

# Traditional Foes Galena, Kotzebue Play a Game

By LAEL MORGAN

GALENA — Indians and Eskimos — avowed enemies through the centuries of fierce warfare — battled once again this weekend. The two-day contest resulted in a draw and casualties were light on both sides, but the Eskimos of Kotzebue and Indians of Galena are well pleased with the results.

It was the first serious softball competition either group had ever entered and it is hoped a new bush league may result from it.

The match materialized through the efforts of the Galena Sports' Association, a strong village club which developed two good ball teams this spring.

John Evans, a Galena Indian who has lived in Kotzebue since 1964, suggested the Eskimos take on the Indians and Kotze-

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# Eskimo Olympics . . .

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"The Swing Kick." A contestant is tied with a leather belt under his knees and around the nape of his neck so that his head is against his knees.

A ball is suspended in front of the man who then balances himself while tied on his hands so that his feet are clear of the floor. He then kicks at the suspended ball. The man who kicks the highest is the winner.

Another new game is expected to be the "Bench Reach." A man kneels at one end of a bench while a man holds or sits on his lower legs. The contestant then lowers his rigid body over the end of the bench, reaches as far as he could and comes back up to his original kneeling position.

Other games may be added to the already popular Body Weight Contest where the contestant carries four 150 pound, or more, men and walks with them. The longest distance covered wins this one.

There will, of course, be Hi-Kick contests. One with both feet and the other with one foot.

Both records on the two contests are expected to be broken this year as native contestants are becoming more interested and have been training.

The Hi-Kick with both feet is expected to reach 8 feet high this year. A contestant kicks at a suspended ball and lands back on the floor on his feet. The one-foot kick is similar when the contestant lands back on the floor on his kicking foot.

There will be an Indian Stick Pull where brawn and grip count.

There will be a Native Baby Contest which will be under the direction of Mrs. Marie Taylor, daughter of the popular Tundra Times columnist Guy Okakok.

The native babies are required to be dressed in authentic costumes either in Eskimo or Indian. The mothers of the babies are also expected to be dressed in their authentic native attire.

The 1972 Native Beauty Pageant of the Olympics will be under the directorship of Daphne Rylander Gustafson, a former Olympics queen herself. The girls will be required to have quarter native blood, 17 to 21 years old.

There will be, as usual, Eski-

mo and Indian dance groups to perform throughout the three-day Olympics. These groups will be coming from Barrow, Minto, Northway-Tetlin, Nenana and possibly Kotzebue.

There is also a definite possibility that Greenland Eskimos will take part in this year's Eskimo Olympics. This is being worked on by Laura Bergt and Northern Games officials at Inuvik, N.W.T.

This year, there will be two nights of Seal Skinning Contest. The requirement this time is that the skinner's job is neat with minimum of meat on the seal blubber.

During the past years of Eskimo Olympics performances, there has always been vociferous protests from the audiences against numerous photographers.

It has been suggested that overhead lighting for photographers be provided this year as Olympics performers are interfered with by bright lights from the floor, as well as the people in the audience. It was the Tundra Times board's opinion that the Olympics also gets the mass media exposure.

The local mass media and Anchorage will be given one free pass per media. Other media from outside the state will be required to have authentic press passes, or cards, from their parent media.

The master of ceremonies will again be the popular Capt. Bill English of the Wien Consolidated Airlines. He has been emcee for many years in the past.

The Olympics will be held in the University of Alaska's Patty gymnasium again. The new admission charges will be three dollars (\$3.00) per person and two dollars (\$2.00) for children. There will not be any special military rates or any other special rates.

The Tundra Times' Olympics performers will again be housed at the University of Alaska campus and their meals will be furnished at the University Commons facility.

The dance groups will be limited to ten people as they were last year.

The Olympics performances will begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening from Thursday July 27 through Saturday July 29.