

# OMHA Opinion On Rough Play

"Any amendments to our constitution any bylaws governing rough play and officials will have to be approved at our annual meeting in the fall by the entire OMHA body," Jim Pollard, the London area executive member is quoted as saying in an article by Bruce Huff in the London Free Press. "But we're sure everybody is interested in improving our game and will back any efforts along that line."

A native of Richmond Hill, now living in London, Jim Pollard learned his hockey on the local scene. He is the son of the late James Pollard and Mrs. Pollard of Dufferin Street.

The article points out the many measures the OMHA has adopted to keep the game clean for the protection of its players. The OMHA is the first to admit there is dirty play sometimes. As long as there are players and coaches involved in a rugged, contact sport you will have dirty play sometimes. The best the OMHA can do is to tighten up the rules and their enforcement while still continuing to stress the acquiring of hockey skills and fundamentals.

At its post-season executive meeting in Toronto recently, the article notes, tired of taking flak about violence, the OMHA took a stand. It was simply that penalties for dirty play and fighting will be increased next season and that

referees will be instructed to be more strict in their interpretation of the rules.

According to the writer, this was also a bit of a self-confidence move. The OMHA has consistently endeavored to keep hockey clean and to endorse rules for the protection of its young players. For instance, 10 years ago rules were passed to enforce the wearing of helmets and three years ago the OMHA was one of the first leagues in hockey to insist that goalkeepers wear helmets, as well as masks, for the complete protection of the goalkeeper's head. Most other hockey groups in Canada and the United

States have yet to adopt this rule.

Last fall at its annual meeting the OMHA brought in a rule that any player receiving a five-minute major penalty for fighting would automatically be expelled from the game. But the delegates representing the 9,106 teams in the OMHA added two amendments, including butt-ending and spearing.

Now you can look for new legislation to include expulsion from the game for all major penalties called and for additional suspension, not merely for the balance of the game.

The OMHA also plans to get to the officials. They know it's not always the player or coach who creates the situation which leads to dirty play situations. Often inexperienced officials are to blame. Like the players, they have to learn the game too and zealous coaches and addeheaded parents seem to forget this. More referees' schools and clinics are in store when next season begins. And it will become mandatory for all officials to take a refresher course every two years to keep his eligibility as an OMHA-approved official.

Mr. Huff concluded his column by assuring Mr. Pollard that most minor hockey men will be backing the OMHA executive in their attempts to bar dirty play from hockey. "They're as sick of all this outcry over violence as I am."



JIM POLLARD  
OMHA Official

By Fred Simpson



## Sport Spots

### The Real Sports

Major professional sport leaves a rather sour taste in my mouth these days. You wonder if its even worth bothering about from a fan's viewpoint. I'm especially thinking of hockey.

It seems to me most of the players are strictly out there to hustle for the big buck. Like the rest of the world. Nothing wrong with this? Just leaves a sour taste in my mouth.

What happened to the days when being a Stanley Cup winner on the Maple Leafs or Montreal Canadiens was a big deal for almost every Canadian kid? That same kid would now rather play for the Tavistock Terriers just so long as he coins a few hundred thousand dollars. More power to the individual but what's happening to society?

Which brings me around to a different kind of sports and a vastly different attitude. I'm talking about the "Special Olympics" for mentally retarded boys and girls which will take place June 13, 14, 15 and 16 in Winnipeg.

The whole idea, to my mind, brings a little bit of necessary sanity back to my world. Hey, we're still alive and viable. Doing something for the pleasure of someone else with no financial rewards in it for ourselves. I must be dreaming.

NICE DREAM

And it is a "dream" in one way. A very nice dream-come-true for some mentally retarded children who are students at Thornhaven School and ARC Industries in Richmond Hill.

They'll be making that trip to Winnipeg and maybe coming home with a gold or silver or bronze medal. And they wouldn't trade that inexpensive medal for a year's paycheck of a Bobby Orr or a Phil Esposito.

What do I know of mental retardation? Really, nothing. Sure, I'm emotionally moved when I come across someone who has a mental or physical handicap. I think, well, maybe I'm not so bad off as I thought I was. Stop feeling sorry for myself for awhile. Then I leave them and life goes on.

NO RESPECTOR

I forget to remember (as one person put it to me) that mental retardation is no respecter of people. Rich or poor, a Bobby Orr or a Phil Esposito, it can happen to you.

So that's why I think this "Special Olympics" is such a worthwhile, moving experience. Reminds you that you don't have to be a great, healthy athlete, to be an athlete and enjoy participating.

There's room for us all in sports.

It's just that you tend to forget about it when you read about professional athletes these days. There really is more to sports than money.

I should add some statistical data re the "Special Olympics" although such figures tend

(Continued on Page 14)

### Sprinter And Hurdler

#### Dianne Diggins, Brian Pembleton High Track Stars

Two local athletes recorded triple victories during the seven hour high school track and field competitions last week to decide southern sector representatives in the York County Championships to be held today (Wednesday).

