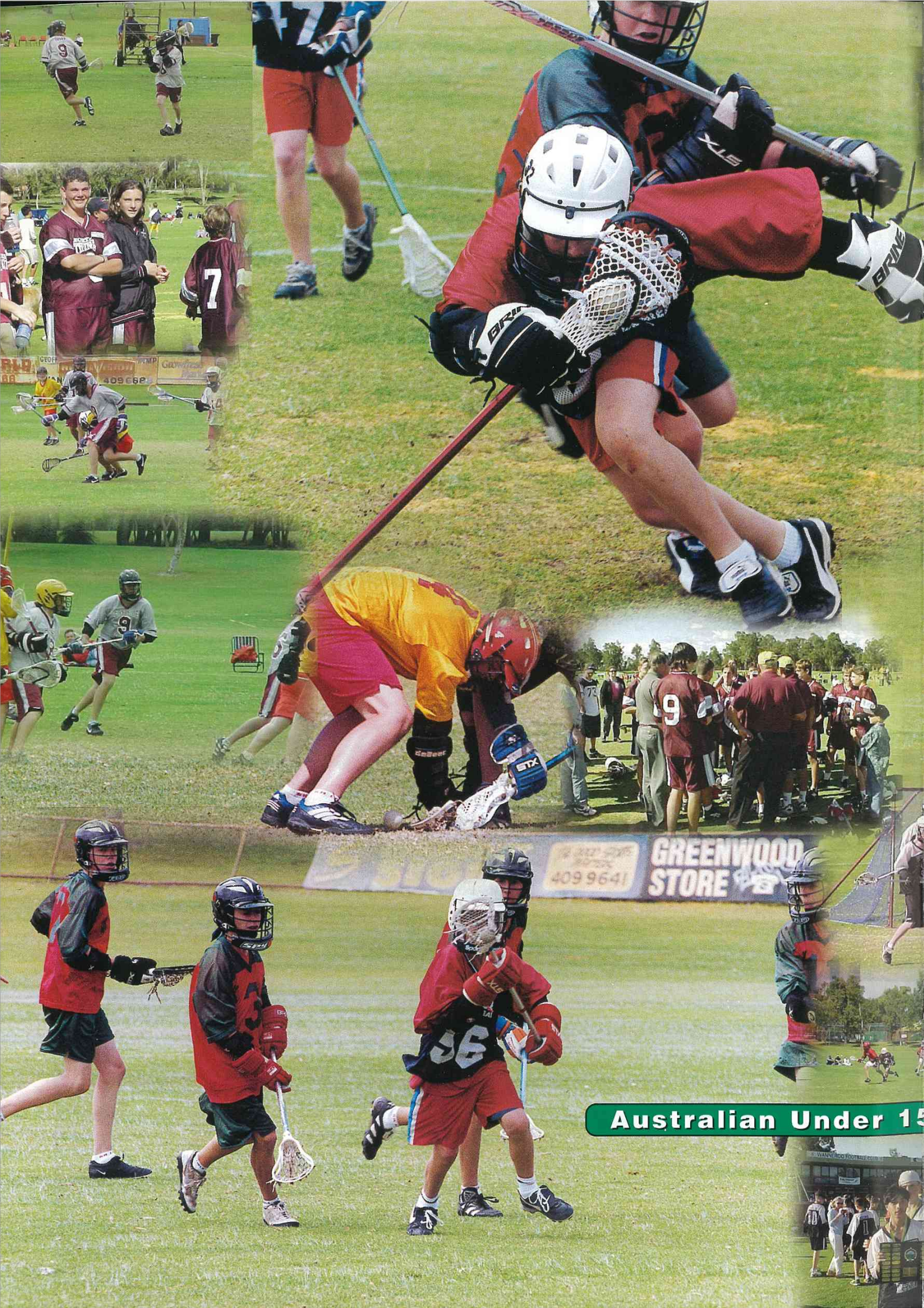
The tournament philosophy of participation and learning was evident throughout the event with the high level of sportsmanship demonstrated and absence of any expulsion fouls. Congratulations to all who were involved.

The dinner was centred around a players quiz night and featured many novelty segments including all the coaches and managers joining in the "birdie dance". The resident chef provided a feast more usually associated with a royal banquet, presenting trays of giant prawns, sumptuous hot and cold meat platters, elegant salads and frightfully decadent sweet trays. This normally challenging event was greeted by all as a resounding success.

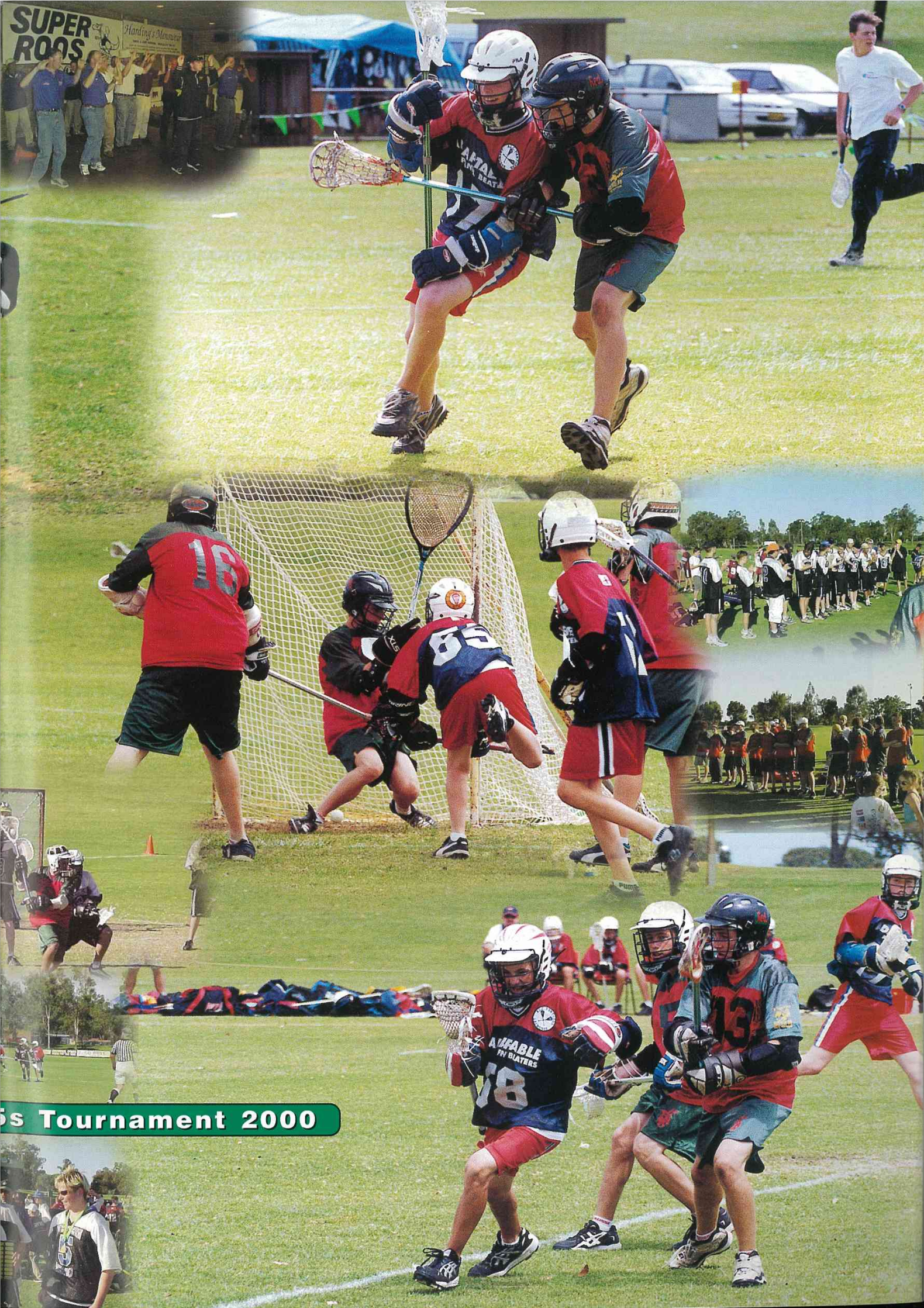
A further highlight of the tournament was the public address service provided throughout. Each game was proceeded by the announcement of the players and coaches names and informed commentary was provided during each game. This service evolved as the cornerstone of the tournament, providing scores and statistics as they happened and keeping everyone

