

Stouffville sports

Plenty of issues raised at softball annual meeting

SPORT
NOTES



bruce stapley

They kicked around three now familiar cans at the annual meeting of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Softball Association (WSSA) held last Wednesday in the Rec Centre lounge.

The first involved the question of user fees, which have gone over like the GST since council decreed them necessary a few years ago.

For the WSSA, the levy jumped from \$535 in 1993 to a whopping \$4,018.80 this past season for the right to play ball on diamonds owned by the taxpayers.

The WSSA figure was part of a total of \$25,540 shelled out by the various organizations playing ball on town facilities in 1994.

Cathy Bennett, who was reappointed as WSSA president at the meeting, said she found the whole idea of user fees for kids sports odious.

But she is equally miffed at the lack of bang for the user fee buck in terms of ball diamond maintenance.

Bennett served notice, as others before her have, that she's fed up and doesn't intend to take it anymore.

"If we're going to have to pay, the (the town) are going to have to start maintaining the diamonds in a proper way," she proclaimed.

Bennett added that when she asked the town recreation department just what the WSSA user fees were used for, a blank stare came her way.

Local coach and umpire Bob French got into the act as well.

He complained that the fees are so high for tournaments that mens leagues are shuffling off to Goodwood where tourneys go for a song.

Local merchants, French suggested, should be "furi-

ous" that the town is driving away these tournaments and all the business they generate for local shopkeepers.

French and Bennett beseeched the 55 some odd in attendance to turn the user fee thing into an election issue, or at least contact their councillor to register a complaint.

The meeting then moved on to consider the age old question of just what importance should be placed on winning at the WSSA houseleague level.

A sensitive issue to be sure, especially when there have been coaches from the outlying hamlets like Vandorf and Goodwood for whom winning at t-ball is considered just a little less important than coping that World Series title through the years.

Bennett said it had become increasingly difficult to ascertain league winners due to the complexity of keeping precise statistics.

Coaches have been coming to her saying their team should be in first place, not the squad so proclaimed in the official standings.

A myriad of phone calls then had to be made to verify scores and other items. And the whole thing was getting out of hand, Bennett suggested.

Add to that the question of what to do with rained out games, and Bennett suggested the year end tournament winner be given all the marbles.

After a sometimes heated exchange of 45 minutes or so, in which the concept of winning was debated thoroughly, the issue was put to a vote.

As so often happens in this sort of situation, things stayed exactly the way they were.

The third issue arose during the election of officers, and sprang out of that process.

With a lack of new names, from which to choose the new executive and other officers, Bennett suggested it's this

kind of apathy which could see the WSSA and its 1,500 player registration handed over to the town to operate some day.

With no one else waiting in the wings to take over as president, Bennett agreed to stay on.

However, she warned there would have to be some new blood at the top soon.

"I've been doing this for seven years. I can't go on forever," she warned.

But by night's end, names had been lined up for almost all of the various positions that need filling annually.

This time, anyway. The list is as follows:

Note the number of people doing more than one job.

