

# One league to be formed for B.C. Junior hockey

British Columbia will have a super junior hockey league for the 1967-68 season.

It was announced yesterday at Penticton that one junior hockey league will be formed in the province for the forthcoming hockey year.

The announcement came after four and one-half hours deliberation by representatives from ten B.C. centres, which had applied for admission to the cir-

cuit, proposed earlier last month by British Columbia Amateur Hockey Association junior hockey representative George Stohl of Penticton.

It was not disclosed how many of the ten teams would receive franchises in the new league. It will not be known until the May 24 annual meeting of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, at which time the junior hockey committee is expected to decide on some or all of the ten entries.

Representatives at the meeting came from all four cities which made up the Okanagan Mainline Junior Hockey League last year, Kelowna, Penticton, Vernon and Kamloops; the West Kootenay Junior Hockey League, Trail, Nelson and Selkirk College and the Coast, New Westminster and Vancouver.

Discussion between representatives became heated at times. Members from the West Kootenay League expressed a deep concern that they may be left out of the Junior "A" hockey picture, and coach Don Culley of the Okanagan based Kelowna Buckaroos, announced that either all four valley teams would be included in the league, or none at all would join.

A motion by Stohl to cut out Juvenile age hockey in this province was blocked by representatives.

Stohl argued that with the junior hockey age limit possibly being cut back to 19 years, that hockey groups in B.C. would be better turning to Junior "B" and "C" teams than continuing Juvenile hockey.

The meeting body agreed in principle to cut down on inter-team transfers and were unanimously in favor of eliminating inter-branch (inter-provincial) transfers. The latter agreement will be brought before the CAHA in the form of a resolution at the May 24 annual meeting.

All ten teams represented backed the idea of each team putting up a \$500 performance bond at the start of the season.

Individual team cases will be presented to the CAHA at the annual meeting, but a decision as to what teams will perform in the league is not expected until the middle of June.

## Softball meeting for women

A meeting for all women interested in playing softball this year has been called for Thursday, April 27, at the Community Centre.

All interested persons and club members are urged to attend the important meeting which will start at 8:30 p.m.

## More young participation asked for here

Luckies president George Nuyens yesterday called for more participation in local baseball from the 16-18 age bracket.

"From what I can make of it," Nuyens said, "we have the makings of a good senior team, but if we are to operate a junior team too, we'll need a larger turn-out. But if they don't turn out, there is nothing we can do for them."

He said that with the 17 players presently taking in practice sessions, Luckies would field a strong senior team, but that unless there are greater numbers of youngsters in the Connie Mack age bracket showing up within the next couple of weeks, Vernon may not field a junior entry this season.

He said, "We are most