

# Minor Hockey President On Registration Costs

Considerable controversy has been generated over the recent announcement by the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association about the increased registration rates for the 1972-73 season. The rates have been increased from \$13.50 to \$25 for the up to eight year olds and from \$16.50 to \$30 for all older boys.

The following two letters are perhaps a typical reaction to the situation with the first being a parent's reaction to the rises and the second an explanation behind the move from the association and its president, Tom Graham in an effort to clear up some fuzzy areas and misunderstandings.



Mr. Tom Graham, President of Richmond Hill Hockey Association, Gentlemen:

In view of the recent write up in "The Liberal" newspaper regarding the new budget for the town arenas, I was upset to see the cost of registration for hockey has increased again, but was more upset over the fact that a boy who wants to play hockey HAS to sell tickets.

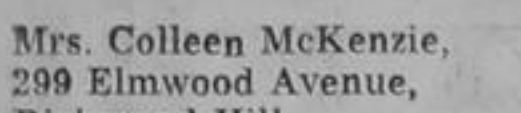
I think this is demanding a great deal of parents and the boys. Other years we have been able to register for hockey and later in the season be given tickets to sell to help the hockey association. This way you felt as if you were doing a good turn; but now, with this new idea of buying tickets the day you register makes one feel as if it is something you HAVE to do or your son does not play hockey in Richmond Hill.

We are just an average family and perhaps fortunate because we only have one boy. An initial outlay of \$30.00 plus a season pass is a lot at once but if we had more than one boy it would be a fortune, which we could not afford. Also, it costs a great deal to outfit a boy with the proper equipment and replace it if he should outgrow it, since everything he wears is a necessity, i.e. skates, pants, elbow pads, shin pads, shoulder pads, helmet, mouth guard, hockey stick. None of these items are really cheap to buy. A boy may get more than one year out of some of the equipment, not all of it.

Our son never plays a hockey game without his father or myself or both of us at the game. We don't buy a season pass for ourselves just for our boy, but we do pay at the door every time. I know how few parents do go out to watch their boys play and it is a shame.

My main purpose for writing this letter is to object to buying tickets the day of registration. As I said previously, a person is given the impression that a boy HAS to sell tickets to play hockey in Richmond Hill.

MRS. COLLEEN MCKENZIE, 299 Elmwood Ave., Richmond Hill.



Mrs. Colleen McKenzie, 299 Elmwood Avenue, Richmond Hill. Dear Mrs. McKenzie:

Thank you for your letter of August 25. We as volunteer workers in a sport are always appreciative of the interest of the people we serve.

First of all I would like to clear up a couple of definite misunderstandings. The budget I believe you are referring to has nothing to do with the town

## House League Play

## Town Auto Body Squirt Team Grand Champions At Bramalea

Sunday, August 27, Town Auto Body and Murphy Real Estate travelled to Bramalea to participate in the Bramalea House League All-Star Squirt Tournament.

Town Auto Body proved to be the best on this particular day as they won their second tournament in as many weeks.

This club, coached by Pat O'Sullivan and Bill Majury, consisted mainly of regular team players, Steve Charles, Ken McVeigh, Danny O'Sullivan, Jim Majury, Steve Garlick, Paul Lawlor and Ken Osborne. Three players were picked up from other Richmond Hill house league teams to fill out the roster. They were David Allen (Worldwide Shipping), John Noble (N. S. Smith Real Estate) and Mike Smith (Mr. Transmission).

**Town Auto Body 15**  
Wasaga Beach 9

Len McVeigh led the club with a big homerun in the first inning to get the Hillies off to a good start. Steve Charles had three hits, including a homer, as did David Allen. Steve Garlick had four hits; Davison, Majury and O'Sullivan had two each.

Mike Smith pitched strongly and had 10 strikeouts but needed help in the sixth inning from Majury who had four strikeouts.

**Town Auto Body 12**  
Arjay Electric Co. 6

The first two innings went scoreless as Smith was pitching a fine ball. It took until the third inning before the TAB boys found their batting eye and they came on strong with four big runs in that inning. McVeigh, Charles and Majury and Noble all had three hits in this game. O'Sullivan, Allen, Smith and Garlick had two each while Davidson and Lawlor contributed

ed singles. Mike Smith was again called on as starting pitcher for this game. He went four and two-thirds innings and struck out nine before requiring relief from Majury who finished the ball game and struck out four batters.

**GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Town Auto Body 10  
Bramalea 2

Majury pitched the distance in this game and had 12 strikeouts. The big guns at bat were McVeigh and Charles with three hits each, followed by Smith, O'Sullivan and Majury with two each. Allen, Davidson and Garlick all came up with one hit each.

