

CONNAUGHT FIGURE SKATING CLUB

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Tape 68, 1

Mrs. Kane,
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Darlene Clyne - Researcher

- Club started at the old curling rink in Vancouver then moved to the Forum at the P.N.E.
- Both the Vancouver Club and the Connaught Club operated out at the Forum.
- We lived in Richmond at the time and had to travel to the Forum, approximately 15 miles, for at least five time a week and maybe eight times some weeks.
- Discusses the carnivals they used to produce every year and how they travelled around to different towns in B. C.
- 1965, Club folded in Vancouver, very few memberships because of so many arenas opening up in different areas.
- Debt oweing to P.N.E. when club folded had to clear before we could bring it to Richmond.
- Tom Downey and myself spoke to the P.N.E. Directors and gave them our office and furnishings to the Forum to pay off the \$300.00 debt.
- Mrs. Hawkins and myself got in touch with Mr. Hammond, Manager of the Richmond Arena, in regards to setting up ice time for the Connaught Club in Richmond.
- As soon as we got that settled, the Club was on its way.
- In the beginning we could only get ice three times a week.
- We had a senior session and a junior session - most of your money comes from junior sessions.
- To obtain memberships Mrs. Hawkins and myself put a notice in the paper for children to come and register.
- We started with two junior sessions, Mondays and Fridays, and senior session on Sunday evenings.
- We got all our office equipment, costumes, records, trophies (about \$2,000.00 worth) from the Forum, so we were more than ready to start the Club.

Sports
Ice Rinks
Richmond 1965
Connaught

Mrs. Kane

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- One of our first professionals to start was Marilyn (Proudfoot) Woods.
- Marilyn skated with the Connaught Club when it was in Vancouver.
- The group lessons used to be 25¢.
- Susan Kane and Irlene Hawkins took past tests and past them to become figure skating coaches; they in turn coached group session for the Club.
- Discusses the first meeting of directors in forming the club in Richmond.
- 1966 was the first Ice Show in Richmond. Had the Vancouver's White Spot Pipe Band for the opening number.
- Karen Magnussen also skated at the opening of the first ice show.
- Discusses the problems of the hockey netting in the Arena and how the Club bought a new \$500.00 portable netting for the Arena so it could be taken down for the ice shows.
- The first year juniors paid \$16.00 registration fee and seniors paid \$20.00; family memberships were \$45.00.
- Was shocked to see that after I had quit the club they put the memberships up so high.
- When I was on the Board of Directors, we had \$7,000.00 in the treasury so the membership didn't need to go up.
- There were twenty kids to a group; they had fifteen minutes of instruction and one hour and forty-five minutes of practise skating.
- All amateur coaches were volunteers.
- Discusses the expense of a carnival, costumes, lighting, curtains, etc.
- Skating Clubs put on a carnival every two years.
- The club is sponsored by Canadian Figure Skating Association.
- Every test a skater takes is registered by C.F.S.A.
- The judges of these tests have to pass a certain standard before they qualify to judge.