

## Lowden wields tough whip

# Junior hockey teams penalized

By DOUG BULWER  
News Sports Editor

A series of low rumblings omitted by several B.C. junior A hockey clubs during the current season over the way the league is being run, may erupt into a serious confrontation this weekend when league directors sit down to one of their regular meetings in Vancouver.

Like many organizations, there are perpetual internal problems to contend with but the severe way in which league president Dr. Arnold Lowden of Penticton has dealt with the recent rash of penalties by all eight teams in the league may bring a real storm down on the head of the bespectacled league mentor.

There is almost certain to be mixed feelings by the general public in the way Dr. Lowden has literally taken matters into his own hands to stop the useless penalties teams have brought upon themselves.

His announcement Monday of game suspensions and fines assessed all eight teams, one coach and 11 individual players has been met with hostility by most clubs, while some fans on the street have lauded the move, saying it was about time, as they have paid to see hockey and not never-ending brawls.

Dr. Lowden's decision has brought both fines and game suspensions to members of each team in the league.

Along with others, Vernon

Essos have also felt the presidents wrath with suspensions and fines to coach Odie Lowe, and players, Bob Gassoff, Wayne Dye and Bob Craig.

Lowe has been fined \$25 and has been ordered to sit out the next two games of Feb. 19 and 21.

Defenceman Bob Gassoff is suspended for the game against Kelowna Friday for three misconducts he picked up against the Buckaroos recently.

Left-winger Wayne Dye got the axe for the Sunday game against Vancouver for three misconducts also presumably picked up in games played against Vancouver.

Bob Craig, another defen-

ceman got the bench warmer for Essos next game with Kamloops on Feb. 24 again for three misconducts against the Rockets in recent games.

Lowe, received his sentence for allegedly grabbing a linesman during a melee in the dying seconds of the game with Kelowna.

Along with the game suspensions Vernon players were also assessed fines totalling \$160.

Immediate re-action by Essos manager Vern Dye was a note of frustration when he said: "Lowden should have taken action, if he felt it necessary, a long time ago and not wait until the league is almost over to start cleaning up. The way he is

handling it now, puts us in a Pee Wee status and not on a junior level as we are".

Coach Odie Lowe expressed shock at the way Lowden suddenly sprung the fines and game suspensions.

"I simply don't understand the way it was done. Normally a governing body or the spokesman for said group will issue a strong warning before they take action. In this case I was stunned by the way in which the president acted.

"I have always thought the governors as such must give direction to the president but in this case, as I understand it, action has been taken without prior notice to anyone.

"Let's face it, in most cases

where suspensions are invoked, few will argue the point, but where it comes to money, then that is a different matter.

"None of us here are paid salaries. Sure, there is a small remuneration at the end of the season if there is any money left over after bills are paid, but in no way should we be fined by the league.

"There is nothing in any rule book stating fines shall be evoked. I should know, I've been around hockey a lot longer than both Kashuba and Lowden put together." concluded the irate Essos' coach.

Meanwhile, it is understood teams will obey the rulings until it comes before the league

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# Hockey

meeting next Monday.  
Text of Dr. Lowdens letters, one to Essos manager Vern Dye and the other to Odie Vele along with the complete list of affected players is as follows:  
Dear Vern:

There has been a serious and unwarranted number of misconducts and game misconducts penalties since Christmas. This indicates to me that irresponsible and disrespectful behavior is far too common. These repeated scenes are not appreciated by the fans and also prevent them from seeing the player in regular action throughout much of the game. I understand some of the difficulties in controlling various players at times, but from a league viewpoint control must be exercised. Management is ultimately responsible.

There have been incidents of fighting after games, altercations with the crowd, stick threatening and maybe even stick throwing, which are not conducive to good fan support or for the betterment of hockey. Particularly, this common practise of mass fighting and brawling shows a lack of proper control.