It was a tremendous day for the Town Auto Body team, who played great heads-up ball throughout the entire day. For their efforts a beautiful trophy was presented to Team Captain Len McVeigh.

**Murphy Real Estate 15**  
Bramalea No. 2 5

Glenn Apps pitched a great game for Murphy with 10 strikeouts and only three walks. He was up to bat three times and scored three runs. Paul Mills got two homers in three times at bat and all the team played exceptionally well.

**Bramalea No. 1 10, Murphys 8**  
Linden Brewer pitched very well in a losing cause with seven strikeouts and no walks in four innings. Apps was on the mound for the last two innings and also pitched well with three strikeouts and no walks. Joey Battista collected two homeruns in three trips to the plate and Paul Mills connected for a homer. Every player played well but just couldn't push those extra runs across the plate.



## PROTESTS \$30.00 HOCKEY FEES

Dear Mr. Sports Editor: On behalf of my late husband, Bill, I feel that I must write what would be his "protest" against the rising registration fees for minor hockey.

Now, in the name of all that is fair, can parents be expected to pay \$30 to give their boy what amounts to be only the right to put foot on the ice surface of the arena. The coaching is free — the boys and their parents and friends have to pay admittance each time they enter the premises — the parents and/or the boys themselves have to pay for most of the equipment, certainly the most expensive parts, pads, skates, etc. — on out of town trips the parents do the driving and transporting of the hockey players — they also provide any necessary meals, etc., while on the road — on tournaments (even for the glorified midgets) the boys work to earn most of the money, and the parents pay any balances, including their own bus fares if they attend out of town tournaments. And incidentally I don't remember having to pay for my boy (admittance fee) to play on an out of town arena BUT we charge visiting players to get into ours.

The Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association and the town arena board should realize that if they don't have the participation of the boys in minor hockey, then they won't have anything to run the arena on.

In closing — my boy no longer plays hockey so I can speak now from an objective point of view.

MRS. ALLISON HUGHES, 125 Lucas Street, Richmond Hill.

## HOCKEY THIS WINTER

Dear Mr. Sports Editor: Last Saturday morning, I went to the town arena with a little pride in my throat with as much money as I could afford. After a long talk with Tom Graham we came up with a satisfactory solution to my problem. Thanks to him, and his kind heart, our boys will be able to play hockey this year.

I have found after talking to many people the misconception that people labour under when it comes to such things as arenas, hockey and figure skaters. First of all our arenas in Richmond Hill are an independent commission (unpaid citizens) who operate the arenas for the enjoyment of the people of Richmond Hill. They are not in any way a burden on the town and are not included in our tax bill in any way.

The hockey association and the Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club are set up on the same concept of unpaid volunteer workers. We have not and do not consider it fair that we should ask the town to add to the tax burden for our kids to play hockey and figure skate. I refer you to the story in "The Liberal" of August 31st where an adjoining association is requesting up to thirty or thirty-five dollars a child subsidy for hockey and figure skating.

It has been a source of pride to us and the town that in this day of subsidies, welfare and whatever that we can stand on our own feet. The foregoing notwithstanding it is a matter of policy that each and every child has a right to play hockey and any hardship case has to be contacted personally or any of our executive and he will be included in our program at no cost to him or his family. This is handled completely confidentially and no records are kept on this point.

I hope the above has been of some help and answers your query. Again we sincerely appreciate your interest.

TOM GRAHAM, President, RHHHA

This is in reply to a news story in the September 7 edition under the heading of "Hockey Costs Up, Parents Are Unhappy". Last year for persons that had three boys playing in the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association the cost was \$16.50 for the first one, \$16.50 for the second, and \$8.25 for the third. The charge for every child is half price after the first two. This means for a family of three boys it cost them \$41.25.

This year it will cost them \$30, \$30, and \$15 or \$75. Everyone involved in paying this amount may get \$30 back if they are willing to extend a little effort by getting out and selling tickets instead of leaving it to a certain select few as in other years. What it means is that their total outlay for hockey (after getting back \$30) is \$45 for their same three boys which, in affect, means a raise of \$1.25 per head this season.

As for a suggestion by one of the two hockey fathers quoted regarding a grant from the town to help out the financial situation. This year I will only have one boy participating in hockey. That's one boy I'm registering on my block from Baker Avenue to Elmwood to Palmer. If the association goes for a grant this means everyone on the block has to pay for my boy to play hockey I don't think this is right.

The Richvale Hockey Association is charging \$25 to register for regular league play and \$1 a practice. If the team plays OMHA hockey it is \$5 more on top of the \$25.

The charge is \$30 for the Thornhill Church League with \$65 for OMHA play plus paying every time to get into Double-rink Arenas.

