BCAHA Board Cuts Kitsch Suspension

Ken Kitsch, 19-year-old defenceman of the Kelowna Buckaroos, who was suspended for a year, will be back in action January 1.

At a meeting held in Penticton Sunday a 10-man board made up of B.C. Amateur Hockey Association officials, headed by BCAHA president Dr. Leo Margolis of Nanaimo, decided to reduce the length of Kitsch's suspension after hearing evidence concerning the match penalty call which resulted in the decision.

Margolis had originally given Kitsch a one-year suspension after reading a report by referee Tony Winichuk of an incident in Kelowna's second game of the season, Oct. 18, when the Buckaroo defenceman swung at Blades' Gordie Kineshanko with his stick in retaliation to a cross-check.

Winichuk spoke to the board Sunday in connection with the suspension, as did Buckaroo manager Bob Giordano and club vice-president Ron Parkinson.

Giordano said he agreed with the referee's call, but protested the severity of the resulting suspension. In the Oct. 18 incident no injury was caused to the Vernon player.

Shishido Still Ahead

6 Players Battle For Top In OJHL Scoring

The Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League scoring race has developed into a bing-bang battle with six players all crowded within four points of each other.

Kamloops Rockets' centreman Eric Shishido is still in possession of first place with 35 points on 12 goals and 23 assists but he's getting lots of pressure from five other hot competitors, including three team mates.

In second place, one point back with 34 points is Brian Fourt, another Rocket forward. To date he has a league-leading 20-goal total and 14 assists.

Pushing Fourt is Kelowna Buckaroos' John Strong who, with 18 goals and 15 assists, has amassed 33 points. Then comes a two-way tie for fourth spot, Vernon Blades' suddenly resurgent centre Corky Agar and Kamloops' Larry Roberge each having collected 32 points, Agar on 17 goals and 15 assists, Roberge on an even-steven 16 goals and 16 assists.

And right behind them is another Rocket, Glen "Cowboy" Richards, with 31 points garnered on 8 goals and 23 assists.

Lee Simpson of Kamloops still maintains the best goalkeeping average with a 3.80 figure. Almost neck-to-neck is his standin, Harvey Budarick, with a 3.88 average.

The Buckaroos presently top OJHL with 26 points, two more than Kamloops, but this could change tonight when the two close competing clubs tangle in Kelowna. A Kamloops win would even things up again, a Buckaroo victory would stretch Kelowna's leading margin to four points.

As for the hometown Blades they are all but out of sight with a mere eight points on an unenviable record of four wins and 17 losses.

League Standings

	W	L	T	PIM	P
Kelowna	13	6	0	307	26
Kamloops	12	6	0	259	24
Vernon	**4**	**17**	**0**	**353**	**8**

League Scoring (15 Points or Better)

	G	A	Pt
E. Shishido (Kam)	12	23	35
Fourt (Kam)	20	14	34
J. Strong (Kel)	18	15	33
Agar (Ver)	**17**	**15**	**32**
Roberge (Kam)	16	16	32
Richards (Kam)	8	23	31
Stolz (Kel)	18	11	29
Sandyke (Kam)	17	12	29
Stein (Ver)	**16**	**11**	**27**
R. Bulach (Kel)	7	19	26
Steinke (Kam)	7	16	23
T. Strong (Kel)	7	16	23
Begg (Kam)	5	15	20
Verna (Kel)	13	6	19
Sherk (Ver)	**8**	**11**	**19**
Schnepf (Kel)	13	5	18
Rinaldi (Kam)	2	16	18
Kasubuchi (Kel)	7	10	17
Sorochuk (Ver)	**6**	**11**	**17**

Goalkeeper Averages

	GP	GA	Av.
Simpson (Kam)	10	38	3.80
Budarick (Kam)	9	35	3.88
Robinson (Kel)	17	79	4.64
Woodward (Ver)	**18**	**107**	**5.94**
Taylor (Ver)	**4**	**30**	**7.50**

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