Vice president - June Doner

Treasurer - Lori Sellers

Secretary - Gerrie Bolton

Ballantrae reps - Mary Lott, Sandy Paynter

Claremont rep - Larry Cogar

Vandorf reps - June Doner, Paul Doner

Girls rep - Cliff Dunkeld

Boys rep - Lori Doner

Boys select rep - Bill Anderson

Scores/statistics - Ron Smit

Equipment manager - John Masci

Umpire scheduling - Al Piette, Linda Alston

Game scheduling - Cathy Bennett

Practice scheduling - Maureen Fretz

Diamond lining/scheduling - Mike Briggs

Tournament committee - Pat Salvagna, Rod Chicorli

Doug Marshman, Tom Clark

Sponsors - Ted Bennett

Pictures - Chris Paule

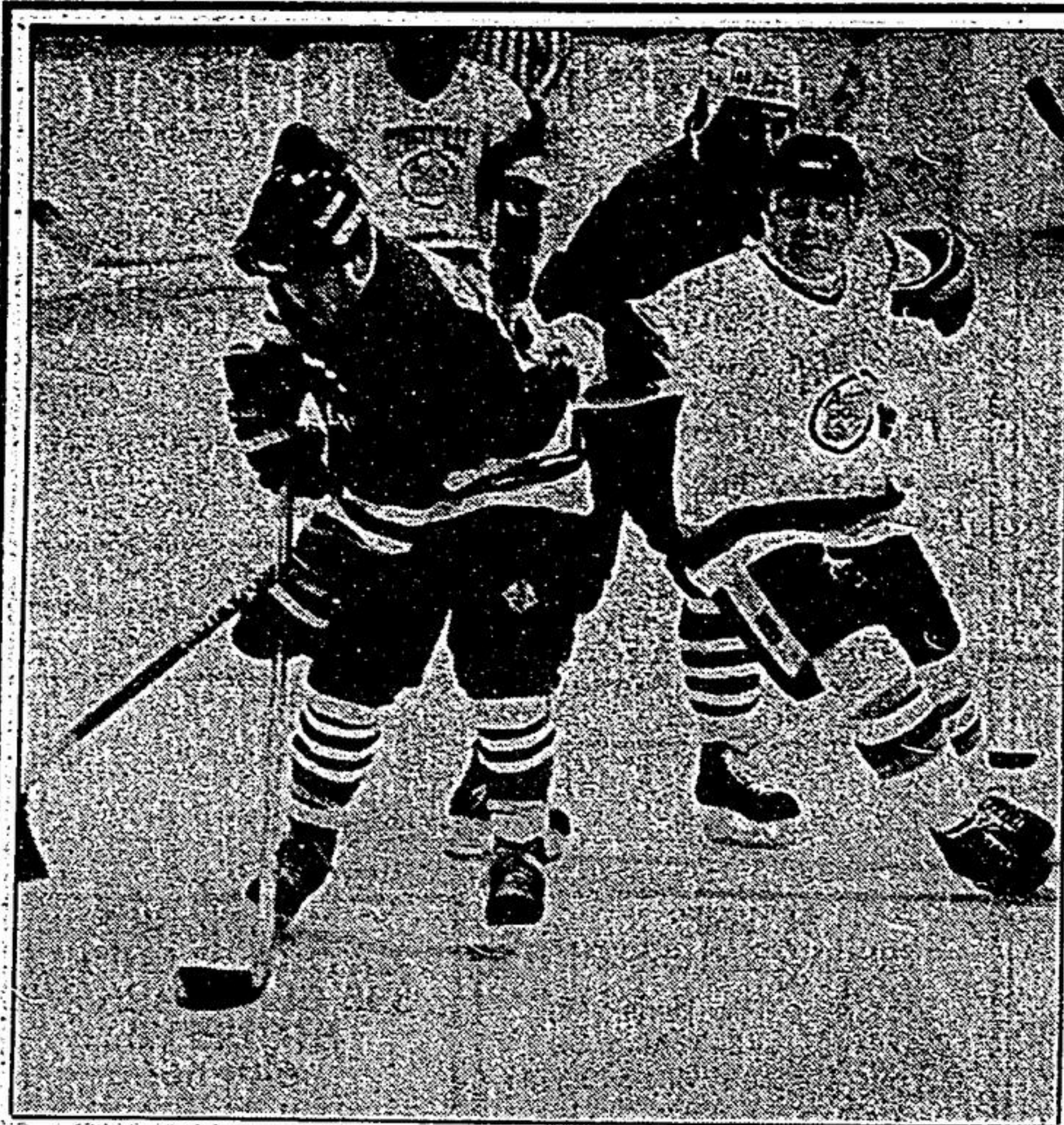
Sweaters - Pat Salvagna, Glen McDougall, Maureen Fretz

Registration - Maureen Fretz

Rules Committee - Mike Briggs, Tom Clark, Cathy Bennett, Arnie Gainsbrook, Jim McLeod

Chairpersons - Larry Cogar, Lori Doner, June Doner, Bob French, Pat Salvagna, Al Piette

Umpire convener - Al Piette



Foiled again

Stouffville Action Signs Dave Manilla (right), tries his best to take the puck away from this Bennick Paint player during action in the Betz Pools Oldtimers' Hockey Tournament at the Rec Centre on Saturday.

PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Midget Clippers lose season-opening debut

After going undefeated in three preseason contests, the Cable Tech midget Clippers were stung 2-0 by Trenton in their regular season opener on Oct. 9.

The Clippers had prepared for the new season with 4-0 and 7-0 shutout wins over Richmond Hill and Port Perry respectively, and a 4-2 triumph over Uxbridge.

The midgets are sporting a new look for the 1994-95 campaign.

Veterans Graham Crowder, John McKinnon, and Roger McMann have moved on to play triple A hockey, leaving coaches Peter Fitzpatrick, Kevin Cryderman and Todd Balazs with a new mix of players to work with.

Returning from last year's team are Ian Ellis, David Hutchison, Rob Keys, Peter

Smith, Mike Underwood, Steve Wilcox, and goaltender Josh McKellar.

Graduating from last year's bantams are Scott Assinck, Adam Crowder, Tim Smart, Craig Wood, and goalie Evan Boyd. Houseleague recruits include Tom Hammond, Dan Marujo, and Matt McNaught. Don Wilkie has returned to rep hockey after sitting out a year.

Point-getters for the Clippers during the preseason were: Assinck, four goals and an assist; Hutchison, two goals and two assists; Underwood, one goal and three assists; Keys, two assists; Smart, one goal and one assist; Smith, one goal, one assist; Hammond, one goal; Crowder, one goal; Wilcox, one assist; Wood, one assist; McNaught, one assist.

The midgets play their home games Sunday at 9 p.m.

Clippers road show a success

Justin Felschow and Adam Christensen combined in goal to help the major atom Clippers to a 4-0 win over Peterborough in a road game on Sunday.

Brandon Tardella scored the Clippers' first goal, as he one-timed a perfect pass from Andrew Lombardo. Jason McDonald then clicked from Dylan Harrison for the second Stouffville goal. The third goal came off the stick of Ryan Jackson, from Lombardo and Kenny Leighton. McDonald closed out the scoring with his second goal of the game with just eight seconds left in the contest. Harrison and Leighton assisted.

The following scorers were omitted from the results of the Clippers' Thanksgiving weekend tournament in Alliston published in the Oct. 15 Weekender: Tardella, one goal and two assists; Harrison, one goal and one assist; Borqui, one goal and one assist; Lombardo, one goal and one assist; Amyotte, one goal; Jackson, one goal and one assist; Lyons, two assists; Smith, Buckley, Carruthers and Guest, one assist each. The Clippers host Uxbridge at 8 p.m. on Friday.

Major novice Clippers come up short

It was a fruitless road trip for the Ken and Neil Patrick major novice Clippers as the Stouffville squad was upset by Cobourg 3-2 on Sunday.

Logan Jennings and Alex Bollo scored for the

Patrick platoon, with Jennings setting up Bollo's score.

The Clippers take to the Rec Centre ice surface on Friday against Trenton.

Faceoff is set for 7 p.m.