

PEPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

The Play-for-Fun tournament over the weekend saw 12 games played over the two-day event. All games got started on time and the officiating was of a high calibre.

In the "A" final it was the unbeaten Silver City 69ers winning over Castlegar in the only shutout of the tourney. After two periods of the "B" final the Rossland Skidders were in front with a goal in each period. In the final period the Blazers from Beaver Valley had to open up to try to tie things up, however, they fell victims to a four-goal outburst by Rossland and only managed two of their own.

The 6-2 win was earned by the Skidders but was fiercely contested by the Blazers' diminutive goalie Dan Posnikow, who, if such an award was given in this tourney, would have been a prime favorite for a most valuable player award. Some of the saves he made in this tourney were really something to see.

The Skidders and Beaver Valley were the busiest teams on the weekend, each playing four games while Castlegar, Rossland Labatts and Genelle as well as the winning 69ers had three each while Grand Forks lost both of their starts as did the Trail Glaciers. The stands

were not full for the games but the upstairs lounge was a very busy spot both days from opening time on.

There were three games decided by the shoot-out route with Castlegar taking part in two of them. Two games had a one-goal margin separating the teams. All in all it was a successful venture by the hard-working boys that run the Rossland Fun League. One sad note that marred the otherwise pleasant proceedings; Arnie Sherwood was stricken while refereeing one of the games and the ambulance had to remove him to the hospital. I certainly hope he comes out of it O.K. and I wish him a fast and complete recovery.

I was put in charge of the timekeeping crew and want to thank the following people for the time they put in: Herb Castle, Dan Feeney, Ken Stanton and Jack Cox from the Lions Club and those who also came along to help out. Isobel Burbridge, Tommy and Mike Feeney and Bob Syverson, Jim Schuck and Sam Keith also filled in a spot or so.

One of the referees was Clyde Moore who works his butt off in the promotion of local hockey particularly in the minor field. Clyde was telling me that they have an Atom House League tourney

coming up on March the 4-6 weekend in Rossland arena with 14 teams in attendance from Beaver Valley, Nelson, Castlegar, Grand Forks, Trail and Rossland. Each player in the tourney will get a medal with a gold and silver going to the winners and runners-up of each of the three sections the tourney will be divided into.

All house league teams in the area are expected to be there and there will be three games in each section starting at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and continuing until 9 p.m.. Saturday play will commence at 7:30 a.m. and at 11:45 there will be a break for opening ceremonies with local dignitaries in attendance. Clyde also stated that he hopes lots of people will find time to take in the games. Tournament passes and day tickets will be available and the final game will be played on Sunday afternoon.

Dan Mailey of the Trail 69ers approached me over the weekend to tell me about a tournament that the 69ers will be holding in the Rossland arena on March 25-27. He would like to use the same group of timekeepers and scorekeepers who were in action this past weekend and will give me more details on this proposed 20-plus team

tourney as final figures are known.

In the Rossland curling club on March 6 the Mixed Curling Club of Rossland will put on a one-day affair with six-end games and a sit-down supper plus refreshments. Teams will be picked out of the hat. They have a fairly good list up now and if memory serves me right the closing date is Feb. 28.

On March 27 it will be the Legion taking over for a day as they host their annual one-day spiel. This is an all-male affair with the Legion women putting on the after-curling supper in the Legion after the games. Curlers are needed to fill the roster for this one and local Legion branches will be invited to attend in bunches. The rinks for this one are also drawn from the hat and the fee is always quite moderate.

I can't close this one without extending my contratulations to the two rinks which went to the Seniors playoffs in Castlegar. Phil Bateman won one game out of the four he played while Angus Popplewell's rink took four out of five. A former Rossland skip now living on Nelson's North Shore was the eventual winner. He is George Beaudry and will go on to contest in the provincial playdowns.