

Additional SPORT



New name, new faces, new league for juniors

The 1967-68 edition of Vernon's Junior "A" hockey club is undergoing several changes. Officially known as the Vernon Essos, they will play in a new six team league comprising four teams of the old Okanagan league and two teams from the coast, Victoria and New Westminster. For the past 10 days they have been undergoing stiff workout sessions with players from the Cariboo,

Kootenays and Prairies as well as local hopefuls. Pictured above, Coach Odie Lowe acts as referee in a scrimmage game, while Rick Reilly, facing camera and Ivan Malinosky face-off at centre ice. Keith Rolston, extreme left is set to pick up pass. The Essos open the 40-game schedule on home ice when they meet New Westminster, Oct. 15.

Prepare for Jr. opener

Vernon Essos train hard

Action at the Vernon junior Essos training camp will rise to a keen edge next week with the first official announcement of the 40 game schedule the local squad faces in the new Junior "A", province wide 1967-68 hockey season.

Renamed the Essos from the Blades as they were known in the old Okanagan loop, this year's Vernon junior edition are expected to look sharp with new uniforms and rumored new faces in the line-up when they meet their first test in the form of the New Westminster Royal here in Vernon Oct. 15.

The league, boasting six teams, that includes four of the members from the old Okanagan Mainline junior loops, plus New Westminster and Victoria, have a tough schedule ahead of them, with each team play-

ing a 20-home, 20-away game schedule from Oct. 13 through to March 2, 1968.

Deadline for soccer registration

Deadline for player registration in the Okanagan Valley soccer loop is this Sunday.

Royalite players in Vernon are reminded of this and are urged to contact Bert Hunter, secretary of the club no later than Friday to fill out the forms.

Those who have not already signed up are asked to be at soccer practice Friday at MacDonald Park and register then between 6:30 and 7 p.m. or contact Mr. Hunter.

It is important that all forms be in the mail to league headquarters 24 hours before the deadline.

Rumor has it that Vernon, always a weak sister in the Okanagan league will bring in several new players to bolster their roster. Club officials are tight lipped however, and little is known as to who they will sign or from where.

For the past 10 days, players from the Cariboo, Kamloops and the Kootenays have been trying out and it is expected a goalie and one or two players from the prairies will have a try with the club. The Prairie boys may not show here until after the training camps finish on the prairies.

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Proposed status change

Hockey body to meet on important changes

A meeting of considerable importance to minor hockey organizations in the valley takes place this Sunday in Vernon.

The Okanagan Mainline Hockey Association, consisting of north and south divisions with nine communities involved, will meet in the Allison Hotel to discuss the dropping of a juvenile league in favor of a Junior "B" set-up, also the scheduling of the 1967-68 hockey program for each age group from juvenile or junior down to the youngest pup division.

With the introduction this year of a Junior "A" league,

consisting of six teams for the whole of B.C., the tempo and brand of hockey is on the upsurge and some officials feel this will improve the minor hockey picture right down the line.

The natural trend for the Junior "A's" will be to stock their rosters with the best players possible. This will leave a good many juveniles out in the cold, because of the two-year age limit between juvenile and junior divisions.

According to the BCAHA rules on age limits, a juvenile must be born after May 31, 1949. For both "A" and "B" junior groups, the

age is two years older, that is, born after May 31, 1947.

In Vernon, the juvenile group has been a strong contender for the provincial title for years, but this year the picture so far doesn't look so good with only eight players registered to date.

Heading the list of delegates to the OMMHA meeting will be president Art Fisher of Kelowna. John Bruce of Vernon, second vice-president of the association will be on hand as well as Stewart Mitchell, official delegate for Vernon. Jim McCallum, president of the Vernon associ-

ation will also attend as an official observer.

Delegates from Summerland, Penticton, Kelowna and Vernon will represent the south zone and north zone delegates will come from Kamloops, North Kamloops, Merritt, Salmon Arm and Revelstoke.

Advance notice as to the

purpose of the meeting has been sent to each of the member associations by Mr. Fisher and it is expected each delegate will come well armed with his group's views on both the proposed change of the juvenile-junior status and the scheduling of inter-city league games. Meeting

starts sharp at 11 a.m. in the board room of the Allison Hotel.

OK Valley soccer stats

FIRST DIVISION							
	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Kamloops	3	3	-	-	20	4	6
Kelowna	3	1	1	1	6	9	3
Vernon	2	1	1	-	4	6	2
Penticton	2	-	1	1	1	3	1
Osoyoos	2	-	2	-	3	12	-

TOP GOAL SCORERS

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