informed of tournament and local events, announcing lost and found property and birthdays, etc.





Australian Under 15



5s Tournament 2000

U15 Tournament Results

Saturday

23/9/00

Opening Ceremony

Southern Crosse 10 def Southern Braves 6

ALC Panthers 5 def Eastern Eagles 4

Western Metros 17 def Eastside Kings 0

Western Reds 6 def Northern Thunder 5

Sunday

24/9/00

Southern Crosse 6 def Eastern Eagles 2

Northern Thunder 14 def Eastside Kings 2

ALC Panthers 7 def Southern Braves 5

Western Metros 9 def Western Reds 5

Monday

25/9/00

Western Reds 16 def Eastside Kings 3

Southern Braves 9 def Eastern Eagles 8

Southern Crosse 8 def ALC Panthers 6

Western Metros 7 def Northern Thunder 3

Tuesday

26/9/00

Western Reds 12 def Eastern Eagles 3

Northern Thunder 9 def Southern Crosse 8

Eastside Kings 11 def Southern Braves 5

Western Metros 26 def ALC Panthers 4

Western Reds 7 def Southern Crosse 5

Northern Thunder 12 def Eastern Eagles 0

ALC Panthers 11 def Eastside Kings 10

Western Metros 14 def Southern Braves 5

Wednesday

27/9/00

Bye

Thursday

28/9/00

Western Reds 11 def Southern Braves 3

Eastern Eagles 7 def Eastside Kings 4

Western Metros 17 def Southern Crosse 1

Northern Thunder 12 def ALC Panthers 4

Friday

29/9/00

Western Reds 10 def ALC Panthers 3

Western Metros 20 def Eastern Eagles 0

Southern Crosse 21 def Eastside Kings 4

Northern Thunder 11 def Southern Braves 4

Saturday

30/9/00

Eastern Eagles 6 def Eastside Kings 4

ALC Panthers 7 def Southern Braves 5

Northern Thunder 9 def Southern Crosse 7

Tournament Game

Western Metros 7 def Western Reds 5

Australian Lacrosse Journal

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★★★ Rising Stars ★★★



Profile

Name: Stephen Mortimer

Nickname: Morty

Date of birth: 10-5-1985

Birthplace: Calvary Hospital- North Adelaide

Club of origin: Glenelg Lacrosse Club

How old when started playing lacrosse: 8

Why did you start: Because I had been brought up with the game and I find it the most exciting sport I have ever played

What do you like about it: Lacrosse is quick, skilful and improves co-ordination; I also have made lots of friends from playing

Strengths: Leadership, vision, left and right-handed, and can take face-off, quick, versatile

Weaknesses: Split dodging to my left hand

Toughest opponent: Defender: Steven Grix

Toughest team: U17 Victorian state team 2000

Current occupation: Student

Future occupation: Unknown at this stage.

Career highlight: Winning U15 and U17 premierships and minor premierships, 2000; being awarded the Association B grade Best and Fairest 2000

Career low: Losing the 1999 U15 grand final after scores even, then over-time, and then sudden death; losing the 2000 U15 Australian grand final by two goals

Goals - 2000-01 season: My goals are to build-up more upper body strength; play a couple of games of A-grade; and have fun

Goals - long-term: Keep playing lacrosse; try to make senior state, the Australian U19 team and maybe senior Australian team

Personal motto: Play to best of my ability and teamwork is the key to championships

Likes: Lacrosse, skateboarding, ice-coffee, movies, music

Dislikes: Coca-cola; mushrooms

Hobbies: Building things to use for skating

Favourite food: Yiros

Favourite drink: Ice-coffee

Favourite movie: Don't be a Menace to South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood

Favourite book: When the War Began - John Marsden

Favourite TV show: Seinfeld

Sportsperson most admired - and why: Gait brothers - I think they are the best lacrosse players of all time they are unstoppable

Who has had the greatest influence on your sporting career: My dad - he has taught me everything to know about lacrosse

If you weren't a lacrosse player what sport would you have chosen? Roller hockey



"Rising Star" Profile

Name: Cameron Mulcahy

Nickname: Mulky

Date of Birth: 11-11-1985

Club: Wanneroo

Coach: Darren Sugars, Michelle Leavy

How old when starting playing lacrosse: 10

Why did you start: My brothers played it.

What do you like about it: It is rough and my friends play it too

Career highlight: Winning Best and Fairest for WA Under 15's in season 2000

Career low: Losing the Grand Final in 1997

Goals - 2001 season: Win the Grand Final

Goals - long-term: Get into the Under 19's Australian team in 2004

Personal Motto: Winning is fun.

