

THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

BRISBANE WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

1954 - 1955

PATRONESS

" Mrs. Eric T. Dobbins

PRESIDENT

" Miss Myra King.

VICE PRESIDENTS

" Mesdames E. M. Jesser, J. Paulsen,
D. O'Brien, H. S. Josiffe, W. Piri,
Perry, A. Clelland, W. Wenborn.

HONORARY SECRETARY

" Mrs. C. Grealy.

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY

" Miss F. Strugnell.

HON. TREASURER

" Miss V. Brown.

(Temporarily in office,
Miss E. Kluver).

HON. ASST. TREASURER

" Mrs. J. Langan.

LIFE MEMBERS

" Mrs. A. Todd, Miss J. Clarke,
Mesdames E. T. Dobbins, J. Robinson,
J. Langan.

JOINT SOCIAL SECRETARIES

" Mrs. D. Siggs,
Miss E. Ryan.

RECORDS SECRETARY

" Miss A. Saunders.

PUBLICITY OFFICER

" Mrs. J. Robinson.

Q. W. H. A. DELEGATES

" Misses J. Teys, E. Peacock,
E. Otto, Mrs. C. Grealy.

HON. AUDITOR

" Mr. V. Crunkhorn.

Ladies:

I have pleasure in submitting to you for perusal a brief report covering the activities of the Association's 1954-1955 Season.

MEMBERSHIP: Affiliated Clubs were :-

5 teams.

Valley.
Taxation.
Teachers' College.
B. S. H. S.

2 teams.

Metropolitan.
Neptune.
University.
Peninsula.
Commercial.
K. B.
S. C. H. S.
St. Andrew's.

1 team.

Avengers.
Ashgrove.
Eastern Stars.
W. R. A. A. C.
Belvederes.
Cav. Rd. High.

These thirty-four teams were divided into five sections - "A", A Reserve, "B", "C" and "D". The latter grade comprised mainly pupils attending school, and brought the usual difficulty during vacations. However, enquiries reveal this is the usual run of the mill in other sports, and a solution has not yet presented itself. Our sincere congratulations to three new Clubs, i.e. Belvederes, K.B. and Eastern Stars for attaining premiership honours. Valley I once more ran out Grand Premiers in "A" Grade over Taxation I, and Neptune II gained first place over Metropolitan II in "B" Grade.

MEETINGS: Clubs supported monthly meetings in a satisfactory manner, while Executive met regularly to deal with interim problems.

SUB COMMITTEES:

EXECUTIVE: Table Committee, plus Mrs. A. Clelland, Misses J. Knox, A. Saunders, D. Welch.

GROUNDS: Mrs. E. M. Jesser, Mrs. J. Robinson, Miss S. Otto. Fields were again marked with sump oil and we thank the groundsmen for their care to this matter. On the whole, attention is needed to most fields, notably Nos. 4 and 7. Approach has been made to the Council for their assistance, but we have been unable to reach an agreeable solution. During the past season, the Association has provided seating and a solid concrete table for use of Club and Association officials. We were unable, however, to obtain any grant from the Council in recognition of our expenditure here. We thank Mrs. Jesser for her interest on our behalf, for many tasks fall to her supervision which would otherwise mean a special trip by our own members to the grounds. Transport once again was covered by Council Bus, fares being 2/- return, 1/6d. single, School pupils half.

FIXTURES: These have been attended to by Mrs. J. Robinson, Misses J. Wentorn and W. McMullin. Mrs. Langan attended to the allocation of umpires weekly.

UMPIRES: Mrs. J. Langan (Convener), Mrs. J. Robinson, Misses Sim, Armbruster, Irvine, M. & L. Mauchlan.

GRADING-

SELECTION: "A" Grade: Messrs A. Yeo, J. Langan, Miss I. Sim.
"A Reserve": Mr. V. E. Cameron, Misses Welch & Otto.
"B" : Misses W. McMullin, J. Teys, E. Biddle.
"C" : Messrs James Lowry & Duffus, Miss G. Marshall.

A suggestion was made during the season that a proxy selector be elected to act in any emergency. Such a person could perhaps be used advantageously in grading.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY SELECTIONS:

The Brisbane teams were named for Country Week games at Mackay, viz.

SEMI I: S. Otto, J. Toys, P. Gillis, M. Weber, A. Saunders (CAPT.),
F. Peacock, D. Welch, F. Biddle, N. Welch, S. Lohmann, M. McMen

SEMI II: J. Webborn, G. Weir, B. Ellis, M. Fluerity, G. Pedrazzini,
N. Webborn, B. Ryan, J. Knox, P. Cameron (CAPT.), E. Harch,
M. Armbruster.