Senior Sprinter Dianne Diggins collected the 100 metre, 200 metre and long jump for Thornlea Secondary School.

Not to be outdone, Langstaff Secondary School's Brian Pembleton took first place in the 100 metre, 100 metre hurdles, and the long jump.

The top athletes in each event in the county championships will advance to the Georgian Bay Championships the following week.

Competitors in last week's trials had to contend with a strong 25 mile-an-hour wind blowing in their faces which kept race times far off normal but helped the field competitors to record excellent distances.

Most schools boasted double winners with the Midget division contributing five members to this elite group. Markham's Nancy Summerland won the long jump and high jump, and teammate Lori Newfield crossed the finish line first in the 400 and 800 metres. Markham also cheered John Hothies performance in winning the high jump and 400 metres.

Other midget double winners were Glenn Shaw of Langstaff in the discus and shotput and Robbie Smith from Thornhill in the 100 metre and 100 metre hurdles.

In the junior competitions, as expected, Eleanor Mahol of Markham showed her heels to the pack in the 100 and 200 metre events to re-affirm her position as the top sprinter in York County.

Richmond Hill's distance star, Nancy Hamilton, won the 800 and 1500 races, while Woodbridge's Leslie Knight won the unusual combination of 800 metres hurdles and shotput.

Woodbridge High School's Bill Milley won the senior shotput and discus for Woodbridge, and Bayview Secondary's Nancy Wherens scored a double win in shot put and javelin and Ajax Mathews won the senior triple and long jump.

The relay events brought three wins to Markham High, two for Bayview, and one each for Thornhill, Thornlea,

and Langstaff squads. Based on the top three finishers in each event, counting relays, on a 5-3-1 points basis, Woodbridge High School emerges as the surprise winner with 132 points, Bayview 121, Langstaff 91, Thornlea 76, Markham 69, Thornhill 64, Richmond Hill 59, and Don Head's three-man team gained four points.

Good weather is the key to this week's competition as it will be necessary for May athletes to qualify for the Georgian Bay finals by recording good times and distances. A windy day such as experienced at the zone meet will severely hamper efforts of the young athletes.

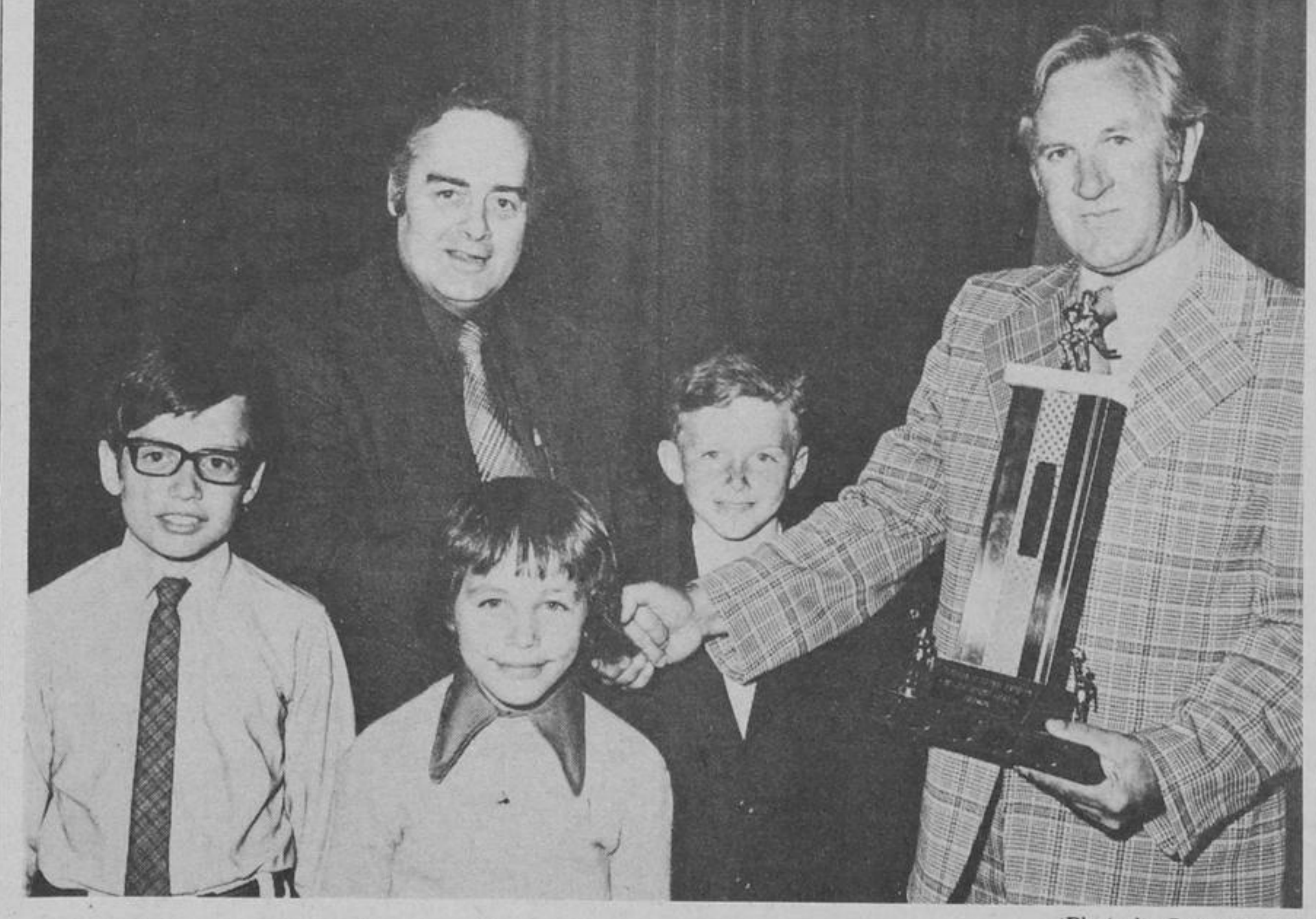
Other good news for local track buffs was contained in the publishing of the 1974 Ontario indoor rankings.