Likes: Music

Dislikes: Football

Hobbies: Lacrosse

Favourite food: Pizza

Favourite drink: Coke

Favourite movie: Scary Movie

Sportsperson most admired and why: Nobody that I can think of.

Who has had the greatest influence on your sporting career: My dad



Profile

Name: Scott Menze

Nickname: Menzy

Date of birth: 10-2-1983

Birthplace: Melbourne

Club of origin: Eltham

How old when started playing lacrosse: 8-years-old

Why did you start: My brother played

What do you like about it: Physical

Strengths: Shooting

Weaknesses: Accuracy

Toughest opponent: Garry Gait

Toughest team: Williamstown

Current occupation: Refrigeration - air conditioning mechanic

Future occupation: Air conditioning mechanic

Career highlight: Runners up 1993 Softcrosse tournament; member of the winning team in the U17 championships (Melbourne)

Goals - long-term: To be successful

Personal motto: If you can't beat them cheat

Likes: Club Bolton

Dislikes: Light beer

Hobbies: Motor bike riding and skiing

Favourite food: Everything

Favourite drink: Water

Favourite movie: White Fury

Favourite book: Trading Post

Favourite TV show: Four Corners and Documentaries

Sportsperson most admired - and why: Barry Sanders - modesty

Who has had the greatest influence on your sporting career: Wayne Kendall - coach

Famous relatives: Alan Burgoyne - world masters champion in athletics

If you weren't a lacrosse player what sport would you have chosen: Motorcross racing

2000 European Lacrosse Championships



July 29 to August 5

Glasgow High Kelvinside Sportsground – Anniesland, Glasgow, Scotland

By Scott Morris

The emotions ran high at the European Championships for Scott Morris. Postponed games due to a “huge” electrical storm; disappointment over a knee injury; the thrill of so many lacrosse-lovers from all over the world together and problems with accents, not to mention wearing a kilt!! It’s all in this report by Scott Morris. It should inspire readers to be in Wales next year!

I arrived on Thursday night prior to the championships where I met some of my teammates. Our accommodation was in the centre of Glasgow at the University of Glasgow. We had two to a room and I roomed with a guy from the US whose parents were Scottish. After a small communication problem with accents we had a meal and a few quiet ales.

Had a team meeting on Friday at 10am and met the whole team, where we were also kitted out with bags, uniforms, etc. Also learnt a little about the championship history, as well as team tactics for the week. We were picked up by a double-decker bus to go to our first training session. The playing fields were about 5km away from the city centre. Some of the German team also travelled on the bus. They were good blokes!

The weather for our first training was hot and sticky; the ground was like concrete - not at all what you’d expect in Scotland! Team spirit was good. Had to listen hard to what coaching staff were saying due to trouble with the accents! I was surprised at the playing standard. I’m not quite sure what I was expecting.

Scotland had players who had played for England in the 1990 World Series in Perth, as well as some top-class US College players. We had three goalkeepers - two young ones and one very experienced 62 year-old! He is a great character and a very good goalkeeper. He typified the Scottish spirit. By the end of the first training session the weather had turned very wet; more what I would have expected the weather in Scotland to be!



The morning of the opening ceremony when I went to breakfast it was great to see and speak to so many lacrosse people from all over the world together in one room. After another team meeting and training session we changed into our kilts for the opening ceremony. We weren’t permitted to wear anything under our kilts as this was a 10 pound fine.

All the teams marched in under their respective country flag. Scotland’s mens and womens team captains read the Players Oath. Local government officials declared the games open. The womens competition started immediately following the ceremony.

Sunday was the beginning of the mens competition. We had a light training session at 10am and a team meeting at 1pm. The game was not until 6pm which I thought, when I first saw the program, would be played under lights. Not so, it didn’t get dark until 10pm. Unfortunately for me, I was injured and was not able to take part in the championships. I was extremely disappointed but once the competition starts a player cannot be replaced, so I gave up my position in the team to a 16-year-old lad.

Having mixed feelings at being relegated to a spectator, the championships began. Scotland played Germany first and they were an awesome sight in black uniforms and red helmets. Germany were runners-up in last year's championships. We thought we had a good enough team plan that we could beat them, however, we fell short and lost 12-9. The standard of play was very high. I saw some of the womens matches; they were fast, furious and very skilful. It was great to see international mens and womens lacrosse side by side.

The rest of the games during the week, bar two, were close. In the middle of the week all games had to be postponed until Friday due to a huge electrical storm which I had never seen the likes of before during a lacrosse season! The grounds were flooded, but the major concern was the lightning!

The final day saw Scotland make it double bronze with both the men and womens teams coming third. The women eased to a 10-2 win against the Czech Republic. It was much closer in the mens match with Scotland just edging to a 9-8 win. It was sweet revenge to the Scots who had been stunned 14-6 by the Czechs in the qualifying game earlier in the week.



Top: Czech half-time break. **Above:** A bench problem – Scotland vs Sweden. **Left:** Scotland team addressed by coach at quarter-time. **Below left:** German team looking on.

England retained their championship title beating Germany 11-7. The English women made it a double, winning a tightly contested game against Wales 5-3.

Overall it was a fantastic experience to be in the presence of so many people who love the game of lacrosse. I have made some very good friends and I hope to have a long association with Scottish Lacrosse one way or another.

It was very disappointing I didn't get to play due to my knee injury, but after my recent reconstructive surgery, I hope to be able to go to Wales next year for the 2001 European Championships.

Nicholas wins his second Isaachsen Trophy

Eltham's consistent centreman Darren Nicholas was recently awarded the Isaachsen Trophy awarded to the Best and Fairest player in Australia.

The award is based on players performances throughout the season on a points system. On a set formula Darren was declared the national winner.

Nicholas from Eltham, Victoria, began his career in the local primary school competition, conducted by Eltham when he was 10-years-old. Nicholas was presented with the award for the second time after sharing it with Robbie Stark in 1998.

Nicholas was also awarded the Vince Healy Best and Fairest Trophy by VLA President, Mr John Harris, on grand final day.

CENTENARY SHIELD

Wanneroo has done it again! Another successful year in all its activities has secured them the Centenary Shield as winners of the WALA "Club of the Year". It's an outstanding record - never having missed the award since its inception in 1996.



WALA President Allan Griffiths and Wanneroo President George Walker.

Presidents

Australian Women's Lacrosse President Fiona Clark has recently been named as President-elect of the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations. Tom Hayes, has been re-elected as President of the International Lacrosse Federation for another two years. Congratulations to both Fiona and Tom.