From these games, the following gained selection in the Queensland side:-

S. Otto (CAPT.), G. Weir, J. Toys, F. Peacock, M. Weber, S. Lohmann,
F. Biddle, D. Welch, M. Armbruster.

Five of these girls gained a place in the 1st and 2nd Australian teams to play in the International Tournament in Sydney this year:-

1st team: S. Otto, D. Welch.
2nd " : S. Lohmann, M. Weber, G. Weir.

Mrs. J. Nairn (Peninsula Club) was appointed Brisbane and State Coach.

To the successful players we offer congratulations, and feel sure Clubs will back their representative financially when the time comes for journey to Sydney.

Reserve Grade teams selected to play in an inter city programme in June were:-

1st RESERVE: B. Kenward, M. Topham, D. Pratt, D. Hartland, B. Gibson,
D. Holland, B. Trace, A. Barton, P. Wise (CAPT.), L. Skinner, P. Hawgood.

2nd RESERVE: P. Seary, D. McDonald (CAPT.), ~~Elizabeth~~ J. Webster,
M. White, P. Murray, G. Miller, V. Slater, F. Rieaby, J. Malouf, E. Chusan,
V. Ellis.

POINTS: Points' Table for the season is listed separately hereafter.

B.H.A.

The season was interesting from a C. W. viewpoint, as our girls were called upon in various ways to assist at the Interstate Carnival in Brisbane. This meant anything from peeling potatoes to shucking up the first Queensland team win in approx. 25 years, and the response from all was very encouraging considering we have an onerous time ahead of us this year with the visit to Brisbane of two international teams. Fruit, sweets and floral tributes made the visitors feel extremely happy, and in this respect, we tender a very special "thank you" to the Peninsula Club for their wonderful welcome to the Brisbane visitors.

SCHOOLS:

Interest in school hockey once more revived, due in no small measure to the coaching service provided by the National Fitness Council through its instructors, Misses O'Moore and Welch. These ladies visited Primary and Secondary schools during the week, and on Saturday mornings at Victoria Park all-comers were given the opportunity of gaining a knowledge of the game. Enthusiasm of the pupils was adequate reward for the volunteers who gave their time to assist. Our thanks here to Misses F. Kerr, J. Webborn, B. Kenward and W. McMullin, and of course a special vote to the B.H.A. for the use of their ground.

The second inter-city schools' carnival was held in Maryborough during the August vacation, and Brisbane's two teams acquitted themselves well. The first team were defeated only once, while the seconds led the "junior" grade on points. Future selections must, however, be

on an "open" basis, i.e. no age limit so long as the player is attending school. This will bring us in line with the country entry policy which, although tending to give the 10-12 year old group less chance of making the first team, should make for a stronger side in intercity matches. We hope Clubs will foster any young talent in their ranks and so ensure good representation at future carnivals of this nature.

DISPLAY: National Fitness Council once more called upon us to provide some display of our game at the City Hall. While we are only too glad to participate and assist their cause, we would prefer that more facilities be provided to enable us to correctly interpret for the public the various phases of the game.

PUBLICITY: Hockey activities were amply covered by the Courier Mail, Sunday Mail and Truth & Sportsman, through the efforts of Mrs. J. Robinson and Miss N. Cole. With International visitors here in June, we shall need all the publicity we can get to obtain support financially, and while we say "thank you indeed" to these ladies, we also hope that they will not spare any effort to keep our activities well in the public eye.

SOCIAL: Your Social Secretaries, Mrs. D. Siggs and Miss E. Ryan have presented a report later herein covering the social doings of the Assn., and my aim at this stage is to thank them sincerely for lifting quite a few tasks from the shoulders of the General Secretary and Treasurer.

PRESENTATIONS: Life Membership Mrs. J. Langan. To mark this event, Mrs. Langan was presented with a bedroom chair.

Jess Clarke Appreciation Fund. A letter from an anonymous writer started this fund, to which Clubs were invited to donate per medium of their past members. As a result, a handsome chiming clock was presented to Miss Clarke at the Combined Hockey Hall, and we hope that the originator of the idea realises the pleasure that her thought gave Miss Clarke.

State Team members: A grant of £22.0.0. was given to each member of the State team affiliated with this Association, also £1.0.0. to the Brisbane girls who represented Australia in the Universities' team to New Zealand.

DONATIONS: Mrs. Wenborn most generously donated a canteen of raffle for raffle, proceeds towards the International Fund. This realised approx. £80. and we thank her sincerely for her generosity, and all who purchased tickets.

