



Saturday 9th May 2015

President's Pen

The game on Saturday - Our top Squad Men played CT Pirates and had a 1 all draw on the weekend. We absolutely dominated play for about 85% of the game and had up to 10 short corners. The field play was brilliant but unfortunately the goals are still not coming. It was bone crunching sad to see Tim Geers be lifted from the field with an ankle injury. We hope it is not too serious and we see him back soon.

For the Top Squad Women's game unfortunately I arrived for the last 10 minutes of this game just to see us go down for a 2 - 1 loss. Why our club grass games have been scheduled away on MTL home game days I do not know. Our Women's Top squad are yet to win a game but there are signs the team will get there soon as they settle in. The outcome though is very similar to our men's team in that the field play is usually solid but the goals have been hard to come by. A special mention for our Goalie Erin Judd for a great game.

The games have not been easy for Melville Men and Women Top Squads. We have new coaches, new systems, new players and some of our top players have been recruited into the Australian Squad (because they are good) and of course some are injured. None of our teams have been thoroughly beaten but of course the undeniable statistics speak for themselves and there are no excuses for that. We should not look towards our Import Players (who are most welcome and become part of us) to lead us out of this situation. Our home grown players with coaches, committee and most of all club members and supporters in these tough times need to stand united and work our way out of this situation. That is the

goal, the cause and only momentum to be taken. Our favourite men and women players need all the support they can get. Show your support on game day and let's get this thing happening in a bold and supportive way. Bring your colours along to the game and let all see in the Hockey WA fraternity where we stand by waving them from the stands and sidelines. We know our teams can do it and just need to lift that tiny bit further to break this dry spell and go on from there.

We congratulate and celebrate our long time serving AIS Draft player (10 Years) **Russell Ford**. Russell has retired from International hockey. A native Victorian Russell has netted 72 times in his 158 game career for Australia. Well done Russ from the whole of Melville City Hockey Club (your adopted club) and hope to see you at the club again at least one more time.

As a footnote to the above the new Men's uniform will be the first look ahead at how the new club uniforms will look for next year. At this point it looks like this uniform will be totally available next MTL home game. We look forward to seeing them with their team sponsors logo **poolwerx** on the front of the shirts.

The Kitchen is in full swing again on Thursday nights and other times so come on down and grab a delicious meal. At \$10.00 a serve the value is fantastic and take away containers are available. You can also meet top players and coaches as well as they join us most Thursday evenings for the meal and a quite ale. If you can help we are still looking for some volunteers to be supervisors in this area. If you can help please contact Maureen Welten or Graeme Coleman m: 0414441490.

I hope you have a good week and look forward to seeing you **at the club**.

Gary Bowater
President

PREMIER LEAGUE

Ladies Premier 2 vs Westside Wolves (Won 2 - 1)

Fielding our strongest line up yet, we knew we were coming up against a very good Wolves side. The work rate was fantastic and our basics were 100 times better this week which meant the ball movement across the field was outstanding. Good win girls. Let's keep this momentum rolling as we have a big game against Curtin this week.

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Mens Premier Alliance vs CT Pirates (Won 6 - 1)

Goals: F. Hay (2), D. Ogden (2), A. Rayfield, J. Wakefield

With all players looking to make amends for last week's poor performance we demonstrated our class and came home with a big 6-1 win. Young Fraser Hay was back on the field and he looked dangerous at every occasion, bagging two of his own and setting up countless more opportunities. The other forward also were looking very dangerous and we had several easy shots go begging which made the CTP Keeper look better than he actually was. With 2s players Mav Yow and Frank Reynolds in the line up our midfield and defence looked solid as a rock but unfortunately we allowed them an easy goal after all players were waiting for the whistle which never sounded. This was the only low light of the game, Great game by all in the end.

Ladies Premier Alliance vs Wolves (Won 12 - 0)

Best: J. Gallimore, C. Surman, J. Hyde

Goals: A. Fullarton (3), E. Bigwood (2), M. Dawe (2), J. Gallimore (2), C. Surman (2), J. Hyde

What a win!

This game goes to show that practice really does makes perfect in short corners and that a high intensity warmup really does "fire you up"... Isn't that right Biggers?!

Well done ladies!

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Mens Provisional 1 vs Raiders (Drew 2 - 2) 2015-04-25

Goals: M. Ashley, F. Hay

Tough game, did well to get a draw. We can only improve from here.

Mens Provisional 1 vs WASPS (Lost 1 - 4) 2015-05-03

Goals: A. Wragg

Not the best game against a tough opposition. Good effort by everyone.

