

# Team Report backs from IPT 2025 in PE

## WP 55s

### WP Grand Masters 55 side at GM IPT 2025 Report by Larry Sherman

Our tour started with a selection of guys , real team players. Preparation for the tournament was good and by the time IPT began, we were a well oiled machine, made up of individuals who only wanted to give it their all for the team and Western Province.

On and off the field the team gave it 150%, which showed in the results and more importantly, in the spirit, strength and depth of Western Province Grand Masters Hockey.

Our goal was to play good hockey, enjoy our time at tournament and to win all our games – Mission accomplished.

We had good leadership and a great coach that gelled the side together to make it the most enjoyable tournament on and off the field.

The team was surveyed as to what the key points were that led to the success of our IPT campaign with the following results:

- Team players – no egos
- Play for each other
- Pre-game structure and plan
- Solid Bench management
- Reliable and Enthusiastic Management
- Positive support on (and off) the field

Thank you to Eastern Province for hosting a successful tournament and to the WP Grand Masters committee for all that you do to enable us to play and enjoy what we love doing – playing hockey with our friends.

## Maurice's feedback

Just a few points from myself:

1. Having a separate coach who managed the bench, was a big win. There is no doubt that a good coach can add to the strength of the team.
2. The social events organised were good, however I do not think that separating the dinner from the dancing was a good idea as many people left the dinner

venue and went home or somewhere else. This broke up the camaraderie that takes place at these functions. For myself, I went back to the hotel and had some whiskies with some of the guys.

3. We traditionally have cheese and wine snacks with our beers and the opposing team join in as we also provide cheese and wine. This year we were prevented from doing this as the bowling club, that was the appointed venue, would not allow us to have any other food than the food supplied by them on the premises.
1. The banning of having any alcohol of your own in a cooler box, lead to the teams having to pay full price for beers, etc. This caused the cost of drinks to increase compared to previous years. We are going to have to live with this. So we are going to have to get used to paying for drinks at bar prices.
4. The Bowling Club totally underestimated the quantity of beer required for the tournament. They ran out of beer on several occasions. The range of brands of beers was not extensive enough. Choice was limited.

As for the rest, apart from the accommodation debacle, everything was well organised and most enjoyable.

It was a pleasure being there.

Kind Regards

Maurice Hartshorne