In the shotput section, Bill Milley is ranked number four for all ages in the province, and in high jumping, Leslie Rogers, a midget athlete, squeaked into position 19 in high jump ratings.

On performance, but not listed, Dianne Diggins is ranked number 10 in long jumping, with a good possibility of topping this list before the high school season is over.

These rankings mark the first time any of our local athletes have made the indoor lists and helps justify the long winter hours put in by members running in circles at the CNE Coliseum.

STOUFFVILLE: Dr. Douglas Brodie is one of 17 physicians in Canada to receive the Ujahn Postgraduate Study Award. The prize of \$500 is provided by a leading pharmaceutical manufacturer and goes to defray expenses of postgraduate study in family practice. The courses can be taken anywhere in Canada or the USA.



The Richvale Minor Hockey Association held its second annual banquet recently at Don Head Secondary to wind up the year and recognize the winning teams. Members of the Richvale Lions Trophy winning novice champion Thorncrest Motel team in the league are (left to right) Assistant Captain Ian Mitchell, Assistant Captain Dave Shawana and Captain Gordon Gertley. Coach Warren Baillie (left) receives the trophy from RMHA President Al Cromb.

## Richvale Minor Hockey Annual Banquet

Completing two very successful seasons Richvale Minor Hockey Assoc. held its second annual banquet May 4 at Don Head School. Ed Banks, one of the original organizers of the association, did a fine job of "emceeing" the evening. The delicious turkey dinner served by the ladies' auxiliary was enjoyed by every boy, coach and manager. Not only that, the auxiliary represented by Pat Mahue, presented President Al Cromb with a cheque for \$500.

Guests included Richmond Hill Rams Coach Carl Brimblecombe, Junior "A" Hockey Top Scorer Mike Hartman and Chief Referee Rene Fornier of Richmond Hill.

All boys received a team photograph before the following trophy presentations:

House League: Novice, Lions Trophy, Thorncrest Motel; Atom, W&P Motors Trophy, Pizzaville; Peevee, Ed Banks Trophy, Northvale Motors; Bantam, CIBC Trophy, Surf Marine. Top scorers: Novice, Craig Femm; Atom John De Haas; Peevee Mauro Fantin; Bantam Tony Caranci; Midget Wayne Stiver.

OMHA Top Scorers: Atom, Allan Evelyn; Peevee, Brian

Celsie; Bantam, Bill Cromb; Midget, Harold Simpson; Juvenile, Stan Doel.

Best Goalie House League: Novice, David Bone; Atom, Chris Chianelli; Peevee, Chris Butler; Bantam, Trevor Basser.

Hat Tricks: John De Haas, Robert Cashin, Weil Cooke, William Mitchell, Maro Fantin, Donny Peters, David Twidale, Ron Keeting, Tony Caranci, Rick Mills, Bruno Stradins, Heinz Lozberg, Garry Langfield, Steve Cromb, Bill Cromb, Paul McGeachie, Harold Simpson, Stan Doel.

Shutouts: Emile Van Essen, Tom Wilson, Chris Butler, Glen Woods, David Walker, David Bone, Robert Johnson, Trevor Basser, Ron Best, Mark Bernard, Mike Johnson, Ron Mareu, Shayne Cook, Scott Stevenson.

Most Improved Player House League: Novice - Richmond Sports John McLean, Thorncrest Motel Tod Dungey, Baker Sales & Service Glen Pap, Carlisle Real Estate Mark Butler; Atom - Rendezvous Marco Permeigiani, Herron Ben Carbone, Fizzaville Guenther Guenther; Peevee - Northvale Bob Smillie, Raymore Alex-

(Photo by Susan Samila)

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On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill.

WILLIAM C. LAZENBY  
Mayor

L. M. CLEMENT  
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