Miss Irvine donated a cane tray for raffle towards International funds, and we thank her for her assistance.

We also appreciate Clubs who accepted the levy of 25/- per registered team during the season, and thus helped to lift the International fund to reasonable heights. Clubs are also paying a nominal amount to International weekly, and it is hoped that this may be continued for at least half the season until the visitors have departed and normal procedure is adopted.

Our Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Perry, Josiffe, Jesser, Challani, Pirie, Wenborn, O'Brien and Paulsen favoured us with donations, and ample evidence of their interest in the Association

THANKS:

President : Miss M. King, for her encouragement and interest, also the time given in chairing our meetings.

Vice Presidents : For their support, by word and deed.

City Council : For the use of their fields.

First Aid : (St. John's Division). For their support every week and gentle attention to our injured.

Natl. Fitness : For the use of their premises and staff.

B. H. A. : For many courtesies and privileges.

Mrs. Jesser and : For her attention to many tasks on the
groundsmen. grounds, and general supervision.
Fellow officials : Your co-operation when required.
Club officials : Your attention to our requests, especially in
the hostessing of the visiting teams.

CONGRATULATIONS: To our newly weds, engaged and blessed parents.
Happy day!

CONDOLENCES: To the sad-hearted through loss of family or
friend, our sincere sympathy. May the sun shine
for you again.

COMMENT: I would thank all those who have assisted me
in any way and again ask the Club Secretaries to pass on to their
members the news of the Association. In turn, members might take
more notice of the "bits and pieces" which the Club Secretary passes
their way. The Association can only function as well as its members
allow it to, and the interest of all players is a big factor.

The Constitution, with all amendments etc. is now
in Club Secretaries' hands, and we hope that during the course of this
season and beyond, it will be pieced together to give a workable
solution to the many vexations which beset the running of the Assn.
Meantime we ask your patience and loyalty, and feel sure it will be
forthcoming.

Best wishes for a successful 1956 season.

Fileen Grealy,
Hon. Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM:

Ladies:

You will see by the complete report of your Secretary what a
full season has passed.

The visit of the Internationals to Queensland will be the
highlight of 1956. Brisbane is all out to make this tour a huge suc-
cess, and a memorable one for visitors and hockey players alike.

I appeal to all our girls to give every assistance possible
to the Council in charge of entertainment etc. of these visitors. It
can be good fun, and something is always gained by giving.

My very sincere thanks go to your Honorary Secretary, Asst.
Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Asst. Treasurer for their keenness and
untiring efforts in fostering the game of hockey. To the members of
the Council I say "thank you" for attending so well the meetings held
throughout the season.

To every member of the B.W.H.A. - my heartiest congratulations
and my very humble thanks for your magnificent response to my appeal
for direct donations to the International Fund. Your gracious sup-
port of me did much to smooth the way to make my first year as your
President an unforgettable one.

Best wishes to all Clubs for a happy and successful season.

MYRA KING.
(PRESIDENT).

SOCIAL REPORT:

The Brisbane Women's Hockey Association officially opened on the 2nd April at Marchant Park. The usual opening ceremony took place on the grounds, and floral tributes were presented to the official guests. The March Past of the hockey teams was most spectacular, and on conclusion, afternoon tea was served to the visitors.

1955 was a special year for Brisbane, for during the '55 season the All Australia Carnival was held here. With the influx of so many players and visitors, a large scale plan of entertainment was the order of the day. The touring teams were entertained at a fancy dress parade in the Holy Trinity Hall, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all. Supper was then served to the guests.

The Social Committee staged a Grand Concert in the course of the season. Members of the Associated Clubs contributed to an excellent programme. The talent displayed was of a notably high standard.

During the season, the Social Committee undertook the control of the drawing for a canteen of cutlery kindly donated by Mr. Wenborn. This event took place at the Combined Hockey Ball at Riverside in the week of the Men's Carnival. Visiting hockey teams were the guests of the Committee. The proceeds of the raffle and Ball helped to swell the funds of the Inter-National and General funds. The Ball proved to be a social success and the Committee anticipates an even bigger and better show next season.

The Social Committee takes this opportunity of thanking all players and officials who helped throughout to make the 1955 season the success it was.

F. SIGGS.) Social
B. REAN.) Secretaries.

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ADIES:

I hereby submit a brief report on the activities of the Selection Committee during the 1955 season.