I grant you certain more aggressive players and even some of the better players are more likely to accumulate misconducts, but by the same token they need to gain more self control and responsibility. To aid them in their search for self control there are some players with three misconducts and or game misconducts who will have one game suspension. In future all game misconducts will result in an automatic next scheduled game suspension. The respective club will notify me with a copy to their next opponent that the major has been suspended for that particular game.

I am giving each person who has a spearing penalty a one game suspension. I have been delinquent in ordering these suspensions but I am hoping the desired effect will be achieved for the balance of the season and during the play-offs.

I would also hope and expect each club will give these young men suitable time and space to contemplate their effect on the team with specific instruction on how to conduct themselves in the future.

The fine being assessed is based on the following formula: \$10, assessed per misconduct; \$10, assessed per game misconduct. Therefore your fine is \$160.

This fine is to be paid by the next league meeting, February

22nd.

If there are any further mass outbreaks or demonstrations there will be a \$200. assessment to each participating club plus individual suspensions as indicated by the referee reports.

As noted previously, if you have a player with a game misconduct he is automatically suspended for the next game. You are to notify me of the suspension and the particular game involved, with a copy to your next opponent. If such

games are consecutive the letter can be given by hand to the appropriate person (coach or manager) just prior to the game. For example, Kamloops has a game misconduct on Friday, Feb. 19 at New Westminster. Joe Tennant will then automatically suspend this player for his game against Victoria Saturday, Feb. 20. Just prior to this game with Victoria he is to give Mr. Bishop or the coach written notification of this suspension. I still am to

have a copy.

Attached is a copy of suspended players and game involved. Yours truly, Arnold G. Lowden, M.D., President, B.C. Junior "A" Hockey League.

Dear Mr. Lowe:

RE: Kamloops Rockets vs Vernon Essos, Wednesday, February 10th. By the referee's report, the game terminated in a very spirited fashion with multiple fights and misconducts. At the

same time it is reported that you grabbed a linesman, Alex Kashuba, while he was pursuing his duty. I have no choice but to fine you Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) and suspend you for two games effective February 19th and 21st. This fine is payable immediately.

Yours truly, Arnold G. Lowden, M.D., President.  
Suspended players and games involved:

VICTORIA  
Cowick suspended February

19th vs Chilliwack, for spearing.  
Cowick suspended February 20th vs Kamloops, for 3 misconducts.

VANCOUVER  
Bill Gaston suspended February 19th vs Pentiction, for spearing.

NEW WESTMINSTER  
John McCracken suspended February 19th vs Kamloops, for spearing.

CHILLIWACK  
Metzler suspended February 19th vs Victoria, for spearing.

Metzler suspended February 21st vs Kamloops, for 3 misconducts.

PENTICTON  
No suspensions

KELOWNA  
Aptis suspended February 19th vs Vernon, for 3 misconducts.

Merritt suspended February 20th vs Vancouver, for 3 misconducts.

Gerlach suspended February 27th vs Victoria, for 3

misconducts.  
VERNON  
Gassoff suspended February 19th vs Kelowna, for 3 misconducts.

Dye suspended February 21st vs Vancouver, for 3 misconducts.

Craig suspended February 24th vs Kamloops, for 3 misconducts.

KAMLOOPS  
Girrad suspended February 19th vs New Westminster, for spearing.

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## Penalties show why

# Essos humbled by Penticton

Vernon 2, Penticton 8

Two periods of excellent hockey turned into a shambles in the final 20 minutes of play in B.C. Jr. A hockey action at Penticton Tuesday as Vernon Essos were humbled 8-2 by their hosts the Penticton Broncos.

Essos led 1-0 at the end of the first period and were very much in command of the game at that point.

Second period action again saw Vernon playing up to their best although the Broncos did outscore them by four goals to one.

However, all goals scored in the period were well played as was Essos' initial goal in the first stanza when Wayne Dye let go one of his famous sizzlers that skimmed the surface all the way from the left point on the blueline until it suddenly dipped knee high past a well screened Dave McLelland in the Penticton net.

This was the first of three power-play goals to be scored in the game. In the first instance, Gerry Sismey and Tom Gawreletz were both sitting out tripping and rough infractions to give Vernon the two man advantage. Rod Cox and Bob Craig provided the assists on the opening goal.

