

JUNIOR "B" HOCKEY

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Tape 69, 2+3

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Darlene Clyne - Researcher

- As soon as Richmond got the ice rink in 1965, I was put on the Executive in an election they had on Sea Island Forum.
- I was made Manager of the Midget and Juvenile Divisions.
- Juvenile goes up to 18 years of age.
- There is only one team of Juveniles.
- I played against the Delta team and Killarney.
- When those kids grew up they were too old to play Juvenile Hockey, that's when we started talking about Junior Hockey.
- Greg Walters was coaching at that time and he wanted to start a Junior team going.
- Stu McGraw was President of the Minor Association at that time.
- We couldn't do anything with the Minor, we had to take them out from the Minor Association, we couldn't depend on them for any money other than the players came up through the Minors.
- My greatest ambition was to see all Richmond boys in Junior "B" Hockey.
- We had about seven or eight boys from Richmond; six or seven boys from Vancouver, Burnaby and other areas.
- The Municipality in those days had a law which said you'll have to have 60% of Richmond players on any hockey clubs that played out of our Arena.
- Stu McGraw was the one who found Bob Shaw who gave us \$1,000.00 to get us started.
- We formed a Junior "B" Hockey; at the time there were Burnaby, Coquitlam, Grandview and Richmond.
- Greg Walters and Grant Davis were coaches at that time.
- Two years later Kerisdale and North Vancouver came into the League.
- Our team was called the Richmond Juniors and the uniform colours were white and blue.
- The first year (1966-67) we got in the back door---we ended up in Comox in the playoffs for B. C.
- The following year (1967-68) we had the biggest crowd for one of our

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- playoff games---there were over 1,100 people in the Arena.
- We went into three periods of sudden death over-time before Grandview scored on us and put us out of the finals.
 - The next year we got knocked off early in our playoffs.
 - From there on we started to go down hill; there were too many hassles.
 - Kids supplied their own sticks, skates, pads; all we supplied were the sweaters, pants and socks.
 - The money for the sweaters, etc. came out of the \$1,000.00 we got to get us started, we did supply sticks but if the kids wanted better ones, they bought their own.
 - Normally we had about 30 boys in the try-outs.
 - Stu McGraw was our Publicity Man.
 - Dale Thompson was our Financial Secretary.
 - Bob Hammond and Tom Shaw were Directors.
 - Andy Todd was our Equipment Manager.
 - Lorraine Croom was bill collector, door-man, and ticket taker.
 - There were lots of work in getting this team started.
 - In 1966 went to Roy Hammond, Manager of the Richmond Arena, and he told me "I was crazy" we would never get Junior "B" Hockey going in Richmond.
 - He didn't think there were enough people who would come to and be interested in hockey.
 - We averaged 300 - 400 people during our Junior "B" game.
 - The boys played two games a week and usually had one to two practices.
 - The age limit on Junior "B" Hockey was 18 but we had some 15 year olds playing for us.
 - The kids who set the record for the best three goals were 15 year olds.
 - Ray Todd, Doug Hammond, and Neil Murphy scored three goals in 21 seconds.
 - As far as I know, Neil Murphy is down in the States playing pro-hockey.
 - This team was really good, I really enjoyed those kids.