MAJOR LACROSSE LEAGUE

Seen Jason Carrier's diary account of the Weekend Combine heralding the arrival of the MLL in the US? Great reading. Go into the web at: www.collegelacrosseusa.com and follow the prompts.

Extracts: "The dream of every lacrosse player, coach and fan has become a reality. A professional outdoor league has arrived..."

"He (Jake Steinfeld) made it very clear that the MLL was going to be a first class operation with the players at the core of the league."

"It was a humbling experience - playing against the likes of Powell, Millon and company gave defensemen like myself a chance to be at the top of our games, otherwise we were going to get schooled."

"Taking away the pole position creates enormous opportunities for middies to drive and make things happen on short stick players."

"I would rate this weekend as one of the most exciting in my lacrosse career considering the talent level that was assembled..."

"Players that idolized Gary Gait when they were younger got to play with, or against, him. Gait also got to play with some of the young talented players as well. This made for a unique opportunity."

"My favorite part of the weekend was the camaraderie that the lacrosse players built. As always, the close knit and growing lacrosse community came together and had a great time."

Australian Sports Medals

To commemorate Australia's sporting achievements down the years, the Commonwealth Government issued the Australian Sports Medal. Lacrosse Australia was offered 15 medallions on a quota basis, and requested to nominate people from all areas of lacrosse. Five medallions were issued to each Member State Association. The Medal provided a wonderful opportunity for lacrosse to honour our people, and following is a list of the successful candidates:



WA Medal Recipients.



Dennis Holman congratulated by daughters

LSA: Peter Hobbs, Peter Drew, Graham Hobbs, Dennis Mulroney and Ken Forrest;

VLA: Terry Allington, Bob Russell, Phil Humphreys, Dennis Trainor and W (Bill) Taylor;

WALA: Malcolm Stokes, Don Rudderham, Brian Griffin, John Denic and Steve Mounsey.

The Western Australian Government provided a further six to WALA and these were awarded to: Lloyd Morley, Dennis Holman, Lindsay Scott, Rob Peirce, Jeff Kennedy and Gary Kennedy.

ILF Meeting

The next International Lacrosse Federation Meeting will be held in May 2001, in Berlin, Germany in conjunction with the Berlin Open Tournament. For further information about specific dates for the meeting check out the International Lacrosse Federation's website: www.intlaxfed.org

A R O U N D The Nation

QUEENSLAND

By Graham Nicholls

Queensland Lacrosse has made some in-roads into different areas throughout the year. We have had teams establish themselves in all parts of Queensland.

Townsville has progressed with teams playing most of the year and with some younger players showing keen interest. Daren Potts has been a leader in this area, with a team behind him he has given Townsville another sport for people to show interest in.

Caboolture is progressing under the guidance of stalwart Ray Trevaskis with his ongoing commitment to developing junior lacrosse. With Queensland hosting the Year 2001 U15 Nationals Ray will be able to produce a very good team of juniors.

Brisbane Central has not been a great success. Our indoor competition was cancelled part way through the latter part of the season due to insufficient support and commitment from this area.

Toowoomba is progressing well at the Glennies School. At last count 96 girls were all taking on lacrosse as their chosen sport. These girls picked lacrosse out of all different sports for one term but have enjoyed it so much, are continuing to extend into next year. Glennies School sent a team down to Paradise 2000 with Helen Markham from Sydney giving some much-needed expert advice to the girls. They had a great day out.

Gold Coast is progressing slowly but firmly with a lot of juniors being shown the game of lacrosse. With some very good parents and continuing support from Patrick Brennan and Phil and Jenny Krause, this club should also be in a position to produce a team for the 2001 U15 Nationals.

Paradise 2000 also went well with Ray Trevaskis as always putting on a good tournament.

Bond University has helped us with some American students who are here for the last semester of the year. We hope that we will be able to establish a much closer link in the future with this facility.

Under 15 Nationals 2001 - Gold Coast

Planning is progressing well with two major lacrosse suppliers, Auscrosse and DeBeer Lacrosse, getting involved. These two suppliers were the only ones who responded to a request for support from the industry - interesting, given that all suppliers derive their income from lacrosse players. A substantial contribution has been gained for this event. Let us hope that this kind of support continues in the future for all major and minor events and they receive back the support they have shown in the developing of lacrosse throughout Australia.

Farewell to Rex Wigney

Due to withdrawal of funds from the Australian Sports Commission Rex Wigney can no longer be employed as National Development Officer for Lacrosse. In his capacity as NDO Rex has exceeded all expectations. Rex's skills in administration, organisation and communication will be missed in this valued position. With approximately 3000 children visited over his term and shown the game of lacrosse, he will be sadly missed. Queensland Lacrosse will struggle without him.

North Queensland

Bears Win Inaugural Final

By Daren Potts Convenor NQLL

On an overcast Sunday afternoon over 100 spectators witnessed the inaugural grand final of the North Queensland Lacrosse League in October.

Taking to the field were James Cook University Blue and Stuart Bears. Having the home crowd advantage JCU soon took the ball into Stuart's crease only to be stopped by goalkeeper Rowan Martin. During the first quarter Stuart converted an early stumble into a 3-goal lead to end the quarter 5-2.

Facing off for JCU in the second quarter was fresher David Chapman (11) who managed to block Stuart's Geoffrey Beaumont (17) to ensure JCU took the first possession.



Stuart Lacrosse Club, Sunday October 29, 2000. North Queensland Lacrosse Champions.

The largely JCU crowd soon realised that the home side was tiring when Stuart attack-man Gary Vaughan belted in two unanswered goals.

The Stuart attackers began to outmanoeuvre a visibly confused JCU defence to take the game to Blues goalkeeper John Mitchell (10), who had to work overtime to keep the ball out of the cage.

Some hard hitting by US import Steve van der Tuley (12) brought JCU back into contention with a superb assist to Colin Grun (3) who put one past an otherwise in-form Martin.

Grun kept hold of the ball despite some hard body checks by the Stuart defenders to work the ball in close to the Bears goal crease at the start of the third quarter. This was the only time in which JCU seemed in command of the game as Stuart soon began to outpace a flagging JCU.

Beaumont, assisted by Brad Thumm (10) and Scott Carr (12), left a trail of despair as the Bears took an unassailable lead to win 10-5.

The Bears top scorer was tied between Gary Vaughan and Geoffrey Beaumont on 4 goals 1 assist each; JCU's highest scorer was Colin Grun on 2 goals 2 assists. MVP for the game was Gary Vaughan who helped focus an impressive attacking line up to ensure a Stuart win.