Second period action saw Penticton tie the game at the 5:20 mark when Chad Campbell popped a five foot shot under the pads of Wayne Price after Campbell was left open in front where he was slipped a pass from behind the net by Dan Ashman.

Eight minutes later it was Penticton going ahead to stay on a nice effort by Tom Gawreletz who received a pass-back from a scramble in front of Wayne Price and then let a hard screen shot go from the left side of the blueline.

Less than a minute later Broncos moved another goal up on the Essos when Rick Taggart scored his first of two goals after Essos failed to clear the puck properly from their own zone. Again Taggart was left uncovered on the left side with all the action on the right of Price pulling the defenceman and Vernon forwards to that part of the ice.

Vernon fought back with their second and last marker of the night when Glen Walton scored on a quick wrist shot after Don Dirk fought for control of the puck in the right corner of the Bronco zone. With a pair of defenders draped over him,

Dirk finally got the puck out in front to Walton who slipped a low shot under the pads of McLelland.

Vernon's jubilation was short lived however, as Penticton came back with their fourth marker of the period when Gary Donaldson scored one of the prettiest goals observed in a long while less than a minute later.

The situation occurred when both teams were sitting two men short. Donaldson broke over the left side on a two-on-one play, went around a lone defenceman with Fred Parent acting as a decoy on the far side.

Wayne Price tried to cover on Parent and at the same time watch Donaldson, who came in close and carried past Price shooting a back hand on the short side from an awkward angle to score.

Where the hockey left off in the first two periods, the fighting began in the third frame.

Two goals within the first five minutes to Penticton didn't help much as Vernon began a steady trail to the penalty box.

With the score reading 6-2 in favour of the Broncos, the Essos began to resort to petty tactics of trying to intimidate the Penticton players by drawing them into fights.

The manoeuvre failed however as the Broncos, obviously well schooled by coach Jack Taggart, did well at not joining the fistcuffs.

Both Bob Craig and Bob Gassoff led the penalty parade. In one instance, Craig picked up a roughing penalty and while on his way to the penalty box knocked a Bronco off his feet when Craig struck him on the jaw, obviously hoping to engage in a fight. The act failed however, as did several other similar instances. It was generally a poor show for Vernon.

In the shots on goal figures, the third period really told the best story as the best Vernon could do was two shots on the Bronco net while Penticton came up with 18, four of them goals. In all Penticton outshot Vernon 42-18 in the game.

Essos travel to Kelowna this Friday for a game with the Buckaroos then play host to Vancouver in a Sunday afternoon game at Civic arena.

## NOHL pennant race narrows

Winfield Raiders have opened up their point lead in North Okanagan hockey league standings by a margin of three over nearest rivals Grandview Warriors with the remaining two teams still within reach of the leaders as the four team loop rapidly draws to conclusion.

The Raiders just barely managed to edge Armstrong Cougars 4-2 in last weekend's fixture while Grandview had it fairly easy in their 7-3 win over Head of the Lake Stampeders.

Raiders and Cougars battled out a first period 1-1 tie with the Winfield crew coming back with two unanswered markers in the mid period then settled for singles goals once again in the final 20 minute session.

Vince Jarvis paced the winners with a pair of goals

while Merv Bidowski and Mel Mitchell added singles. Al Rogan and Steve White scored for the Cougars.

In the Warriors-Stampeders game, Rick Reilly and Mike Pereopolkin scored a pair each to pace the Warriors over the Stamps.

Warriors led 2-0 in the opening session, scored two more in the mid period and then picked up three more in the final period while the best the Cougars could do was score a single in the second period and bang in two more in the final period.

Single goals for Warriors came from Ray Horchuk, Rick Munk and King Cam. Stampeders markers came from Larry Fisher, Jim Moro and Willy Wilson.

The standings are as follows:

Standings as of Thursday, Feb. 18

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	PIM
Winfield	16	9	5	2	72	52	30	210