

OJHL Fails To Revive V's, Out For 1963-64 Season

Emergency action by the Okanagan Junior Hockey League executive has failed to revive the Penticton Junior Vees.

At a special meeting held in Penticton Thursday the OJHL executive was told by Penticton hockey officials that the Vees' re-entry into the league was impossible at this time.

This means only three teams—Vernon, Kamloops and Kelowna—will be operating in the OJHL for the 1963-64 season. However, the Vee organization committed itself at the meeting to the task of rebuilding a competitive club with a possible return to the league fold in mind by the 1964-65 season.

Penticton officials blamed a shortage of players, poor spectator support and a \$500 debt for forcing the Vees out of the OJHL picture. The Penticton club folded in early June after repeated and futile attempts to drum up local support.

Exhibition games may be played during the coming season between this year's Penticton juvenile team and the three remaining OJHL teams in an attempt to keep junior hockey interest alive in the Peach City and to help erase the Vees' heavy debt, much of which is owed to the league.

On hand at the special meeting representing the OJHL were league president Len Miller and Bill Brown of Vernon, and Don Brown of Kamloops. Penticton representatives were Tom Wilson, Roy Blanchard, Bud Pearson, Jack Taggart, Walter "Moose" Martin and Art Fisher; from Summerland George Stoll and "Tiny" Hankins.

There was no delegation from Kelowna.

Hockey Clash

Tuesday Night

Vernon hockey fans are reminded of the big all-star game in Kelowna Tuesday night to kick off the Regatta.

The game will feature such puck stars as National Hockey League goalie Johnny Bower and greats from the Western Hockey League including Seattle's Guyle Fielder, Vancouver's Phil Maloney, Portland's Gerry Goyer (formerly with the Okanagan senior loop), and Gordie Fashoway, all-time WHL scoring champ.

Mingled with these stars to make two teams will be the Okanagan Junior Hockey League All-Stars, including Vernon Blades' defensive ace Gordie Nuyens.

Game time is 8:30 p.m. in Kelowna Memorial Arena.