

Soccer season set to start

Soccer

By ALEX TROICH
Herald Special



"Here we are again, happy as can be", goes a popular song of yesterday. So also goes the soccer cry as we approach the end of winter.

Sunday evening as I returned from the Ontario Soccer Annual General Meeting I thought it about time to begin the epistles for this year. This is probably when the thoughts of others in the real world are turning towards what "footie" players have been thinking about since last October.

This Saturday morning at Alcott Arena Hall Georgetown Soccer Club is holding registrations for all age groups. Times are from 9 a.m. prompt until noon.

Players will not be required to be reminded, however, there is a grave shortage of referees, particularly for house/recreational leagues of all the age groups. In-house clinics can be arranged for newcomers and you are earnestly urged to give this matter your most urgent attention. Coaches are also to be registered and I am sure there is a need to fill many of these positions.

Hopefully there will be the usual items of interest - the coaches board and referees details upon display. Please remember to bring

proof of birth and also have height and weight, if possible.

In case this information is asked, it is a benefit to potential coaches and managers.

At the moment, on Sundays, in the high school gym you may find girls and boys at winter conditioning. The girls, under Archie Tannock and Dave Booth are at it from 11 a.m. and the boys follow later.

Bill Harrison, George Baines and Dave Maloney will ferret out the details you require.

More information on the youth calendar will be forthcoming later, suffice to state the registration in the meantime.

The Inter-County league holds the spring meeting in Milton on Thursday, March 19. The meeting will consider team entries for the coming season, the budget, bylaw changes, league organization and calendar amongst others. More detail will be on the way to clubs after last evening's first executive meeting of the year. John Vanderburg and Ben Hassels of Ajax join Julia Simedani, Bryan Turner and myself on the executive this season.

With the return of many of last season's teams a possible new entry is likely from the Christian Reform Church.

The senior ladies' league held their first meeting on Monday and were discussing returnees, new entries, if any, schedules, league organization and finance in their session.

Other interesting news is the appointments of former soccer club president Klaus Zander and myself to the board of the Peel Halton Soccer Association. Klaus is the

registrar for the Association and I will be representative on the Ontario Board as well as the District.

Our talent on the field may not be too distinctive; our talent off the field most certainly is desirable in those quarters.

The under-16 Boys World Cup takes place in July this year with teams from all over the world competing against Canada as host country. There are several Ontario players in the projected squad with Burlington, Hamilton and Toronto area players among the hopefuls.

The opening day is Saturday, July 12 and all soccer is to be closed off for the day. Dave Maloney is attempting to put together a busload or two for the opening day. Matches are being played in St. John, Montreal and Toronto. The finals are in Toronto.

The last World Cup Final in this age group played to 70,000 spectators. It is possible to obtain ticket packages for all Toronto games for around \$25 or less depending upon the seating areas. More later.

Varian Vikings and the Ancient Mariners hope to take a squad down to Lamport for a pre-season exhibition game in their preparation for the assault on the Inter-County competitions.

Well, that's it for now. It looks like an upcoming year of excitement and hard work. So, what's new?

You are hearing this first here. The opening day of the World Cup is being declared Peel Halton Day, with some special invited guests projected from our large district, and The Canadian Soccer Association president is coming to Peel Halton to address a special meeting on March 29.

Registration resumes for ball players

House league and rep team players will have opportunities on four nights in March to register for the upcoming ball season, as the Georgetown Minor Ball Association makes its preparations for 1987.

Hal Ridley, president of the GBA, says they signed up about half of the rep players they have projected will be registered this season, when they held similar sessions last month.

Registrations will be taken March 10 and 12, and March 24 and 26 at Holy Cross School, between 7 and 9 p.m.

Cost per player is \$50, or there is a family rate of \$100. For 1-ball players, the cost is \$45, and if players make a rep team, there is a further charge.

To date, Ridley says the program has been running smoothly, and they are hoping to sign up the greater majority of players on the nights that have been designated.

