



By Fred Simpson



## Sport Spots

### Of Minor Ball

There are three things that pop into my mind whenever I chance to dwell upon minor ball. Two of them involve me. Now, don't flee. I'm not going to talk about myself. Not for long, anyway.

Anyway, I do recall that I played minor ball back in 1865 or so and, being a left-hander, I went out and bought myself a left-hander's glove. I wasn't too smart in those days. All the rest of the guys had left-hand gloves. It wasn't until years later that I figured it out. They were right-handed.

The other thing was the first time I saw my name mentioned in the local paper. There I was, Fred Simpson.

One of five guys trying out for the outfield on this team. Thrills. Of course, I was the first guy to get out but that didn't matter. My name was in the paper. Immortality had already smiled. No one could take that away from me. I don't suppose it's changed that much since. Except for me and my left-hander's glove.

### LITTLE GUYS

Which brings me laboriously around to the Richmond Hill Minor Softball Association and the third thing that I recall. It was four or five seasons ago when I wandered down to a tyke game and watched some six or seven-year-olds doing their thing.

Can't recall when I enjoyed myself so much. All these teeny-typers running around like they were lost. Beautiful. I'll always recall this one chap wearing a skull cap that came down to his shoulders. He'd lift the bat, the skull cap would cover his eyes, and he'd swing. You know what I mean. Hysterical.

There came a time when he did hit the ball. A sizzler that stopped three feet in front of the pitcher. It turned out to be a triple as he just kept running. It would have been a homer except that he forgot to make the turn at third base and was last seen wandering happily across someone's backyard. I'll never forget his coach screaming, crying, breaking down.

### FUN

What's it all about? Fun. In a word, fun. That's why I could readily understand that RHMBBA President Bill Fox was talking about the other day.

Bill's been a minor coach and/or executive for the past 12 years. Why?

"I enjoy getting out there with the youngsters. It's recreation for myself and at the same time you're keeping the youngsters busy for four or five nights a week. They're not on the streetcorner."

Fortunately, Bill is one of a certain "hard core" type of people who do get out on the diamond every season and do their thing for the youngsters. Otherwise there wouldn't be any minor ball.

### ENTER ME, YOU

Then there's the other kind of people like myself. We just never get around to doing anything. We don't want to coach, don't want to get involved, just don't want to. Some do have good reasons, like work, like this, like that.

But it does make you blush, somewhat cringe with embarrassment, when Bill points out that (Continued on Page 16)

## Minor Ball Needs Coaches, Conveners

The 1974 season for minor ball will be getting underway this month. Richmond Hill will be represented in all age groups in league play. Sponsors of the town representative teams are: Squirt Boys: Dairy Queen Peewee Boys: Richmond Hill Lions.

Bantam Boys: United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Union Local 3233.

Midget Boys: Mr. Transmission Bantam Girls: W&P Motors Juvenile Girls: Dairy Queen

These teams are nearing the deadline for final rosters. Coaches of the teams are: Squirts: Bob Davies 884-7888, assistant Al Apps.

Peewees: Peter Tipold 884-6910, assistant Lionel Gleason.

Bantam: Con Thompson 884-5003, assistant Tom Price, manager Sid Moreland.

Midgets: Karl Brimblecome 884-8087, assistant Ken Brookes.

Bantam Girls: Ed Gionet 884-6580, assistant Mrs. Green, manager Ron McAndrews.

Juvenile Girls: Bill Fox, assistant Mrs. Shirley Lee.

### CONVENER NEEDED

A tyke convider for the house leagues is still needed. Anyone willing to take on this rewarding job is asked to contact Publicity Director Mrs. Lynda Price 884-9782.

All those interested in serving as umpires are asked to contact Umpire-in-chief Al Fry at 884-1659.

The sponsorship announced recently as Nelson's roofing is now Nelson's Contracting and Shoeworld will be playing as Shoeworld Raiders.

600 PLAYERS To date there have been more than 600 youngsters register to play minor ball in Richmond Hill this summer.

In the house leagues conveners are: T-Ball Mrs. Gloria Fry, tyke — open, squirt Jack Blanchard peewee Bob Carton, Bantam Tom Price, junior girls Mrs. Lillian Chepelsky, intermediate girls Jim Anderson, senior girls Mrs. Lynda Price.

Three coaches are desperately needed for the senior girls' league. Anyone interested should contact Mrs. Lynda Price at 884-9782 immediately.



## LET'S PLAY TENNIS Richmond Hill Tennis Club

By Brian Bullock Phone 884-6841 Clubhouse 884-6421

### Take Care Of Your Club

This being what they refer to in the trade as a slow news week, means that some of the less pleasant aspects of life vie for attention. I'm referring to the thoughtless activities of a few junior members of the community. Nets have been tampered with and damaged, the clubhouse doors have been forced open, and the court lights and their timing clocks have been interfered with.