My way of thinking is that all of these people who are complaining about the high cost of hockey didn't raise money last season. It was a minority of us that did it. Now it's being spread across the board and everyone is paying for their own child for a change instead of leaving it up to a few of us to raise money.

HELEN PRICE, Secretary, RHHHA.

## CHALLENGE BALL PROTEST

Dear Mr. Sports Editor: How unfortunate it is when a team officially wins a semi-final playoff series only to find out the losing coach protests the last game because of a time curfew which had been passed and enforced by convenors, umpires and executives for the last four weeks.

Such was the case in a girls intermediate game between Loughlin Lumber and Wallace General Insurance with the latter lodging the protest. How the convenors could allow this weak protest and pass it on to the executive for a decision is one thing, but even worse, the executives upheld the protest and decided another game should be played to determine the winner.

The following letter was submitted to this same executive to try and determine what facts were used in coming to their decision.

"Because of the decision of the executive members of the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association I lodge a protest against the decision of the executive members of the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association to play a second game between Loughlin Lumber and Wallace General Insurance on August 15, 1972, after the first game had been played and the result had been determined.

On August 15, 1972, a game was played between Loughlin Lumber and Wallace General Insurance (Peewee Boys) at the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association. The game was called by Allan Howard who was umpiring a game called the game after four innings and would not allow another inning to start because it was four minutes after 8 p.m. When I informed him I knew nothing of the rule I was told, "That was probably so because all of the convenors had not been told, but that was the rule and it stands."

At the end of the fourth inning of August 30 game between Loughlin Lumber and Wallace Insurance the score was 15 to 14 in favor of Loughlin Lumber and the umpired stated the game was over, finished.

Prior to the game, Loughlin Lumber team was at Diamond No. 2 at 6:15 pm waiting to play the game. For the executive to state that the umpire was late and that was a reason to uphold the protest is ludicrous.

We the undersigned request another meeting regarding this counter protest and would expect because of the above information the protest by Wallace Insurance be denied and the score stand as is and Loughlin Lumber qualify for the final game at town park.

We were informed on September 4, by the convenor that this information would not alter their decision and another game would have to be played, not only to replace the protested game but include the first game which saw Wallace Insurance losing by two runs after five innings.

As with most minor ball associations, there are too few people doing a tremendous amount of work to allow over 700 children to play ball, but when decisions such as the above are allowed you start to wonder if rules and regulations apply just to some teams and not to all, and this is the reason more people don't involve themselves.

As a convenor of another division in the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association I'm left with no other decision than to resign lest I also become afflicted with this strange disease.

STAN SHADDOFF, 473 Lynett Crescent, Richmond Hill.

# ... Sport Spots ...

(Continued from Page 13)

But more on this in the future. I was reminded the other day that several of last season's gutsy Richmond Hill Rams squad have managed to grab themselves educational scholarships via the hockey route.

They are John Barnett (Colgate University); Daryl Rice, (Michigan State); Bill and Dick Weber (Cornell University). They'll be bumping (literally) into one another on the ice lanes this season in either tournament or league play. What a difference a year makes. The best to the above players who contributed major roles in making the Rams more than just respectable in hockey circles last season.

## CLARIFICATION

Still on hockey, I wish to clarify something which apparently needs clarifying. If I don't you can reach me in Uganda.

A citizen phoned the other day to complain that a story in "The Liberal" left the impression the Richmond Hill, Richvale, and Oak Ridges Hockey Associations were all the same.

I, quite frankly, don't know if they are or they aren't and I'm not sure it really matters. They apparently operate independently of one another (although they co-operate with one another) and have different registration fees and different executive members. I hope the above is clear. The main thing, in my humble opinion, is that all three associations are in the business of making minor hockey go in Richmond Hill. Isn't that the name of the game?

## A PERSONAL THING

Was pleased to receive a letter from a minor hockey parent who (as she put it) took pride in hand and approached Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association President Tom Graham the other day and stated an inability to finance her children in hockey this season.

She reports that her problems were quickly and gratefully settled by Mr. Graham and expresses her thanks to him.

I mention this only because of the "pride" angle. I, personally, think there are times when pride should go out of the window. There was a time I swallowed it so often I wondered if I'd have any left. But I survived and I've still got a goodly bit of it.

But I realize that pride is a very personal thing. It's yours to do with as you choose. Some have more difficulty swallowing it than others and some don't like to do it at all.

It's a difficult decision to make on whether you should approach a hockey association to plead your plight re ability to pay for your children's hockey. Some will, some won't. I see nothing wrong with doing it, I see nothing wrong with not doing it. It's a personal decision which is the only way it can be.