Mens Provisional 2 Gold vs WASPS (Won 3 - 1)

Best: N. Rowden, R. Williams, G. Watton

Goals: J. Pickering, R. Williams, N. Rowden

After stumbling out of the pub after the Mayweather v Pacquiao fight, a flat start was always on the cards. WASPs swooped (or should that be buzzed) on the opportunity, and we were down 1-0 early on. Thankfully 18 shortcorners later we were able to equalise going into half time. We were able to sneak a second goal off a short corner variation, however things were looking grim. Like a lion chasing a wildebeest until it could run no more, Wasps were on the move (or should be swarm) as we started to wilt in the searing winter sun. Without intervention, Wasps were going to overrun us - but fortunately the gods were smiling on us on this day, and gave us salvation in the form of Nathan Rowden - after a bit of a one, two with Watto, Rowds found himself with a bit of space in the D, the ball sat up and Rowds did the rest..... it will be talked about for generations to come.



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Ladies Provisional 2 Black vs Suburban Lions (Won 4 - 0)

Best: N. Klem, S. Gallimore, R. Harrup

Goals: C. Dawes, R. Harrup, S. Jarvis, J. Powell

After much of the squad enjoyed a good time the Saturday night at the Melville Club Night, the next day, some where looking a bit worse for wears. But much to our credit, once that starting whistle blew, come to play we did. We even put in a better showing than the previous week, hangovers and all. This was a game we had to win and the good showing we needed to have, after a poorer effort the previous week, even though both scores where 4-0. It goes to show that the same scoreboards, don't always reflect the same type of game. Everyone played their roles well, played in positions they might not normally play and the structures held fast for the whole game. Great effort girls, with the rewards still coming.

Mens Provisional 3 Black vs Wolves (Won 4 - 2)

4 wins from 4 rounds! Good solid start to the season, we are the form team and the opposition are now starting to turn up ready to try and knock us off. Our first game on the new UWA Turf 2, and while the facilities look like they would be more at home on Tatooine, the surface plays well and we were able to find the goals! Maiden goal from Ryan Swan in only his second game and a solid performance in general by our midfield. Thanks again to Mac Love in goals - glad to have you!

Mens Provisional 4 Gold vs Aquinas (Lost 1 - 14)

Best: S. Phillips

No report

Ladies Provisional 4 Gold vs Rockingham (Lost 1 - 3)

Best: G. Collins, S. De Melo

No report

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METRO LEAGUE

Ladies Metro 1 vs Fremantle (Won 2 - 0)

Best: G. Forbes, M. Margetts, J. Coad

Goals: G. Forbes (2)

A physical game against Fremantle but we managed to out muscle them and keep them scoreless. Gillian was on fire with two great goals.

VETERANS

Mens O40 Division 2 vs Kalamunda (Won 3 - 0) 2015-04-25

Best: Tim Heard, Simon Chapman, Wayne Harries

Goals: M. Rayfield, S. Chapman, B. Lynn

No report

Mens O40 Division 2 vs Hale (Lost 3 - 10) 2015-05-02

Best: Simon Chapman, Ian Neill, Kelwyn Yeo & Wayne Harries

Goals: I. Neill (2), D. Doak

No report

Mens O40 Division 4 vs OGMHC (Won 5 - 1)

Best: G. Gelfi/D. Joseph, D. Wauhop

Goals: M. Lawrence (2), G. Gelfi, B. Kennington, T. Neesham

Thanks to Ted filling in for absent players. Well played (great passing Game) in circumstances where many of the players had to take on different roles. Standouts were Ted, Paul, Greg and the David's as well of course solid performances from our regular players.

Mens O50 Division 2 Gold

Best: T. Brockman, A. Wood, A. Reynolds

Goals: A. Marshall, M. Pitcher

We made the big trek to Kalamunda and saw the return of a larger version of Florence Nightingale. Goal thief, Pitch stole one off Al, 50mm from the line and Florence fired one in on to Al's stick, which somehow ended up in the goals. Al will try to convince you he knew exactly where it was going, but we all know he couldn't get out of the way.

Mens O50 Division 3 vs Kalamunda (Lost 0 - 1)

Best: J. Christie, T. Patton, B. Porter

This was a wake up call. Possession does not count for much if you cannot convert to goals. We would have had 90% of the play but failed to convert. They had one chance and scored.

Mens O60 Division vs Wasps 4 (Lost 0 - 3)

Best: G. Riley, G. Wood/L. Welten, K. Platel

A tough game against a very good team, who dominated possession for much of the game. We kept trying, and had more of the ball after the break, but will need to improve a lot to have a chance of beating this Wasps team next time, as per the second time we played them last year.

