

## Defies CAHA

# B.C. Junior league raises age limits

By DOUG BULWER

Junior hockey is still in the news and could reach national proportions if results of the meeting of B.C. officials last Saturday in Penticton has its expected effect across the country.

The disclosure that B.C. junior 'A' hockey will raise its age limit by one year comes without too much surprise as there has been rumors to that effect going around for some time.

The big factor however, is that the B.C. group have made the move without the blessing (so far, at least) of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and, of course, with professional interest who have an agreement based on monetary aid to the amateur body.

B.C. junior 'A' league president, Howard Hamilton of Penticton, told The Vernon News in a telephone conversation Sunday, the junior league will play with youngsters who were born in 1950 and later.

This means that boys can be playing at the age of 21 years providing they do not turn 21 before December 31, 1970.

"We will be playing outside the present 19 year age limit of the Pro-Am agreement as set forth by the Professionals and the Canadian Amateur Association with several factors also included," said Mr. Hamilton.

"At the moment we do not know what action the senior body will take on our decision but we do feel we will get a lot of support from similar groups such as ours from all over Canada. It will be a wait and see situation for the next little while," concluded Mr. Hamilton.

Also announced Saturday was the increase of league games to be played next season with the total now up to 60 games from 48 played last season.

The 1970-71 season will begin Oct. 1 and end March 15 and it is hoped an eighth team will be added by the time the league starts to play.

The league has invited applications for one more team to join the league from the Coast area to bring the league roster up to eight teams.

This move, also in the planning stage for several months will give the league a four team balance at the Coast and in the Interior, with a possible two divisions setup for future play.

Probable application could come from North Vancouver and Chilliwack.

Another decision reached at the meeting was to open the player eligibility to an unlimited number of imports

from outside the province.

"This will get closer scrutiny of course at future meetings and there will be definite controls worked out by the junior league," said Mr. Hamilton.

The news here in Vernon has been received with broad smiles as it means at least 11 players will not have to move on, thereby keeping the B.C. Junior champions, Essos intact for another year.

### Additional SPORT

## Discord revealed

# Senior baseball having problems

Although the shadow of discord lies within the Vernon senior baseball organization, Vernon Luckies will operate this season.

This was the crux of what took place at an organizational meeting Sunday night of team officials.

"I don't care whether we have a winning team or not, as long as we have a team this season," was the way manager-elect, Bob Adshead termed his feelings earlier Sunday.

Although not too much was accomplished at the meeting, the eight people on hand all agreed with much co-operation between all concerned there would definitely be a Vernon representative in the OMBL this season.

"At the moment there seems to be enough players around to get things under way and we will be ready by Sunday, May 3 to host the first home game with Kelowna," said Adshead.

Problems of discord between last year's club president, Ray Rentoul were discussed but because Mr. Rentoul was not present (an inquirer reported he was too busy) the meeting set next Sunday night for a second meeting when Mr. Rentoul will be present to resolve last years business and to hold elections for the current executive.

Meanwhile, Mr. Adshead has called for regular workouts all next week at Polson Park as the team hope to shape themselves for the opening game.

All baseball players are asked to turn out and try for a spot on the team with practise sessions taking place at 6 p.m. each night at the park.

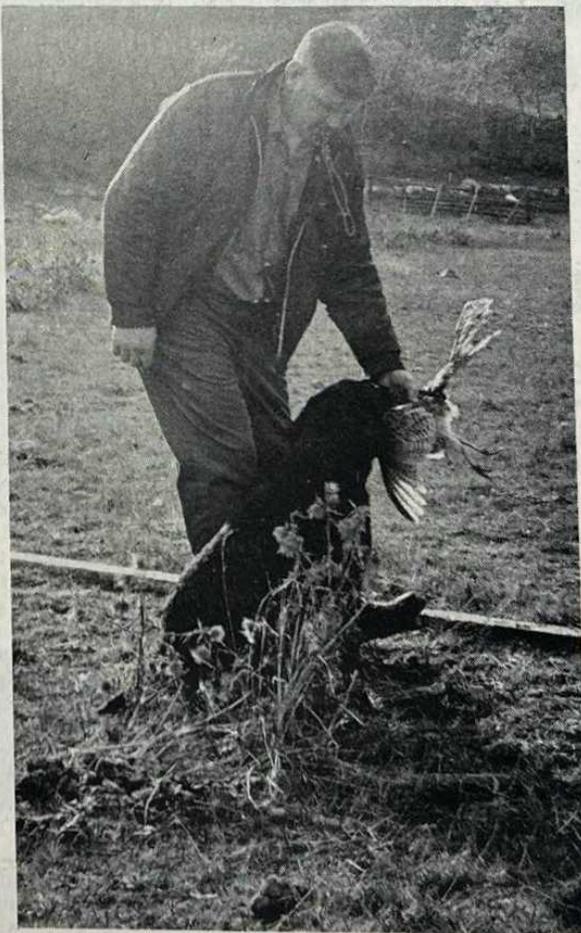
While Mr. Adshead has agreed to take over the managerial duties, a coach is

yet to be named. Also agreeing to stay on and act as treasurer and club bookkeeper is long time baseball supporter Bill Inglis.

Miss Shirley Christie has also agreed to once again do the

score keeping.

Officials are hoping for a good turnout next Sunday night at the Allison Hotel to get the executive organized. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Ming Room.



Delivering the bird

Rip Van Winkle a black Lab returns a bird to owner-handler Clay Atwood of Kelowna during picnic retriever dog trials hosted by Vernon Fish and Game Club.

## PIN POINTS

Hot Shot — April 3

Women's high single — Lori Kupryk 275; high triple — Lori Kupryk 696; high average — Sybil Tinkham and Shannon Langford 208.

Men's high single — Louis Oliverius 303; high triple — Louis Oliverius 775; high average — Shig Tabata 254.

Team high single — Lumby No. 1; high triple — Ron's IV. "300" Club — Louis Oliverius 303.

Old Timers — April 3

Women's high single — Evelyn Blair 161; high triple — Mrs. Boesel 466; high average — S. Wordle 148.

Men's high single — Mr. Wood 226; high triple — Mr. Naunon 459; high average — Sandy Donovan 185.

Team high single — Guttersnips 1300; high triple — Guttersnips 3508.



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