

JUDD'S JOURNAL

Let's forget the futile wait

At the risk of sounding like I'm imposing an ethnic slur, which I'm not, the proper descriptive adjective for the BCJHL governors would be "Indian givers".

The afternoon of the all-star contest in Kelowna, the governors met in the same city to jaw over some issues at hand concerning the league. Among the decisions was one which decreed the Lakers would pay a fine of \$300 for an incident in early November in which an irate fan tossed an animal's head into the Penticton players' box.

Another ine was levied on the Revelstoke Rockets for their brutal series of assaults and crowd misconducts on the Lakers just before Christmas.

The result of the latter was also to the effect that the Rockets would forfeit the win they chisled out of the Lakers that night and the Lakers would receive one point because the contest was declared a draw.

Further to the meeting, it was decided that Langley Eagles would lose 12 points as a result of using a pair of ineligible players during those victories. In addition, the points gained from those wins over other teams were to be tacked on to the teams who were victimized by the Eagles.

The Lakers, in this case, were to receive an additional two points, which along with the extra point earned by the Revelstoke decision, would presently give the local club enough points to be sitting in first



MURRAY LAWRENCE
... hard work

place in the Interior division.

No sooner had the decision concerning Langley been made, than the league governors rescinded the point awards previously made to the teams.

What's worse, is that when the latest league standings came out yesterday morning, low and behold, the single point the Lakers were to have had against Revelstoke was nowhere to be found either.

Indian givers.

The result of this is such that the standings not only didn't show the Lakers in first place, but it didn't even show them being in second place. No, it had the Lakers, tied with Kelowna, for that honor.

Now, my question is this. Do the league governors not bother to relay the

results of their decisions to the league statistition...

Or, do they perhaps have a personal dislike for the Vernon Lakers....

Can they make a decision one way or the other at all...

In the meantime, none of these burning questions bothers Murray Lawrence. Instead, the Laker coach currently has his charges studying the videotape replay of Sunday night's loss to Penticton. With their eyes glued to the tube, Lawrence hopes the team will realize the mistakes, that were made that led to the four-goal outburst by the Knights in the second period.

In any event they'll surely wonder how a team dressed in snowmobile suits could upend them in their own rink.

Penticton seems to take a little bit of their hometown with them wherever they travel. There were dozens of Knights fans in the stands and I had the misfortune of being cooped up in the press box with a couple of their cheerleaders.

So much for the myth about neutral territory.

The bottom line here is that there's no point waiting around for things to come your way if there's only a slim chance they ever will. The only sure way the Lakers can get on top of the Interior division is the same way they've gotten this far ... hard work.

Take each game one at a time and play to win each game.