Paradise Tournament

This annual festival took place the second weekend in October with six men's teams competing. Players from around the country took part in what is a very social occasion with some good lacrosse. Mavericks rose to the challenge to be victors for 2000 with an 11-9 scoreline against Kathmandu. For those interested in a full run-down on the tournament check out: www.paradise.lax.org.au

Western Australia

By Jenny Banyard

East Fremantle make it two in a row

A jumpstart by East Fremantle proved enough to retain the I.J. Taylor Shield in the Western Australian Division One grand final play-off at the Joondalup Arena in September.

In their 11th-straight grand final appearance the Blues narrowly defeated minor premiers Bayswater 16-14.

Bayswater had gone through the season undefeated.

"We went 3-1 up early in the first quarter, and from then on it was pretty much goal for goal," said East Fremantle coach John Denic.

This contrasted with the semi-final against Bayswater in which Easts came back from a 2 - 9 deficit to win by a goal.

"It was a fast final with lots of extra-man situations which both teams converted," said Denic.

"It was tough - one of our better games. The skills were a bit lacking because of the pressure, which created a lot of turnovers and penalties. That was better for us than for Bayswater, who weren't as patient as usual.

"We held sway around the centre and picked up more ground balls. We also played a couple of their key players differently - stepping up to them, rather than sitting inside as we'd done in earlier games."

East Fremantle centreman Matt Schomburg won the Kuljak Medallion for Most Valuable Player. Team-mate Chris Warren netted five goals, while midfielder John Redman was a threat in attack in both semi and grand finals.

Both goalkeepers - Warren Brown for Bayswater and Cameron Duffy for the Blues - stifled many moves, while Bayswater's Brad Smith was a force in the midfield and put away four goals.

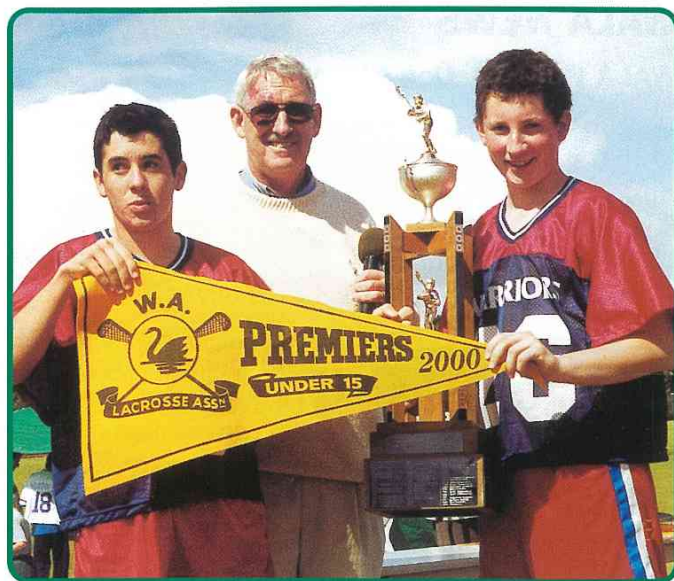
Referees Frank Hastings, Evan Walters and Ian McRae blew 14 personal penalties against East Fremantle and 10 against Bayswater.

Easts outscored Bayswater by just one goal in each quarter except the last, which Bayswater grabbed by one. Interval scores were: quarter time 3-2, half-time 7-5 and three-quarter time 13-10.

Other Divisions

There was no consolation for the Bayswater club in the Division II grand final, their side going down in 'sudden death' to East Fremantle 13-12, after the teams had been locked at the end of regular overtime.

Wanneroo defeated East Fremantle in a 'best-of-three' series in the under 17s; Joondalup had a convincing win over Wembley in the under 15s; and in the under 13s underdogs Wembley Green edged out Joondalup 10-9.



Above: One for the club rooms!

Left: Blues co-captains accepting the IJ Taylor Shield.

Below: The start of celebrations for the Blues.



WALA NEWS

WALA Presentation Night

More than 250 lacrosse players and supporters enjoyed the WALA Presentation Night at the Phoenix Clubrooms in August. WALA Directors, Cameron Blair and Eric Durnthaler produced an excellent video backdrop for the evening. One highlight amongst many on the night was the announcement of the "Team of the Century".



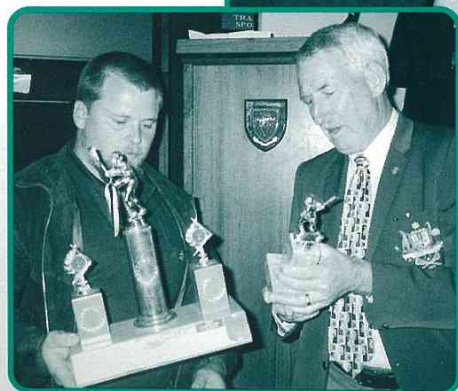
Mr Lloyd Morley

Lacrosse Club (1982) and an ALC Certificate of Merit (1990). Lloyd, who joins an elite group of 15 WALA Life Members, was acknowledged by a standing ovation.

Distinguished "Team of the Century" members included Subiaco players Ian Toy, Phil Ackland, Ross Turnbull, and father and son, Brian and Scot Griffin; whilst East Fremantle Lacrosse Club was represented by Don Rudderham and internationally acclaimed Peter Cann, Jeff Kennedy and Steve Mounsey; and Murray Keen, named as the 1990 World Team Goalkeeper and former Subiaco player who is the current coach of Bayswater. John Denic and Lindsay Scott were named Team Coach and Referee respectively for their outstanding contributions to coaching and refereeing. WALA clubs were invited to nominate a "Team of the Century" including players from any club and all eras. The final team was selected from these nominations. Congratulations to all members of this historic team.



*Luke Stokes
Under 17s Best
Player, with
Kevin McRae.*



*David Game Div
2 Best Player,
with Don
Rudderham.*



Members/representatives of the WALA Team of the Century.

WALA Annual General Meeting

The WALA Annual General Meeting elected Mr Allan Griffiths as President of the Western Australian Lacrosse Association on November 13. He succeeds Mr Don Rudderham.

Allan, who served in this position in 1999, has a strong background in management consultancy. He will provide the ongoing leadership



Presentation by Roger Smith.

necessary for an organisation that has enjoyed considerable success over past years, and recorded a growth in lacrosse playing numbers in season 2000.

