



## February 2020 Newsletter

### A new year has begun and 'the tingle' has started!

This phenomenon was first reported by a multi-national group of players enjoying a chilled glass of wine on a verandah of a 'shared house' in Australia, just before the World Cup in 2016. They all confessed there is nothing quite like the anticipation of the opening ceremony, the parade of all the nations and their flags – and then stepping out for that first match, when the battle begins for real.

Men have been enjoying Masters hockey for many years, and as the movement grows at every tournament new teams are welcomed, whether they be national or other representative sides.

The women have caught up rapidly. The number of national teams taking part in the different WMH age groups is growing. England's LX is a strong representative side and the Alliance looks after all those individual players from emerging nations who are not yet able to raise a complete team; and also those players who do not quite make the national standard; as well as anyone else who loves an international twist to their hockey and enjoys making lifetime friends all over the world. This year, Alliance are entering two teams into the women's O65+ and one team in each of the O60 and O55 WMH Spirit of Masters competition in Cape Town. How about that?

If you can wield a stick, and you can detect 'the tingle' when you think about the chance of playing hockey in South Africa in the sun, then you should be playing Masters hockey. There is no reason not to. Sure, you might feel a few more aches first thing in the morning, but your new friends will have such a wealth of practical experience on how to stretch out and get fitter that you will soon be playing technically as well as you ever have.

Standards are raised too, as players discover ever more inventive ways to make the ball do the work that once upon a time younger legs would have done. After the toughest of matches, the hockey spirit flows in the bars, and the matches are relived and the decisions argued over once again. Thank goodness there is no VAR to spoil the fun of a good debate.

Excitement and anticipation is good for your health (look it up) and new experiences even better. With several months to go, players are already booking accommodation and sharing fitness plans. World Cup year is exactly that – preparations for the event, the event itself and then the afterglow and looking forward to the next tournament.

So if you love your hockey, want to get fitter, make new friends all over the world, enjoy a fab hockey social life and play to a good standard then the good news is that it is not too late to get involved in this year's tournament. And experience the tingle for yourself.

Hope to see you in Cape Town in September.

Bridget LeGood,  
Member of Alliance International  
Hockey Association





## Hi Folks,

Well it has been fast start to the year of the World Cup. We wished to send out the newsletter a little earlier but we have some really exciting news that we were awaiting to share. We have picked up a major headline sponsor for the event. We are still busy with the “legals” and will make the official announcement shortly, suffice to say it will add considerable value to this event. With the added value of a headline sponsor we will look to live stream every game to the rest of the World and will look at creating a “village” atmosphere at the two main venues (Western Province Cricket Club and Hartlevale. We will have a cashless system in place so it will not be necessary to over invest in foreign currency to begin with.

We are busy working out the details of the opening and closing ceremony and we are looking at the various options to create an event that is befitting of a World Cup. We have engaged with government and together we are looking at various unique ways to create an unforgettable experience for all competitors. The city of Cape Town is fully behind this event and have expressed a desire to channel as much resource as they can for this event. All in all, we hope it will be an event to remember.

## ACCOMMODATION

Wonderful news that many of the teams/countries have already secured their accommodation and started paying deposits. Some countries are still finalising their teams and for those that have been in contact, we are holding the accommodation for them until the teams are finalised.

We recently added The President Hotel in Sea Point and the good news is that many of these rooms have already been snapped up.

Should your team or country not have made a booking as yet we urge you to visit:

[https://pilmobi.dedicated.co.za/DynamicBookings/Form\\_EventTourBuilder/mastershockey2020.html](https://pilmobi.dedicated.co.za/DynamicBookings/Form_EventTourBuilder/mastershockey2020.html)

You will see that some of the hotels are already sold out or have limited space available.

Should you have any queries or wish to make a booking please contact Yolisha on [wc2020@highline.co.za](mailto:wc2020@highline.co.za).

## TRANSPORT

As a reminder with regard to the transport solution and services required prior to the official start (i.e. 06h00 on 16 September for airport transfers and 06h00 on 19 September for shuttles during the tournament), we advise as follows:

Should you require an airport transfer or a shuttle prior to the above dates and times, please put your request in writing to Yolisha at [wc2020@highline.co.za](mailto:wc2020@highline.co.za) giving the following details:

### Airport transfer:

- Flight number, name of airline, date and time of arrival and where flight originated
- Group name
- Exact amount of people to be transferred
- Drop off address

### Shuttle service:

- Exact date and time of pickup
- Exact address of pickup and drop off
- Amount of people requiring the service

**Please note:** The airport transfers and shuttle service are incorporated in the accommodation rate, so only bookings made through Highline Tours & Travel will have access to the shuttle service. There will be no other shuttle service provided.



### Venue insight

Hartleyvale is the home of Western Province Hockey. It is a world class international hockey Stadium and boasts a seating capacity of 3000. There are two water based astros, one of which will be re surfaced prior to the World Cup in September. The beauty of this setting is unsurpassed and it is set against the back drop of table mountain. There are many surrounding fields that will be used to create a marquee village atmosphere. Hartleyvale will serve as one of the key hubs of the tournament and we propose to place marquees around the fields in a village atmosphere. All the key tournament administration will take place from this venue. They are extremely excited about hosting the World Masters Hockey World Cup and will deliver a world class international event.

## PRE & POST TOURS

What about booking a tour before or after the tournament?

Some suggestions below, but remember that tours can be tailor-made as per your request:

### Garden Route

R4,210.00 per person sharing

Includes:

- 3 x nights in luxury 4\* accommodation on bed & breakfast basis
- 1 x Lagoon Cruise in Knysna including lunch at the Waterfront
- Transfers to and from George Airport

### Kruger National Park

R7,810.00 per person sharing

Includes:

- 3 x nights in luxury 4\* accommodation on dinner, bed & breakfast basis
- 1 x 4x4 Open vehicle game drive in the Kruger National Park
- Transfers to and from Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport

### Victoria Falls

USD 655.00 per person sharing

Includes:

- 3 x nights in luxury 4\* accommodation on bed & breakfast basis
- 1 x "Flight of Angels" helicopter flight over the falls
- 1 x Sunset Cruise on the mighty Zambezi River
- Transfers to and from Victoria Falls International Airport

To jump at one of these suggestions or pick our brains on something else you may have in mind, please email Yolisha at [wc2020@highline.co.za](mailto:wc2020@highline.co.za).