

MINOR BASEBALL

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Tape 69, 1

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Darlene Clyne - Researcher

- Started coaching a baseball team in 1954.
- I was playing baseball and soccer at the time.
- People came to me and asked if I would coach a baseball team and after that a soccer team, so I coached and also played both sports for about 20 years.
- Played Major Softball for Pilsner Brewery and played Division One Soccer.
- Explains when and why the Little League became B. C. Minor Baseball.
- When we were Little League we sent far too much money to the States and we were getting very little in return for it.
- First team I coached was Hamilton Tigers.
- Had to have \$350.00 to put a team into the league so went to the farmers in the area and collected \$350.00 from them.
- Tommy Okawa also helped and worked with me at that time; this was in East Richmond.
- Later had LaFarge Cement sponsor the team.
- The League was split into different areas: North, South, Central and West Richmond.
- At that time the playing fields in Richmond were good.
- The facilities like the back-stop weren't so good although they are much better now.
- We were playing our games at parks: Hamilton Park and MacDonald Park.
- We used to have the firemen umpire our games and the league supplied the umpires' equipment.
- Now the leagues have an Umpire Organization.
- The umpires used to be all volunteers but now you pay them.
- Used to take up a collection at the parks during the games; sometimes would get as much as \$20.00 - \$30.00 which we had to give to the league president.
- Each league had its own President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

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- In our league, North Richmond, our President was Max Brennan and Secretary, Mrs. Middleton.
- The registration for the boys at that time was \$3.00 per boy.
- It used to cost \$1.00 per boy for Insurance.
- Every league has its own insurance.
- When the league was first started in 1954, the boys paid a dollar registration fee.
- B. C. Minor Baseball pays 35¢ a mile, if it's over 200 miles in travelling costs in Province.
- If out of Province, pays full costs.
- One year B. C. Minor League paid out \$8,000.00 in travelling costs for Richmond teams.
- Too much interference from parents is the coaches' biggest problem..
- Talks about the different Richmond teams that went to the Winnipeg play-offs for the Canadian Championships.
- Discusses about travelling all around B. C. and teaching Coaches Clinic
- Also held Umpires Clinics as well as Coaches Clinics.
- There clinics were held in January, February, and March.
- Baseball starts in April.
- Discusses the rules and regulations of T-Ball.
- Discusses the training methods used when teaching the boy's baseball.