Long time Director of Finance, Mr Roger Smith, did not seek re-election to the WALA Board. Roger's commitment to financial management of the WALA has been unsurpassed, whilst at the same time contributing his expertise to the financial management of the WA Lacrosse Foundation - established with funds from the 1990 World Lacrosse Series. Roger has maintained an exemplary set of financial records and procedures any sporting organisation would be proud of, and WALA will find it difficult to find a replacement. He will maintain his position as Trustee of the WA Lacrosse Foundation.



WALA Division 1 All Stars.

WALA Awards

Division 1

Premiers	East Fremantle	IJ Taylor Shield
Minor Premiers	Bayswater	Lapsley Cup
Best Player	Russell Brown (B)	Regal Cup
MVP Grand Final	M Schomburg (EF)	Kuljak Medallion

Division 2

Premiers	East Fremantle	Jubilee Trophy
Minor Premiers	East Fremantle	Clark Cup
Best Player	David Game (B)	Morris and Scott Trophy

Under 17s

Premiers	Wanneroo	Ramsay Trophy
Minor Premiers	Wanneroo	Greg Wheatley Trophy
Best Player	Luke Stokes (Joondalup)	U17 Trophy

Under 15s

Premiers	Joondalup	Brian Griffin Trophy
Minor Premiers	Joondalup	Rob Taylor Trophy
Best Player	C Mulcahy (J)	U15 Trophy

Under 13s

Premiers	Wembley Green	Premiers Trophy
Minor Premiers	Bayswater	Minor Premiers Trophy
Best Player	Andrew Sear (We Green)	U13 Trophy
Club of the Year	Wanneroo	Centenary Shield

Senior Championships

WA vs Victoria	WA	Centenary Cup
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WALA Team of the Century

Phil Ackland, Peter Cann, Brian Griffin, Scot Griffin, Murray Keen, Jeff Kennedy, Steve Mounsey, Don Rudderham, Ian Toy, Ross Turnbull.

Coach: John Denic Referee: Lindsay Scott

Australian Sports Medals

Nominated by Lacrosse Australia: John Denic, Brian Griffin, Steve Mounsey, Don Rudderham, Malcolm Stokes.

Nominated by WALA: Dennis Holman, Gary Kennedy, Jeff Kennedy, Lloyd Morley, Rob Peirce, Lindsay Scott.

New South Wales

A team of Sydney-based lacrosse players ventured north to pit their skills against all-comers in the Paradise Tournament at the Broadbeach Soccer Club on the Gold Coast. Close scores meant the "Sydney" team only narrowly missed the final game. Comprising students from University of NSW and visiting USA College players, together with NSW regulars, the team was unlucky not to make the play-off. Team organiser was Shaun Ratcliffe. Congratulations, Sydney.

South Australia

By Lynton Arscott

Warriors Win Three in a Row

The Lacrosse SA Men's League grand final saw Woodville Lacrosse Club win its third consecutive grand final in September. Warriors started the game a little better than their opponents Sturt, with a 3-1 lead after the first quarter.

The second quarter saw Woodville double Sturt's score, with some excellent defence from the Warriors, going to the half-time break with a handy 7-3 lead. The third quarter was even with both teams scoring three goals each, but the last quarter saw the Warriors take control of the game outscoring Sturt 6-2 to clinch their third consecutive premiership flag with the final score at 16-8.

Woodville Best Players: R. Feleppa, P. Inge, A. Sargent, C. Shicker and L. Oswald.

Sturt's Best Players: D. Pratt, C. De Mello, T. Machner and T. Norton

League Reserve grand final

North Adelaide 14 def Woodville 7 to win back-to-back flags

B-grade grand final

Adelaide University 8 def Woodville 6

U17 grand final

Glenelg 9 def East Torrens Payneham 8

South Australian Lacrosse Awards Night

Mens League

Memorial Medal -	
Best and Fairest	Peter Inge (Woodville)
Most Valuable Player	Peter Inge (Woodville)
Leading Goal Thrower	Brett Howe (Woodville) 61 goals
Rookie of the Year	James Parris (W. Torrens)

Reserves

Best and Fairest	Michale Mills (Southern Districts)
Most Valuable Player	Peter Greenhalgh (Glenelg)
Leading Goal Throwers	Peter Greenhalgh and Simon Molloy 69 goals

B Grade

Best and Fairest	Stephen Mortimer (Glenelg)
Most Valuable Player	David Gleeson (Adelaide University)
Leading Goal Thrower	David Gleeson

Australian Sports Medal Winners - SA

Peter Hobbs
Peter Drew
Graham Hobbs
Ken Forrest
Dennis Mulroney



At the VLA Grand Final (how many years of experience?)

Victoria

By Keith Nyberg
Eltham Co-captain

The Victorian Lacrosse Association 2000 grand final had a familiar line-up - Eltham Versus Williamstown (Willy) - for the third straight year.

1998 was Eltham's first ever state league grand final appearance, and it showed when Willy jumped 5-0 in the first quarter and never looked back.



Kyle Morlang and Steve Brown.

beating Malvern to go straight through to the final.

We knew the final would be a different game; Willy always lift for the finals. We went through match-ups, different situations that could occur and different scenarios ... we felt confident in our ability, but not overconfident. People told us it was our turn, our year but we knew it doesn't work in "turns".

When the game started both teams were a bit anxious - and hard at the ball. Both Willy and Eltham missed opportunities, and made some as well. We were down at the end of the first, but only by two, and knew we had not played our best lacrosse.

In the second it started to slip away a little, and we were down by five at half-time and you could hear the murmurs from the sideline: "Here we go again Eltham's going to collapse and get blown off the field".

1999 was a closer affair, but again Willy edged out to a comfortable half-time lead, and continued in the second half.

But this year was a new year, and we had learnt so much from the last two losses. We had started playing our best lax at the right end of the season, beating Camberwell by 17 to finish second, then

But we had other plans. Willy scored the first goal of the second half and people really thought it was over. I didn't and neither did my team-mates. We played hard and kept at the ball, kept making desperate plays and fought our way back into the game. We were leading by one at the end of the third. We were leading for the first time in a state league final.

The fourth was full of pressure; we exchanged goals and went up and down the field. Willy drew level again, and then we led by two goals with three minutes to go. Surely this was our year, we could feel it was close but knew it wasn't over; and it wasn't.

We turned the ball over three times and Willy showed what a classy team they are by using those possessions to score three times. Willy was now up by a goal with 20sec as we won the ball from the face-off.