It is up to all of us to prevent this sort of behavior. It has not by any means reached epidemic proportions, but let it go unchecked and we'll regret it. So if you see anyone abusing the facilities, please remonstrate with them; even if it seems fairly trivial, like playing in shoes. I hope no club members are involved in these incidents, but if they are may I remind them that their membership privileges may be taken away from them if they disregard club rules.

It's your club, you paid for it, and you'll also pay for the upkeep. So look after it. Used Balls Wanted

As you have been reminded ad nauseum, the coaching starts today. Used balls are needed for the lessons and for the Saturday morning practices for junior beginners, but none have been forthcoming since I made a request two weeks ago. (Just goes to show how many people read this column!) Would you please look around in your basements and see if you can find some to put in the box in the clubhouse? Thank you. New Balls Available

Our President has white Dunlop balls at \$2.75 a can and yellow Slazenger balls at \$2.60. Please ring Eleanor Lloyd at 884-6537 to get them; and that doesn't mean ask her to meet you at the courts with a can when you happen to want to play.

OLTA Tournaments The schedule of OLTA sponsored tournaments has been published. Richmond Hill is to host its first ever OLTA event, the 'A' doubles tournament for men, women, and mixed July 26, 27 and 28. 'A' tournaments are open to all except ranked players and previous tournament winners, and should provide us with some fine tennis.

Team Trials Remember you team hopefuls, the trial for the "C"



(Photo by Susan Samila)

Ladies' Golf Club of Toronto President Mrs. Joyce Hawtin; Rev. Bernard Barrett of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill; and Mrs. Nora Stott, chairman of the committee in charge; are seen above (left to right) at the April 27 dedication of a fountain at the club located in Thornhill

in memory of the late Ada Mackenzie, Canada's First Lady of Golf, and founder of the club 50 years ago. The foundation is set in the middle of a flower garden with a spectacular backdrop of cedar trees.

## Toronto Ladies Golf Founder Dedication At Thornhill

"This fountain is dedicated in loving memory of Ada Charlotte Mackenzie 1891-1973, Canada's first Lady of Golf, founder of this Club 1924." This is the inscription on the fountain at the Ladies' Golf Club of Toronto, Thornhill, dedicated to the memory of a former resident of Richmond Hill, who died at the beginning of last year.

Miss Mackenzie, who lived on Vaughan Road for more than three decades, was often called the "Grand Dame of Canadian Golfers". She played her first game at the age of 13 and won her first major tournament, the Canadian Open, at Beaconsfield, Quebec, in 1919. That started her on a career of many achievements.

She added four more open titles, five closed titles, eight Canadian Ladies' Senior Championships, two Ontario Seniors and many minor tournaments including the United States North and South.

World's First In her early days ladies were restricted as to when they could play at most clubs. So, in 1923, Miss Mackenzie decided to build the first women's golf club in the world. Celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, it is still the only one in the world.

Miss Mackenzie raised \$30,000 to buy 130 acres on the east side of Yonge Street in Thornhill and started a campaign to raise another \$85,000 to buy a club house, which she was able to do. She agreed to manage the club for the first five years and in 1924 the club officially opened.

During the depression years and the war years that followed the members struggled to keep the club intact. Only through their hard work in weeding the gardens, painting and cleaning the club house and taking care of the property was it able to survive and prosper. There were 135 charter members. Today the club has 650 members as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

club's founder.

### ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES

Many activities are planned, the first being the opening tea when the memorial fountain was dedicated. This was the gift of members and friends to show their appreciation of the work of the

President Mrs. George Hawtin opened the ceremonies and introduced Mrs. John Stott, chairman of the committee which chose the fountain. It was designed and created by Eric Kraemer, landscape architect of Thornhill. This will be a visual and tangible "thank you" to

Miss Mackenzie for her dream fulfilled which has given so many women pleasure for the past half century. Rev. Bernard Barrett of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill, of which Miss Mackenzie was a valued member, dedicated the memorial and unveiled the bronze plaque it bears, April 27.

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## Richmond Hill Firefighters Spring Dance

LIONS HALL  
MAY 17th, 1974  
8 PM - 1 AM  
\$5.00 COUPLE

PRIZES — REFRESHMENTS

## OAK RIDGES 1974-75 HOCKEY SEASON REGISTRATION

SEPT. 7, 14 - 10 am - 3 pm  
ARENA HALL

1st child: \$50 including family membership  
2nd child: \$40 — Family limit \$150  
OMHA players \$10 extra due December 1/74

Skate exchange September 14, 10-3  
Written applications for coaches due Aug 1

BOX 505, OAK RIDGES

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