

Hockey

1986 was a busy and successful year for hockey in 2/4 RAR. At the company level a traditional bruing competition produced an interesting series of games with all companies tasting success during the season. Several players turned out for their first hockey games and "novice of the year" was Captain Mal Clark of Support Company following his typical wingers try — OOPS — goal against Delta.

Support company fielded a leey of stars and perhaps should have won but were a little careless and allowed a fast and determined Braro Company team to share the honours for the season as joint winners of the hockey trophy.

The battalion team had a slow start to the season although sufficient style was shown to indicate we would be right up there at the business end. These was only one defeat for the year, at the hands of 1 RAR, and the team finished equal on points with 1 RAR and subsequently won the major semi-final to be first team.

1 RAR sadly failed to hold out Western Barracks in the preliminary final. It was a very confident Western Barracks side with many Brigade players that came into the Grand Final against Z/4 RAR.

The Grand final was probably the best game of hockey for the year and 2/4 RAR emerged a worthy winner after coming from behind in the record half to win 3-2. The team certainly appreciated the support from the large number of spectators — even though there was certainly some initial stage fright.

1986 saw farewell to CPI. 'Mupper' Van Haldren who crowned his six year of hockey for 2/4 RAV pcaptaining the team to win after a long break from the winnest cicle. He scored two goals in the Crand Final, including the 'miracle' filck-on which won the game. This was a well-armed honour as he alord did alther work of umpiring and organising as well. Thanks Muspeet.



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