

Exasperating

I'm writing this letter in reply to Karen Irving-Judd's letter entitled, Contact. This letter of hers was exasperating, to say the least, and the least I can say is Lady, being interested in the "subject" of women in sports does not entitle you to express such an asinine opinion on something you have apparently never seen played or tried yourself to play. (Sounds to me like you haven't played any sport since you were a youngster.)

No, Karen Irving-Judd, just reading an article on any sport won't do it, because your vision is all blurred. Do you also form such opinions on people you haven't personally met? Do you just read or hear about them and strike them off your list? Think about it.

I personally have played ringette here in Winnipeg for the past six years. We wear protection such as helmets with face masks (no one likes a lady with teeth missing or a cracked nose, you know), shin pads, elbow pads and tube skates. (Figure skates are considered dangerous, because of the picks.) Our team meets once a week, and we skate hard for one hour. Occasionally, we play a game against one of the other six ladies teams in Winnipeg. During my six years as a participator in this fine sport, I have never seen one of the gals wearing a crinoline skirt or having a fit of vapors. We do, however, have our share of bruises, bumps and falls, but not muddy bottoms. Personally, I can't really see how a muddy bottom would turn me on.

In March, one of the city teams put on a Ladies Ringette Tournament. The age limit Karen Irving-Judd — is 25 years and over. Lots of grandmas play, too, and as a result, there could be an age span of 20 years between players. So you see, this game does not have too many "tender young things" playing. Lots of shapes and sizes, but never, never, insipid little Victorians with crinoline skirts. (That line is just priceless.)

— Mrs. Sandy Johnston,
Captain of Charleswood
Ladies Ringettes,
Headingley, Man.