

In hockey

Vernon to drop Jr. B players

Directors of the Vernon minor hockey association have voted unanimously to revert their junior B age division back to a juvenile level.

At their monthly meeting Wednesday night, directors agreed with other Okanagan Communities such as Kelowna, that it was no longer feasible to carry players up to 20 years of age and as a result will keep inter-city representatives playing under Vernon colors within the age limit of 18 years.

Basic meaning of the move is to allow players only up to 18 with birthdays as of Dec. 31 of playing season. However any 18

year old turning 19 after that date could play out the remainder of the season.

Vernon went along with other Okanagan Mainline centres three years ago to try the junior B level, but found nothing but problems facing the league as older boys would not travel because of work commitments.

Vernon directors however, did consider older players by setting up a three man committee to work out a juvenile house league system whereby junior B age players could still take part in this program.

Some officials feel that as many as 35-50 boys will be

eligible to turnout for this type of league with at least four teams involved.

Named to the juvenile committee are VMHA president Frank Flasch, with Al Madden and Doug Bulwer. All three men will completely re-organize the juvenile-junior B division with the aim to encourage all Vernon and district boys to continue in minor hockey right up to the age of 20.

In the spirit of
the 70's! The

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Public meeting Friday

Vernon Jr. hockey club may be sold

The Vernon Junior Essos Hockey Club of the B.C. Junior A League is going up for sale.

This was the suggestion made by directors of the Vernon Minor Hockey Association at a meeting last Monday night and who are the franchise owners of the club.

However, while the directors were in favor of the sale of the club, they have called a public meeting for tomorrow night (Friday) at the Allison Hotel to give all members of the association a chance to speak on the matter and to consider any offers for the purchase, one of which it is understood has been tentatively offered.

Rumors to the effect that the club would go up for sale have been prevalent for some time but directors could make no decisions or recommendations

until the management company consisting of several Vernon businessmen, who agreed to run the club last year and for the next two years, came up with moneys owing the Minor Hockey Association under terms of an agreement signed last year.

The management group, a limited company, according to the contract with the Minor Hockey Association agreed to pay by July 31 of this year, a loan given them, also a percentage of gate receipts from last year's home games, the company failed to do so thereby forfeiting the contract.

Reports indicate the Vernon Junior Hockey Club along with every club in the eight team league last season lost money and according to the voiced opinions of many of the directors, felt it was about time

someone else took over the junior operation by selling outright with the hope they could recover some of the losses incurred by the junior A club last year.

As one director put it, "We are in this association to foster good hockey on the lower age levels with the main aim to teach youngsters in this area the game of hockey, but we are not big businessmen nor do we have the time nor money to run an operation of the size junior A clubs in this province are now working under."

Word that an interested group headed by Vern Dye of Vernon who it is understood will have a working agreement with the Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Junior League, want to take over ownership of the Vernon franchise.

The minor hockey committee of three men who have been working on a report of the junior problem, gave a detailed rundown on their findings which included a meeting with Mr. Dye and in turn recommended to the directorate that the club be sold as quickly as possible.

Last year several offers were made to purchase the club but at that time recommendations were followed to keep the franchise in the minor hockey group's hands and turn the operation over to a group of local businessmen who in turn formed a management company.

Heading the group was Mr. Dave McKay, along with Mr. Dye as team manager and Odie Lowe as team coach.

Others on the junior operation last year were Dr. E. G. O'Brien, Brian Willows, Bill Roth, Ernie Kowal, Russ Fish and Bob Adshead with two other gentlemen whose names do not come to mind at the moment.

The meeting Friday is considered of great importance and has been set for a 7 p.m. start in the Ming Room of the Allison Hotel facilities.

The public is urged to turn out and make their wishes known whether the Minor Hockey Association should sell the franchise or not and if so to view any bids put forth by interested parties who wish to take over the complete operation.

Directors have suggested anyone wishing to make a bid on the club do so in writing with a small sum of money included to show good faith in any transaction which may follow.

Local riders place well at Barriere

Vernon District Riding Club results from the 7th Annual Gordon Creek Riding Club Horse Show and Gymkhana held on August 14 and 15 at the North Thompson Fall Fair Grounds, Barriere, B.C.

Judge was Mr. Gil Cole, Sherwood Park, Alberta. The show was C.H.S.A. Approved with 137 horses entered for a total of 61 classes (31 were halter classes).

Junior Showmanship (14-17 years) — 1, Polly J, ridden by Maureen Wills and owned by Mrs. C. D. Osborn.

Hunter Hack — 1, Polly J, ridden by Maureen Wills and owned by Mrs. C. D. Osborn.

Show Hack — 1, Polly J.

Junior Equitation (English) — 2, Polly J; 5, Scherekasi, ridden by Cindy LaLonde and owned by Mrs. C. D. Osborn.

Junior Equitation (Western) — 2, Polly J. ridden by Maureen Wills and owned by Mr. C. D. Osborn.

Western Pleasure (Open) — 1, Wee Joann Beaver, ridden by Jay LaLonde and owned by Mrs. Osborn.

Junior Western Pleasure — 2, Polly J. ridden by Maureen Wills and owned by Mrs. Osborn.

Junior Jumping — 3, Scherekasi, ridden by Cindy LaLonde.

SPORT

Sounding BOARD



Dear Sir:

Re your Aug. 12 article "NORD to tackle noise pollution."

It's disturbing to me and many others, that Vernon's most entertaining summer pastime should receive such a kick in the teeth.

Stock car racing has captured the appeal of thousands of visitors and residents alike. It is evident that Mr. and Mrs. Portman would voice no complaint if they enjoyed it also.

The stock car racing can, and eventually will, mean more to Vernon than just another sport. This is only the track's second season of operation, and the response has been terrific. Out-of-towners are anxious to race at Tillicum, and as the word spreads, so will our raceway bring more people to Vernon.

All we need now is for someone to thwart this progress by making mufflers mandatory. Out-of-towners, who have no such restrictions, would just stop coming. Stock cars in the U.S. do not use mufflers, as a rule. We've had several American cars here already — no mufflers.

If everyone got together to complain about noise, we'd have to stop trains from running nights, stop traffic nights, put muzzles on all dogs, stop cats from fighting. Surely Mr. and Mrs. Portman can see that stopping one noise, which is only temporary, will still not stop noise pollution.

I speak for the many stock car racing fans of Vernon when I say: "Let's wave that green flag and keep right on going!"

Christel Cam
Vernon