

Slippery When Wet

Official newsletter of the A.C.T. Broomball Association Pty Ltd

July 1996

special edition

A.C.T. Broomball Association 1996

Australian National Broomball Championships

see A.C.T. Bring Home The Goods

Nothing comes easy these days, especially representative Broomball. At the best of times the endless running makes you feel as though your lungs are about to burst through the confines of your chest, hopefully bringing with it an endless sleep, a sleep you so desperately crave. The reality is much more painful but a great deal more fulfilling as you realise that this alluring dream will never find its existence here, too much depends on your total unwavering performance as a team.

There is something about the Broomball Nationals that always brings out the best in those who are lucky enough to attend this annual gathering of like minded and certifiably crazy individuals. The determination of all players not to let their fellow team mates down, no matter what the cost. To make personal sacrifices with regards to their work requirements and to travel what ever distance may be necessary in order for them to play along side their friends. These are just a few of the many player attributes that when combined with some serious off the ice Broomball behaviour made a weekend that will long live in the memories of those who attended the Nationals just recently held at the Narrabeen Ice Rink in Sydney over the June long weekend.

The Ice Rink is situated on the Narabeen Peninsula next to the foreshores of an inland lake that is fed predominantly by the Pacific Ocean. Aromatic breezes were the order of the day on the Saturday morning. While these unpleasant odours which were brought to us courtesy of Woolworth's Supermarket and Bodgie Brothers Constructions Pty Ltd may have put some off from socialising outdoors in the sun, it did not deter any of those present from taking advantage of the supermarkets convenient location and extensive selection of typical Broomballers cuisine.

Now what was the ice quality for the weekend like.. I hear you ask?.. well, it ranged from adequate to down right dangerous at times. The fundamental problem lay not in

the way the ice itself was prepared but with the design of the facilities' structure. The rink is noticeably smaller than our own here in Canberra. Its arched roof structure has been lined with a corrugated metal decking on the inside creating a wonderful environment for water condensation to form. This meant it only took some very vocal encouragement by team supporters or a wayward ball to dislodge these water beads, to form the basis of what most broomballers like to refer to as, "very shitty ice". At least, none present were required to provide diving equipment for the tournament, as was the case last year in Bendigo.



The tournament for the weekend was divided into two divisions, being a mixed and a men's division. Within the mixed division the A.C.T. sent three representational teams. The "A.C.T. Cougars" managing to claw their way into a controversial finals berth against a heavily stacked QLD team. In a physically demanding game, on and off the ball, we saw players on both sides experience first hand a lesser known Physics theorem relating to mass, acceleration and inert stationary objects it was the "Cougars" who finally brought home the goods with a five to two win in spectacular

fashion.

While the whole team featured predominantly in this decisive win over the inspiring Queenslanders, it was without a doubt the miraculous ability of a certain Mark (I think I should go to hospital now) Bailey to remain uninjured for the full term of the game let alone the tournament that saw a great many players set up goal winning passes and bookmakers sent scampering for the hills.

In the men's division only two representational teams were sent to Sydney and it was with no surprise that the "A.C.T. Flames" squad, were successful against all comers. With their impressive line up of veteran Broomballers, the A.C.T. Flames were hot, odds on favourites, to take out the finals match against a very improved and competitive

NQLD men's squad. The game saw a great many hits being delivered to opponents on both sides that left no doubts in the minds and hip pockets of any chiropractors present that substantial numbers of these guys would be calling on their services in the not to distant future.

The conclusion to this premier match resulted however, in a two all draw requiring to the teams to be subjected to yet another five minutes of extra time each way, with only four field players and no goalkeeper. This saw the mental and tactical side of the broomball game really come to the forefront, it was a beautifully timed up and over sky ball from Shane Martin that signalled the beginning of Queensland's demise. A.C.T. Flames finally sealing the match, four goals to two

Overall the standard of Broomball featured for the weekend was a remarkable improvement on last years which had already seen a very high standard set. To have seen this level equalled and surpassed in less than twelve months was for me inspirational. It also proves that this sport should and will be taken more seriously by the general public in time to come with this type of continued motivation from all broomballers.

Finally, it is generally a thankless job despite its importance and this is why a special thank you must go out to all those people responsible for donating their personal time and efforts in assisting with the administration side of the tournament over the weekend. This is especially so of Michelle Gibson who spent the majority of the weekend being roped into sitting on the game bench instead of in the spectator stands where I know she would have preferred to have been. Through her help and that of many others within the associations, the weekend turned out to be quite a success instead of manifesting into the disaster it could definitely have been.

Thanks guys and we'll see you all again next year in Brisbane for a tournament assured to put the "P" into Party, Party, Party.....*Ah Broomball beautiful one day perfect the next!!!*

D. Costanzo

Nationals ladder

Before finals.
Mixed Division

	Team	Points	Goal Diff
1st	ACT Cougar	8	14
2nd	N. QLD	4	3
3rd	ACT 2	4	-10
4th	ACT 3	3	-2
5th	NSW/SA	1	-5

Mens Division

	Team	Points	Goal Diff
1st	ACT Flames	6	15
2nd	N. QLD	3	2
3rd	SA	3	-6
4th	ACT 2	0	-11

Point Scorers

Mixed Division

Name	Team	G	A	Total
C Lucas	ACT Cougar	7	3	10
M Bailey	ACT Cougar	5	5	10
M Lewins	ACT Cougar	6	3	9
C Jeacle	ACT Cougar	3	5	8
S Brandon	ACT Cougar	2	4	6

Mens Division

Name	Team	G	A	Total
S Martin	ACT Flames	4	6	10
D Nissen	ACT Flames	2	6	8
J Viljanen	ACT Flames	5	2	7
S Hooper	N. QLD	3	1	4
T Banks	ACT Flames	2	2	4

Team photos

Team photos were taken at the Nationals, if you want a copy please place your order with:
David Chadwick [Sharks]

They are \$6.00 for a 10 x 15 cm (4" x 6") photo.
Any other sizes please discuss with Dave.

National's Video

Video contains time from most of the competition games, the entire Mixed and Mens division finals, and presentations. Please supply Vanessa Muller [Ducks] with a 2 hour 40 minute video tape to copy it onto.

Interstate Broomballers can contact Dave and Vanessa through: ACT Broomball Association, PO Box 453, Woden ACT 2606. All postage is additional.