"We're at the stage now where we have to make a commitment on uniforms, for house league team," he says. "Depending on registration,

there will be a limited number of teams, so we want people to make up their minds before the end of March."

After March 26, there will be a late fee of an additional \$10 assessed to each registration.

Ridley says the players must be registered with the association before they will be allowed to begin workouts with their respective teams, due to insurance liability reasons.

Several changes are in the works for the upcoming season, according to Ridley.

"We're looking at the possibility of having an inter-locking schedule with other leagues. The boys will have the opportunity to play different teams, than they have in the past. It doesn't necessarily mean they'll play more games, but they'll have more variety."

Ridley says the details of the proposal are being considered by officials of the Central Ontario Baseball Association.

In the house league program, one

of the biggest changes this season will be the implementation of "pitched ball" for the squirt division. In the past, the eight and nine-year-olds have played t-ball, but Ridley says this season they will be hitting a ball pitched by their coach, or some other impartial adult, who won't be trying to strike them out.

"We look at it as a progressive step," Ridley says. "The kids will have an easier transition as a batter, and will be able to develop their swing."

In the overall picture, Ridley says the GBA is in good shape in terms of what they have accomplished to prepare for the upcoming season.

The association still requires a type rep team coach, and a few conveners' positions remain open on the executive for house league.

Anyone wishing to learn more about these positions, or who wish to offer their services as coach of a house league team, are asked to attend one of the registration sessions this month.

Hockey Moms team faces tough challenge

By MIKE MARSHALL
Herald Special

The Major Atom Hockey Moms lost a close game 5-3 in Orangeville Saturday night, in a best of three tri-county semifinal.

The team will have to come up big Thursday night at 7:30 at Memorial Arena in a do or die effort.

A win Thursday night would have both teams playing for a win Saturday night at 7:30 in Orangeville in order to advance to the finals.

Georgetown opened the scoring at the 29-second mark of the game when Jason Walker passed the puck to Andrew Marshall who was tied up in front of the net but managed to kick the puck over to Ryan Brain who fired the puck home.

The Hockey Mom forwards then forgot that hockey is a two-way game as they offered little help to the defence. Orangeville came on to put three goals in a row past Ryan Brain.

Hope was restored when Matt Deruchie stickhandled his way

through three players before firing a hard shot into the top corner. He was assisted by Mark David who made a perfect pass to set up the play.

Orangeville scored again at the 26-second mark of the third period to put the Hockey Moms deep in the hole again.

A super display of fine stickhandling by Mike Travers put Georgetown back in the game when he intercepted a pass at their blueline, skated through three players before sliding the puck under the Orangeville goalie.

Georgetown began to press hard but a breakdown at centre ice allowed Orangeville to skate in on Hay and tuck the puck home to salt away the win with 1:09 remaining in the game.

The defence and Ryan Hay came to play.

Everyone had better come to play Thursday night if they want to continue their season.

They have the right stuff to do it, but they have to want to do it.

Fuelers take two in Tri-County play

By ION KERSLAKE
Herald Special

Since the Casselman Fuelers AA Minor Novice were eliminated from OMBHA playoffs they have started a round robin playoff series with Brampton and Chinguacousy to determine a Tri-County north winner.

The winner of the home-and-home series will be matched against a team from the south.

So far, the Fuelers have two wins in two games - 8-3 over Brampton and 5-0 against Chinguacousy.

Against Brampton Nathan Milne and Andy Kerslake had two goals each with singles scored by Robert Walsh, Gary McNeven, Curtis Carr and Jamie Briggs. Pete Mashinter

was one of the setup men with three assists while credits were earned by Ryan Taylor too.

In Chinguacousy, Pete Mashinter had a big game with two goals and two assists. Nathan Milne had a goal assisted by Robert Walsh and Aaron McLaughlin and added two more assists - one of them on a goal by Curt Carr.

Andy Kerslake was the other goal scorer in a game where the opposition had a hard time getting over the red line.

The boys are playing good hockey lately - making passes and skating by all checkers. And with the roll they are on - it is clear that they plan to advance after this playoff round.

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