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JUNIORS

Boys 11/12A vs UWA (Lost 0 - 2)

Best: J. Rayfield, J. Ross, A. Howells

With only 2 subs to start and none left during the 2nd half due to injuries, the boys stood up well to a quality UWA team with a full squad of 16. We soaked up a lot of pressure and only conceded twice. There are certainly areas to improve on individually but also a couple of opportunities to apply some good tactics with a bit of structure and practice. If we have the confidence to pull the trigger in the D we might have given ourselves a chance. An encouraging start to the season.

Boys 11/12A Reserve vs Joondalup Lakers (Won 4 - 1)

Best: W. Reynolds, S. Hird, B. Brown

Goals: W. Reynolds (2), B. Brown, C. Deaville

Round 1 for the 11/12 A Res Boys saw them have a well earned 4-1 win. The opening 20 minutes was an even battle, with neither team being able to take full advantage of their attacking opportunities. A period of sustained pressure by the Melville boys finally cracked the Joondalup defence, and the boys celebrated their first goal of the season, hit in beautifully by Bailey! 1-0 up with 5 minutes left in the first half soon became 2-0. After stringing together a number of passes, Will found himself in space on the left side, carrying the ball in the circle. Some scrambling Joondalup defence wasn't enough to stop him slipping the ball in between the keepers legs to make it 2-0 at half time. Following the half time break, Joondalup has the better of possession and put our defence under some pressure. This eventually resulted in them scoring, through a powerful backhand shot. Following this Joondalup seemed to lift in confidence and continue to have circle entries and shots on goal. Mention to goalie Andrew, for a tremendous save to keep the score at 2-1

with about 15 minutes to play. Regaining some control of the match, Melville had numerous penalty corner chances, however were unable to convert, until late in the half. A further goal to Connor with 3 minutes remaining, following some efficient ball movement pushed the score line out to 4-1.

The final score line didn't represent what was a tough and even game of hockey. All players contributed, and it was great to see such a 'team' performance in round 1. Hopefully this is only the start to what will be an enjoyable and successful season.

Girls 11/12A Promotion vs UWA (Lost 1 - 2)

Goals: T. Power

Our first team outing looked for all intent and purposes a very capable team display. Although the final score was UWA 2 goals to Melville 1, our team did control at least 60% of the play. We just could not get that translated onto the scoreboard (where it counts).

Time after time we attacked the 'D' and goal, but could only manage to slot a solitary goal with many near misses. This eventually cost us the game and all would agree that our short corner plays will need to improve and if anything can be said "We need to get that hunger to score".

A win would have been well deserved but to quote Maxwell Smart "we missed it by that much".

Seriously, the team played really well given a good proportion of the established team were unavailable or injured. We must thank our substitute players Ash, Aimee-Lee, Eva and Jemma for volunteering to help us out and double up on a Friday night. You all slotted in so well and genuinely contributed to the play and our dominance on the field. Thank you!

It was also encouraging to hear all the parents, supporters and resting players calling out for the girls during play and hope that

level of support will continue throughout the season. On behalf of the team we promise that the we will give you a lot more to cheer about in the coming weeks and months.

Votes for round 1 go to:- Maybe next time :-)

Boys 11/12B vs Newman Knights (Drew 0 - 0)

Best: B. Belke, M. Widger, C. Addison

A good game for a season opener, our defense was strong and kept the opposition at bay. Our team is looking good with strong skills, it will only be a matter of weeks before our players gel as a team and will be a force to be reckoned with. Special thanks to our fill ins from Boys 9/10's this week We'll done boys, good game.

Girls 11/12B vs Ellenbrook Falcons (Lost 1 - 4)

Goals: R. Dymond

It was a slow start to the season being on the grass, Hattie done a fanatic job as goalie. Rebecca Dymond slid our only goal in and what a goal it was.

Boys 9/10A vs Lions (Lost 2 - 3)

Best: M. Tate, K. Potter, T. Dickson

Goals: K. Potter, D. Whibley

Disappointing way to start the season given our good pre season and our impressive first 20 minutes of the game. Unfortunately when the pressure was turned up on us we got caught out with a lack of composure and plenty of turnovers. Poor defensive marking and our failure to fix the problems outlined at half time hurt us, but thankfully they are errors that we can control. Plenty to work on but plenty of encouragement going forward! Well done boys, keep at it.

Girls 9/10A vs CT Pirates (Won 2 - 0)

Best: J. Snyman, A. Power, L. Gleave

Goals: K. O'Sullivan, J. Snyman

Good first game for the year. Had a million-billion-trillion... a lot of opportunities. We just couldn't put the ball in the back of the net. Think we might do a bit of goal shooting practice.

Boys 9/10A Reserve vs Lions (Lost 1 - 2)

Best: L. Downey, H. Parkes, b. Cole

Goals: H. Parkes

For the First game of the season with new faces, a new coach and just two training sessions together under their belt the boys came together well and showed some great cohesion in their play throughout the game. We created numerous chances and on another day may have converted these into goals. Our press stood up well, particularly early in the second half when the opposition found it very difficult to get the ball out of their half. Great effort first up and some very positive signs for the season ahead.