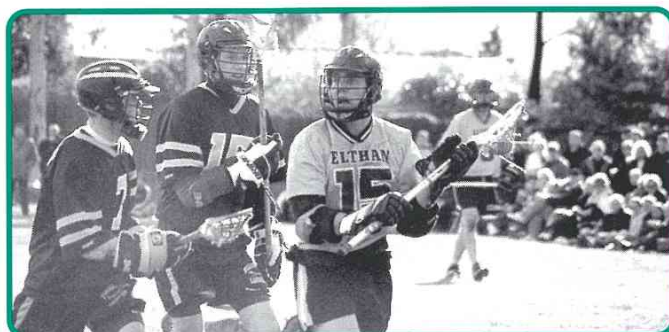
We tried to force a goal to tie it up but turned it over again, and I think Willy scored on the buzzer. I'm not too sure, but it felt like my heart dropped, and my stomach turned. We had lost again. Again Williamstown had showed us how to win, and showed us it is never over until the final whistle goes, and showed us what a great team and club they are.

For us, however, it was heartbreak. To be so close and then let it slip away is indescribable. I have never been associated with such a disappointing loss in all my lacrosse career. But we have regrouped since then, learnt again from the loss, and have already started to focus on next year.

Perhaps 2001 will be Eltham's year.



Darren Gibson and Ben Fleming.



Damien Orr and Sam Marquard pursue Daniel Stiglich.



Section of the crowd at the Victorian State League Grand Final.

South Australian Premiership Tables at end of Minor Rounds

Position		Points
Division 1		
1	Woodville	76
2	West Torrens	74
3	Sturt	62
4	Brighton	44
5	Burnside	40
6	Glenelg	24
7	East Torrens	16
Reserves		
1	North Adelaide	72
2	Woodville	60
3	Glenelg	52
4	West Torrens	52
5	Brighton	40
6	Southern Districts	32
7	Sturt	20
8	Burnside	16
9	East Torrens	16
B Grade		
1	Woodville	52
2	Adelaide Uni	44
3	Glenelg	40
4	North Adelaide	32
5	Brighton	28
6	East Torrens	16
7	Southern Districts	12
8	Burnside	0 (w/d)
U17		
1	Glenelg	26
2	East Torrens	24
3	West Torrens	20
4	Brighton/Southern Districts	14
5	Burnside	6
6	Sturt	0
U15		
1	Glenelg	28
2	North Adelaide	20
3	St Michaels A	20
4	Burnside	20
5	Brighton/Southern Districts	16
6	West Torrens	8
7	East Torrens	6
8	St Michaels B	2
9	Sturt (w/d)	0
U13		
1	Sturt	26
2	West Torrens	21
3	North Adelaide	21
4	Brighton	20
5	Glenelg	16
6	East Torrens	14
7	Southern Districts	10
8	Woodville	6
9	Western Flornes	6
10	Burnside (w/d)	0

Victorian Premiership Tables at end of Minor Rounds

State League	
<i>* Includes U13 bonus points</i>	
Malvern	82
Eltham	74
Williamstown	74
Surrey Park	60
Camberwell	58
Footscray	41
Caulfield	30
Chadstone	18
M.C.C.	16
Division 1	
<i>*Includes U13 bonus points</i>	
Eltham Gold	82
Williamstown	64
Eltham Black	46
Surrey Park	44
Malvern	44
Altona	12
Caulfield	10
Division 2	
<i>includes U13 bonus points</i>	
Camberwell	74
Moreland	67
Williamstown	66
Footscray	61
Eltham	54
Melbourne University	50
Surrey Park	28
Altona	20
M.C.C.	20
Chadstone	2
Under 17	
Points	
Williamstown	60
Footscray	48
Camberwell	46
Eltham	40
M.C.C.	40
Surrey Park	34
Moreland	24
Caulfield	12
Melbourne High	4
Under 15	
Points	
Camberwell Chiefs	60
Williamstown Fearon	52
Footscray	52
Caulfield/Malven	32
Eltham	32
Altona	30
M.C.C.	28
Surrey Park	10
Chadstone	8
Moreland	0

Lacrosse Australia 2001 Calendar

Western Australian Premiership Tables at end of Minor Rounds

Division 1	Points
Bayswater	63
East Fremantle	59
Subiaco	51
Wanneroo	33
Wembley	27
Phoenix	0*

Division 2	Points
East Fremantle	56
Bayswater	40
Wembley	36
Phoenix	27
Wanneroo	20

Under 17	Points
Wanneroo	44
East Fremantle	30
Joondalup	28
Wembley/East Fremantle	18

Under 15	Points
Joondalup	60
Wembley	48
Wanneroo	48
East Fremantle	28
Phoenix	28
Bayswater	23
Subiaco	16

Under 13	Points
Bayswater	52
Joondalup	44
Wembley (Gold)	40
Wembley (Yellow)	36
Wanneroo (White)	32
East Fremantle	28
Subiaco	20

* Points lost for insufficient junior teams

March 15-18

LA Board Meeting
Canberra

April 24

LA Board Meeting
Teleconference

May (*)

ILF Meeting
Berlin, Germany

June 4-5

LA Board Meeting
Melbourne

June (*)

Australian Senior Championships
Melbourne

June (*)

LA Fellows Dinner
Melbourne

July 8-14

U17 Championships
North Adelaide

July 25 (*)

Australian Lacrosse Journal
Deadline

September 5

LA Board Meeting
Teleconference

September 26

LA Directors Nominations Due

September 30-Oct 6

U15 Tournament
Tallebudgera, Gold Coast

October 24

LA AGM
Teleconference

October 30

LA Fellow Nominations Due

October 30

LA Certificate of Merit Nominations Due

November 9-11

LA Board Meeting
Perth

November 20 (*)

