CONVENTION ROUND-UP

Junior president resigns

By DON KENDALL
Daily News Sports Editor

Junior A hockey announcements highlighted the three-day, 55th annual, B.C. Amateur Hockey Association convention which ended here Sunday.

In a surprise move Saturday, Dr. Arnold Lowden, of Penticton, the B.C. Junior Hockey League's president, announced his resignation.

The league directors elected Brian Couling, of Kelowna, the BCJHL's executive-director, to succeed Lowden.

Lowden, who took over as head of the league in 1973, when Dennis Coates, of Kamloops, resigned, cited his connection with the Penticton Broncos as the main reason for his resignation.

Lowden said, "I am now a shareholder and a member of the management committee of the Broncos, and I feel there could be a conflict of interest if I continued to hold this post."



DR. ARNOLD LOWDEN
... resigns post



BRIAN COULING
... new president

DEFEATED

At the same time of Couling's appointment, it was announced Vern Dye, of Vernon, will be the league's chairman of the board. That position has been vacant for several months.

The executive - director position was terminated by the league.

Lowden, who was also the junior A's director on the BCAHA executive, let his name stand in Sunday's elections.

However, he was defeated by Bill Coburn, of Burnaby.

Frank Spring, of Cranbrook, was elected as president of the association. He succeeds Ray Peebles, of Quesnel, who did not stand for a fourth term.

Don Ewart, of Penticton, was elected first vice-president and Gordon House, of Vancouver, was named second vice-president.

Sam Dempsey, of Kamloops, was unopposed in the election of the Okanagan - Mainline director.

PLAYOFFS SET

It was announced Saturday, that for the first time, the BCJHL will meet the Pacific Coast Junior A Hockey League champion, to decide the provincial champion.

Dr. Lowden, in making the announcement, said the series will be held in late April, and will be a best-of-three affair. However, if time permits, the series could be stretched to a best-of-five final.

First game will be played at the rink of the BCJHL champ, with the second and third games set for the home of the PCHL champion.

A total of 337 voting delegates attending the convention, voted on more than 30 resolutions.

Among the resolution session's highlights were:

—A resolution asking that a player be suspended for a minimum of one year for abusing a referee, was unanimously defeated.

—The Lower Mainland's application for two members of the BCAHA executive was carried.

—Despite opposition from senior A and junior A leagues, a resolution making three officials mandatory at all tournament and playdowns, supervised by the BCAHA, was carried.

APPEALS DENIED

Eight appeals were heard by the BCAHA executive's appeal board, two of them involving Vernon players.

The board ruled suspensions against Terry Lowe, from April 14 to Nov. 30, and Bob Johnstone, from March 28 to Dec. 15, will stand.

Both players were members of the Vernon midget reps when suspended.

The A.C.T.
Vernon, presents
ALL NEW
THIS YEAR


Tennant trims training camp

Vernon Vikings' coach Joe Tennant cut his training camp roster to 33 Sunday by releasing 15 players.

Another four or five players will hit the chopping block today.

Vikings open their exhibition season Wednesday in Revelstoke when they battle Bellingham Blazers. Thursday, the same two clubs will meet in Vernon.

Meanwhile, the BCJHL announced it has set a Sept. 25 deadline for Spokane Jets to make peace with the B.C. and Canadian Amateur Hockey Associations.

Brian Couling, BCJHL president, said Sunday, unless the Jets, formerly known as the Rockets, can settle their differences with the two hockey bodies by that date, the league is prepared to play the 1974-75 season without a Spokane entry.

The dispute arose over charges by the Manitoba Amateur Hockey Association that the Jets had tampered with 11 Manitoba hockey players.

Two exhibition games between the Vikings and Jets, scheduled for next week, have been cancelled.

At an emergency meeting late Sunday in Kelowna, the league discussed admitting Spokane, despite a ruling from the BCAHA banning the Jets from play this year.

However, that would have meant the league going outlaw and Couling said he did not feel, at this time, it was in the best interest of the league to become independent.

Nationals defeated by Blues

Vernon Lodge Blues dumped Vernon Nationals 5-2 in Okanagan Senior Soccer League action Sunday at