Girls 9/10A Reserve vs OGMHC (Won 1 - 0)

Best: E. Rolls, I. Piggford, A. Ross

Goals: E. Rolls

What a great start to the season! The girls showed great team work and courage against their first opponents OGMHC, winning 1-0. Although it was tightly contested, the girls set up many great opportunities to score, but were just not able to line the ball up with the goal! Now that they've tested the waters, I'm sure they'll be going from strength to strength and notching up many more wins!

Boys 9/10B (Black) vs Lions (Won 3 - 2)

Best: M. Harrup, G. Hyde, L. Farrow

Goals: E. Blechynden, G. Hyde, R. Needham

First game of the season with a bunch of boys who haven't played together is always at best a mystery. Before the game we discussed our challenges as; belief in ourselves, 100% effort all game and being accountable to each other. In a game where both sides were hard, tenacious and desperate for a first win, our boys kept at the game plan, supported each other and when facing a 2-1 deficit with 10 minutes to go, dug deep to come up with the win. It was great to see the exhausted boys smiling at their efforts – well done and let's keep improving every week.

Girls 9/10B (Gold)

Despite how the result reads, the girls had a great start to the season. There were so many encouraging things the girls did today, passing the ball wide, tackling back, running into space, and encouraging each other. Girls this is just the beginning and I know you will do well.

Boys 7/8A vs Lions (Lost 1 - 3)

Best: D. Parkes, P. Lorraine, D. Page

Goals: C. Brown

Matt Willis is away playing for Australia at the moment so was not available to coach on the day. Jon Smedley covered the coaching role with some solid game tactics and individual player advice. The 7/8A boys played a solid game in the first half but in the end the Lions managed to be stronger and had a win 3 to 1 over Melville.

Declan Parkes, Patrick Lorraine and Daniel Page all had a great start to the season with Jaymon Needham and Jacob John defending in the back line, deterring the Lions from scoring more goals. Callum Brown scored the only goal for Melville. Daniel

Moulin overcame an injured finger from a skateboard accident to ensure he continued to play and contribute to the team.
Better luck next week boys against WASPS.

Girls 7/8A vs WASPS (Lost 1 - 3)

Best: Good Team Effort

Goals: G. John

Our first game of the season saw the girls excited and nervous at the same time. After a rusty first 10 minutes our team found their groove and began to string some good play together. WASPS scored the first goal off a well executed short corner. This fired our girls up who matched everything WASPS threw at them. The final result of a 3-1 loss didn't really tell the story of the game. Both teams were evenly matched and a good game was played.

Girls 7/8A Reserve vs WASPS (Drew 1 - 1)

Best: Team Effort

Goals: C. Bentley

2 weeks is not a lot of time to introduce players into a new way of thinking about their game.

We introduced a specific simplistic game plan, of which I am pleased that across the ground it was being executed.

Concentration on possession was they key and I was extremely happy in which all the girls played with the view of making passes to players instead of just throwing the ball forward. That positive mindset will now give us a platform on which to build and over the coming weeks we will be looking forward to some good results.

This weeks game from which we drew 1 all is a good start, and from the backs to the forwards everyone is to be congratulated on the work done both on and off the ball. Overall an excellent first game.

Boys 7/8B (Black) vs Lions (Won 3 - 2)

Goals: C. Steel (2), K. Holyoake

Fantastic team effort first up. The boys ran hard all day and dominated play. The score line flatters the Lions who would have conceded many more goals had it not been for the solo effort of their keeper. Thanks to Eveleigh Arthur who filled in as goalie.

Girls 7/8B (Gold) vs Westside Wolves (White) (Drew 0 - 0)

Best: S. King, M. Borinelli, J. West

A good game for the girls and a good effort by everyone against a well matched opposition. Final result being a nil all draw.

Opportunity came early from some good fight from the girls resulting in us dominating the play for much of the first half but just not being able to capitalize. Elena made a few great saves in the second half as the wolves stepped up but some good play by the midfield saw us fight back. Coach Andy Bull did a great job moving the players around trying to find the best team structure in our first game together. Well done everyone.

Boys 7/8C vs Ellenbrook Falcons (Won 2 - 1)

Best: Great Team Effort

Goals: K. Dyson, M. Harler

The first game of the year and our team held strong early by defending ferociously and making many great forays into attack, resulting a magnificent team goal to open the scoring. The second half was a tight struggle with our opponents scoring to equalize. Our boys held strong in defence with our new Goalie Jeremy leading the charge. A great first-up win for rookie coach Jono and a magnificent team effort across the pitch.