

WAA revamps constitution for increase in efficiency

By MARION CONYBEARE

The Women's Athletic Association is streamlining its constitution in order to make it more efficient. For the last three years the old constitution has kept WAA from playing its role.

Since meeting attendance has fallen off to less than one half, WAA has decided to modify the constitution disregarding the old rules.

The present constitution states that a quorum (two-thirds of all council members) is needed before any constitutional changes can be made and that all constitutional changes must be passed at three consecutive meetings before they are validated.

Last week WAA passed constitutional changes with only 25 members present, approximately half of council.

WAA president Marilyn Cook said the measure was taken after three attempts to draw the council together failed. Notices were sent to all councillors advising them of the constitutional changes Dec. 16, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, and Feb. 10.

The constitution change will give WAA a chance to operate efficiently next year. The new constitution puts only 15 members on the council, a reduction of approximately 35.

Members will come from the various boards under the WAA council jurisdiction . . . intersarsity manager, intramural manager, and sports managers.

The officials club president will be a member of council. The social convener is moved from the publicity board to the executive.

In addition to a general WAA secretary, secretaries will be had for each board. Boards will meet separately and decide on the business connected with themselves without council ratification.

Unit managers and other persons now on WAA will be non-voting members of the council.

Marilyn Cook hopes the new constitution will make women's athletics on campus run smoothly in the future and save time. As it now stands, she says "girls who had finished their responsibilities for a sport at the beginning of the year had to come unnecessarily to help make up a quorum."

Coach Drake draws praise from former Bear players

By RICHARD VIVONE

As you walk into 115A of the physical education building, the first thing one sees is the left wall covered with hockey photos and old newspaper clippings.

As your gaze moves to the left, an unassuming little man sits propped up behind the desk. He greets you with a genuine smile and warm handshake. This is Clare James Drake—teacher and hockey coach on the Edmonton campus of the University of Alberta.

Drake is full time head coach of the highly successful hockey Golden Bears and former assistant coach of the equally accomplished Bears football squad.

The coach will show his stuff Saturday at noon, as he lines up to take part in the first Alumni game.

Since Drake came to Edmonton from the University of British Columbia in the 1957-58 season, the hockey Bears have captured the Hardy Cup six times in nine attempts, have been dominion champions in 1964 and stand an excellent chance of repeating this season.

In a similar period, Alberta has retained the Hamber trophy every year but 1963.

The man has been successful—no one can deny the facts. Why? Who is the man behind the image? What is the diminutive Bear boss really like? What do the players think of him?

To get some answers, we visited some former Bears who have played under him.

Vic Dzurko, an ex-pro, says "Drake is far superior to any coach in the professional ranks today. He was an advisor to the Lacombe team that went to Europe in 1965 and helped the club greatly—he

really meant a lot to the players."

As an example of Drakes influence, Dzurko cited the case of Doug Messier. "Messier was looked over by pro scouts when he

played in the city but they left unimpressed. The next year, Doug played under Drake and at the end of the year he was signed to a pro contract."

"I believe Drake was very instrumental in Messier's improvement as he is one of the finest coaches in hockey," says Dzurko.

The Bear mentor was born in Yorkton, Sask. in 1929. He played junior hockey at Regina and Medicine Hat before moving to UBC where he spent three seasons.

Drake departed overseas to take a player-coach job with a team in Dusseldorf, Germany in 1955.

One of Drake's first players was Al LaPlante. Of Drake, LaPlante says "He is a very dedicated coach and a very astute student of the game of hockey."

"Drake is one of the finest coaches in amateur hockey and he uses psychology to advantage. He will get a lot out of certain players where other coaches have failed."

"Drake's clubs are always in good shape. He helped Lacombe greatly prior to the European tour conditionwise" says the ex-Bear and Edmonton Flyer.

George Severin, a graduate in 1965, says of the Bear coach, "He is tremendous on fundamentals and tough on conditioning. He is progressive in his methods and the players respect him."

Severin continued, "Drake knows how to handle players and he treats them like adults. The man knew what he was talking about."

After the game, Drake is always available for comment whether or not the team wins. And he is civil with the words though sometimes the words are hard to find.

Dick Dunnigan of the 1960 Bears best summed up Drake. "His philosophy on life and hockey is tops. He makes men of boys."



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