Our first duty was in connection with the grading - a most difficult task, as team personnel changed weekly and the majority of clubs had not had team practice and used the grading round as a means of settling down, and also trying players in various positions. Premiership results of the previous season gave no indication of the standard of play for 1955. It is most noticeable in women's hockey that team personnel changes rapidly, particularly in the lower grades, and consequently grading can only be done from the point of view of potential - individual ability and the prospect of moulding into a team.

Twentyeight nominations were received for Country Week and State selection. Trial games were held on three Sundays. These were successful to a point, but were marred by too much speculation by the players when those in recognised positions were switched. Some did not really try to play in the new positions, and made our task most difficult as in reality they were not always on trial themselves, but moved to test an opposing forward or defence.

Details of the two selected teams are included in the Annual Report.

We had many problems in selecting the 1955 Brisbane team. It is an impossible task to try to select a team on all season form. Some play well early, others not until towards the end; then we may not have the opportunity to see players in their best games. We would therefore recommend that if such a team is to be announced, that it be selected on play over a specified period.

The 1955 Brisbane team included:-

- GOALS: Shirby Otto (St. Andrews, Capt.).
- BACKS: Irene Siggs (Neptune) Janet Teys, Gwenda Weir (Metropolitan).
- HALVES: Marcia Pyme (Taxation), Margaret Weber (Penin.) Elwyn Pencock, (St.A.) Val. Brown (St.A.).
- FORWARDS: Judy Magossia (Uni.) Shirely Lohmann (Penin.) Elwa Biddle (Tax.) Dawnie and Noela Welch, Margaret Johnson (Valley), Myrna Buckley (Peninsula).

ON BEHALF OF SELECTION COMMITTEE.

Kath. Langan.

The Umpires Report for 1955 is submitted herewith and the Committee requests that every official and player give grave consideration to this section of our game.

Last season was the worst on record in respect of umpires failing to take the whistle when listed to do so. Hours are spent in arranging the umpires so that the same person is not down two weeks running, except in exceptional circumstances, but all this goes by the board when girls refuse to umpire, or just don't turn up. Then we return to those umpires sitting around and appeal to them to help out, so that often they may umpire four to six Saturdays in a row before getting a break.

Many are the rules that have been made - "All A Grade players must umpire" - "fines" - "threatened loss of points" - but to what avail; Many A Grade players flatly refuse to umpire, others do so only because their names are down, others go along with a friend and the game is a secondary consideration.

No rule will remedy the situation. It lies with the individual Clubs who must make an all out effort to get all first team members to umpire willingly. The game of hockey cannot be played without umpires, and the game is not enjoyed unless the umpires are really trying. When players have played their match, why do they refuse to help other teams enjoy theirs? Have we forgotten the women's motto - "FOR THE GAME ALONE"? Where is the SPORTSMANSHIP in our sport?

Umpiring is not hard, but it does demand a good knowledge of the rules, and concentration - both essentials for a good player too, and therein lies one of the reasons for so few newcomers to umpiring. Beginner umpires are often questioned on their decisions, at other times receive black looks from seasoned and newer players, but are these persons in a position to query? The Committee's answer would be NO, for seemingly the Rule Book is a thing of the past; sales in the metropolitan area in the past few years have been notoriously low - likewise genuine candidates for the theory examination.

All this paints a very sorry picture, but the Committee is willing to work, and work hard if players will co-operate and unless more come forward, we can only foresee a restriction in membership as quite often last season, lower grades only had half a match when the listed umpires defaulted, and a member of the committee had then to scout around until she found a willing person.

Despite all of our complaints, we did have the opportunity to test some really promising umpires, and have graded them as follows :-

- STATE "B" - Shirley Lohman (Peninsula Club).
- STATE "C" - Shirley Otto, Audrey Saunders (St. Andrew's).
Janet Toys (Metropolitan).
Marcia Pyne, Eileen Cameron (Taxation).
Daphne Welch (Valley).

Others recommended for Brisbane Senior Grading, and urged to try for higher honours are -

- N. Hirst, E. McDougall, B. Clelland, B. Duffus, A. Yeo (Taxation).
- D. Kropp, J. Wenborn, W. McMullin (Metropolitan).
- G. Pedrazzini (Valley).
- F. Kerr (Neptune) - E. Harch a higher grading if theory pass obtained.
- M. Cook (Commercial). A. Rodgers (Teachers).
- B. Pettigrew (Peninsula). G. Marshall (University).

Unfortunately we cannot issue the lower gradings of Intermediate and Junior as it is impossible to check the number of games an umpire controls.

In conclusion, we again appeal to more to take an interest in umpiring - not just A grade players, because it is a rule on the books, but A Reserve and B Graders. If you are interested, please hand your name to any Senior umpire, or to the Secretary.