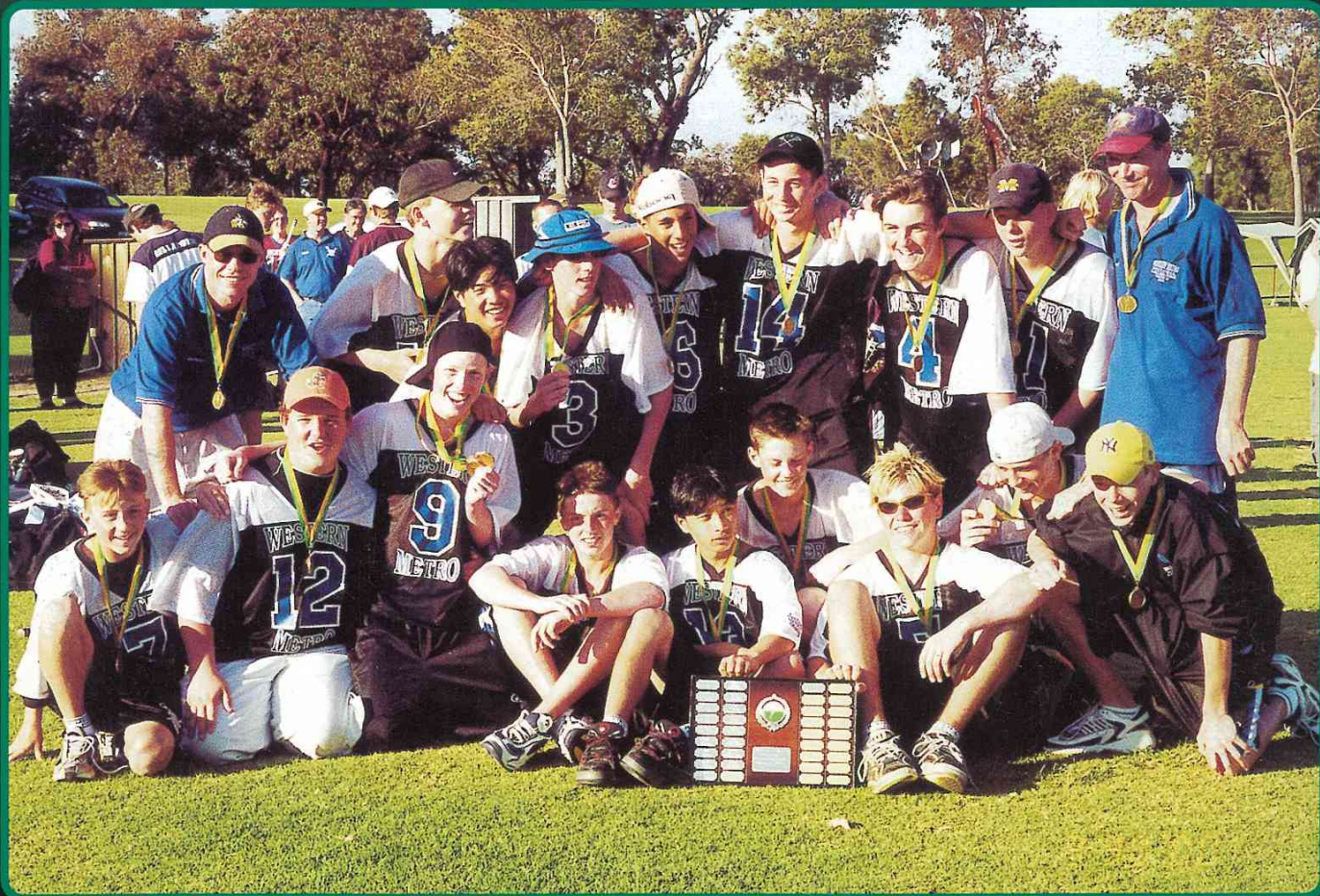
Australian Lacrosse Journal
Deadline

(*) Dates subject to confirmation.

2002 World Lacrosse Championships Game Schedule

DAY	GAME #	GAME	DIVISION	FIELD	TIME
Day 1	1	Wales v Scotland	Red	Grass 1	12.00 noon
Saturday July 6	2	Sweden v Japan	Red	Astro	1.00 pm
	3	Germany v Czech Republic	Red	Grass 2	2.30 pm
	4	England v Canada	Blue	Astro	4.00 pm
	5	Iroquois v USA	Blue	Astro	7.00 pm
Australia (bye)					
Day 2	6	Wales v Sweden	Red	Grass 1	12.00 noon
Sunday July 7	7	Czech Republic v Scotland	Red	Astro	1.00 pm
	8	Japan v Germany	Red	Grass 2	2.30 pm
	9	USA v Australia	Blue	Astro	4.00 pm
	10	England v Iroquois	Blue	Astro	7.00 pm
Canada (bye)					
Day 3					
Monday July 8	11	Czech Republic v Japan	Red	Grass 1	12.00 noon
	12	Germany v Wales	Red	Astro	1.00 pm
	13	Sweden v Scotland	Red	Grass 2	2.30 pm
	14	Iroquois v Canada	Blue	Astro	4.00 pm
	15	Australia v England	Blue	Astro	7.00 pm
USA (bye)					
Day 4	16	Czech Republic v Wales	Red	Grass 1	12.00 noon
Tuesday July 9	17	Scotland v Japan	Red	Astro	1.00 pm
	18	Germany v Sweden	Red	Grass 2	2.30 pm
	19	Australia v Iroquois	Blue	Astro	4.00 pm
	20	Canada v USA	Blue	Astro	7.00 pm
England (bye)					
Day 5	21	Sweden v Czech Republic	Red	Grass 1	12.00 noon
Wednesday July 10	22	Japan v Wales	Red	Astro	1.00 pm
	23	Scotland v Germany	Red	Grass 2	2.30 pm
	24	USA v England	Blue	Astro	4.00 pm
	25	Canada v Australia	Blue	Astro	7.00 pm
Iroquois (bye)					
Day 6	26	Blue 4th v Red 1st		Astro	2.00 pm
Thursday July 11					
Day 7	27	5th v 6th (loser finishes 11th)	Red	Grass 1	11.00 am
Friday July 12	28	Blue 5th v Red 3rd		Astro	11.00 am
	29	Red 2nd v Loser Game 26		Astro	2.00 pm
	30	Blue 1st v Winner Game 26		Astro	5.00 pm
	31	2nd v 3rd	Blue	Astro	8.00 pm
Red 4th (bye)					
NOTE: Games 30 & 31 are Semi Finals					
Day 8					
Saturday July 13 – REST DAY					
Day 9	32	Red 4th v Winner Game 27	Red	Grass 1	9.00 am
Sunday July 14	33	Winner G/ 28 v Winner G/ 29		Astro	9.00 am
	34	Loser G/ 28 v Loser G/ 29		Grass 2	11.30 am
	35	Loser G/ 30 v Loser G/ 31	1	Astro	12.00 noon
	36	Winner G/30 v Winner G/ 31	1	Astro	3.00 pm
Presentation of Trophies				Astro	5.30 pm
Championship Dinner					7.30 pm

Under 15's Tournament Winners Western Metro (Vic)



Victorian Grand Finals Action



Cameron Gibson (Moreland) drives to goal against V. Griffith (Camberwell) in the Division 2 Victorian Grand Final.



Action from the Division 1 Victorian Grand Final.