## MORE ON HOCKEY

Oh yes, still more on hockey. Ed Sackfield of the local arena calls to say that hockey action isn't arriving, it's already arrived.

This Saturday night the Junior "A" Peterboro Petes and the Oshawa Generals will hook up in an exhibition match at the new arena starting at 8 p.m. The Petes (coached by Roger Neilson) were Major "A" champions last season and the Generals finished in second place. The Generals, by the way, are coached by Gus Bodnar who is a former resident of Thornhill.

## END WITH SOFTBALL

It's only fitting (and according to the logical way my mind works when it does) to end on a softball note.

Al Fry of the RHMBA is wagging an alarm over the lack of umpires to handle this Saturday's big wind-up of the minor ball season.

To put it bluntly, he's desperate. He has six umpires at the moment and he needs 20 of youse guys.

Al is asking that anyone who wants to help out should be at the town park Saturday at 8:15 am. C'mon Dads, give the kids a break. It's the wind-up and let's go out in style.

## MAJOR JUNIOR 'A' EXHIBITION HOCKEY

PETERBOROUGH PETES (O.H.A. Champions)

vs.

OSHAWA GENERALS (Finished Second Place)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - 8 P.M.

Richmond Hill Arena

Admission: Adults \$1.50 - Students \$1.00

It's the only wagon that can carry all these features.

- 1. 2 year/24,000 mile warranty.
- 2. Radial ply tires.
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- 9. Independent 4-wheel suspension system.
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- 11. Electric clock.
- 12. Wall-to-wall carpeting.
- 13. Cloth interior.
- 14. Flow-through ventilation system.
- 15. All-steel unitized body.
- 16. Collapsible steering column.
- 17. 3 coats of paint.
- 18. 4 free diagnosis checkups.
- 19. Bumpers with rubber inserts.
- 20. 14.1 cubic foot carpeted luggage compartment up front.



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## LET'S PLAY

## TENNIS

## Richmond Hill

## Tennis Club

By J. Beresford Anderson

Phone 884-2115

## Junior Championship Results

Richmond Hill juniors were well represented in the recent York Simcoe League Junior Championships. In the under 14 girls, Vicki Robinson defeated Deirdre Casey in a close final match 6-4, 7-6. Judy McLean of Thornhill and Richmond Hill, won the under 16 championship for girls. Greg MacMillan, in the under 14 boys, was defeated in the finals by Alan Grant of Thornhill.

Mark Girdler, who rather over worked himself by entering all three events under 18, reached all the semi-finals and went ahead in the under 14 boys to the finals where he was defeated by Joey Hay of Barrie.

In a mixed round robin play during the junior program, Ben Howe and Andrew Francis were the winners.

All the early rounds of the club junior tournaments were played during fine weather. Tony Robinson beat Greg MacMillan in the semi-finals and Steve Hodgins will meet Mark Girdler in the other semi-finals.

Attending an OLTA Clinic for promising juniors last week.

## LATE MODEL STOCK CAR RACES

FOR THE ... "RED CAP" \$10,000 ... AWARDS ... SAT. 8:15 p.m. Plus a new stocker division

Attending an OLTA Clinic for promising juniors last week.

## RICHMOND HILL Figure Skating Club

1972-73 Season

Commencing October 11th

## REGISTRATION DAY

RICHMOND HILL ARENA

SAT., SEPT. 23

2-5 p.m.

## OUR PROFESSIONAL STAFF

MR. RICK STEPHENS

MISS BARBARA LASALLE

MR. ROLF AUDEMAIT

MISS DEBBI JONES

## PUBLIC RECEPTION

FOR

PRIME MINISTER PIERRE TRUDEAU

AND

BARNEY DANSON M.P.

Old Arena, Town of Richmond Hill

Wednesday, Sept. 20 - 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m.

HOT DOGS and SOFT DRINKS

Admission by ticket. Tickets available at Municipal Offices, Danson Liberal Headquarters, 5075 Yonge St., Willowdale

## RICHMOND HILL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## T.R.T. TRIALS

TYKES - 6 pm Sept. 17, 4 pm Sept. 23, 5 pm Sept. 30 5 pm Oct. 7

SATURDAYS - SEPT. 16 SEPT. 23 SEPT. 30 OCT. 7

ATOM - 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.

MINOR BANTAM - 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

MINOR MIDGET - 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAYS SEPT. 17, 24, OCT. 1, 8

## NOVICE 1pm - BANTAM 3pm

## PEEWEE 2pm - MIDGET 4pm

## JUVENILE 5pm

All players must be registered with R.H.H.A. before they will be permitted on the ice.

Any players must be in the dressing room one half hour prior to the above time.

Bring your own equipment

TRIAL FEE - \$1.00 PER PLAYER PER TRY-OUT.