

my 18/88

PEPP-TALK with Harry Pepper

This week I have a few subjects regarding various Rossland sports activities that might be of interest to readers of this column. Among them slow-pitch, minor soccer and commercial league softball.

I have another which I will attend to first. On Saturday evening at the invitation of the Rossland play-for-fun hockey teams, a couple of us were asked to attend a barbecue at the Hooch-Antink dairy farm near the U.S.-Canada border crossing at Paterson.

The meal was really great and the refreshments were, as usual, plentiful and appreciated. After the meal was over Joe McLean and Sam Manson had a hand in making some presentations on behalf of the teams to Bill Hooch-Antink for his generous contributions to the league, and to Chuck Grim of Grim's Bakery in Rossland for similar efforts on the league's behalf.

On behalf of Charles Harkness and myself, I want to say thanks for the invite and we hope to spend many more seasons doing our thing for you.

With regard to the Orwell Schooners, our fastball team in Rossland, I had a chat with John Stanton at the barbecue and he seemed to be very pleased with the team's on-field performance. He did say, however, that he felt the distribution of Grow League pitchers was, unfortunately, done on a night when his team had a practice. This resulted in the Schooners coming out on the short end as far as class pitching is concerned. I don't know if trades could be engineered to help in this department or not.

Talking to Don Brandt in the Legion on Saturday, I find he has quite a thing going to try to get minor baseball going again in Rossland. Back in the years when I first came to this town, this sport for the kids was flourishing and in several age groups, those were the years when Bev Berry's Colts were active.

They played all over the area including many trips to U.S. points. However, since the inception of the game of soccer for kids in town, and extensive leagues for the sport in the Trail District, baseball has become a forgotten sport as far as Rossland is concerned. At one time we had a fine baseball team, the Capitanos were top dogs in the Kootenays for quite awhile.

Yes sir, our closest approach to baseball today is the one fastball team and a pretty good slow-pitch league, plus our annual Slow-Pitch tournament which attracts teams from all over and also draws crowds to the ball park. It seems too bad that Little League can't find another foothold here.

If Don can work something out we shall be able to keep you abreast of the league's doings through this column.

Now to talk about soccer. I got in touch with Diane Paolini on the subject and she has supplied me with schedules for Mosquito and Pee Wee I and II; and has promised a Bantam one right away.

Rossland registered 145 kids in the various leagues with 40 Mosquitos, divided into four teams, age group six and seven years, complete with coaches and managers. In practically every case throughout the divisions, there are male coaches and female managers, which makes a first class combination.

The Pee Wee I division signed up 47 players, age group 8-9-10 years. Sponsoring these teams are the Rossland Eagles F.O.E. No. 10, Golden City Lions and the Rangers.

In Pee Wee II the teams are named Raiders, Pirates, and Wizards, they signed 41 players and play in a league

and to Chuck Grim of Grim's Bakery in Rossland for similar efforts on the league's behalf.

On behalf of Charles Harkness and myself, I want to say thanks for the invite and we hope to spend many more seasons doing our thing for you.

With regard to the Orwell Schooners, our fastball team in Rossland, I had a chat with John Stanton at the barbecue and he seemed to be very pleased with the team's on-field performance. He did say, however, that he felt the distribution of Grow League pitchers was, unfortunately, done on a night when his team had a practice. This resulted in the Schooners coming out on the short end as far as class pitching is concerned. I don't know if trades could be engineered to help in this department or not.

Talking to Don Brandt in the Legion on Saturday, I find he has quite a thing going to try to get minor baseball going again in Rossland. Back in the years when I first came to this town, this sport for the kids was flourishing and in several age groups, those were the years when Bev Berry's Colts were active.

They played all over the area including many trips to U.S. points. However, since the inception of the game of soccer for kids in town, and extensive leagues for the sport in the Trail District, baseball has become a forgotten sport as far as Rossland is concerned. At one time we had a fine baseball team, the Capitanos were top dogs in the Kootenays for quite awhile.

Yes sir, our closest approach to baseball today is the one fastball team and a pretty good slow-pitch league, plus our annual Slow-Pitch tournament which attracts teams from all over and also draws crowds to the ball park. It seems too bad that Little League can't find another foothold here.

If Don can work something out we shall be able to keep you abreast of the league's doings through this column.

Now to talk about soccer. I got in touch with Diane Paolini on the subject and she has supplied me with schedules for Mosquito and Pee Wee I and II; and has promised a Bantam one right away.

Rossland registered 145 kids in the various leagues with 40 Mosquitos, divided into four teams, age group six and seven years, complete with coaches and managers. In practically every case throughout the divisions, there are male coaches and female managers, which makes a first class combination.

The Pee Wee I division signed up 47 players, age group 8-9-10 years. Sponsoring these teams are the Rossland Eagles F.O.E. No. 10, Golden City Lions and the Rangers.

In Pee Wee II the teams are named Raiders, Pirates, and Wizards, they signed 41 players and play in a league with the Warfield Lions, West Trail Rovers, Glenmerry Saints and the East Trail Rangers. The age group in this division is 11-12-13 years. They plan against teams from Trail, Beaver Valley and Castlegar. This team has no sponsor to my knowledge, hence, no name, just Rossland Bantams.

Now to golf for a while. The Upper Course opened last Thursday with a Men's Night. It was a flop, but I guess with Birchbank having theirs on Wednesday night, which was the night it was held at Rossland last year, makes it a little difficult for some.

Some thought has been given to a Retirees Day as we did last year on Tuesdays, but the fact that the rope tow is not fixed made us hesitate to start it up. A number of our older retirees don't like climbing up the hill on No. 5.

I broached the subject to Stan Fisher who told me that the West Kootenay insists that any electrical work done on the tow must be cleared through them. It was thought that with several expert electricians in the ranks of the retirees we could have got the work done that it will take to get it started. But I guess what will be will be and we'll have to hold up the start of the Retirees Day until that job is completed. I see there is a brand new rope there so that won't hold things up.

So for now we wait, I hope it won't be too long because a lot of our members are going to be a little more perturbed than they are right now, and that is not just a little.

So, till next time!