

Eskimo-Indian Olympics date announced

By MARGIE BAUMAN

FAIRBANKS—Officials of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics said Monday that the 15th annual games would be held July 29-31 at the University of Alaska, with a new Howard Rock Memorial Trophy to be awarded to the outstanding athlete.

The announcement came from John Heffle, president of the Interior Eskimo Association and chairman of the 1976 games.

In addition to a gold cup for the top athlete, the Olympics committee will establish a perpetual plaque in honor of the late editor of the Tundra Times, listing outstanding athletes for years to come, Heffle said.

Heffle also announced that Sun Television of Tokyo will be filming the games, along with Golden Days festivities in Fairbanks, for viewing in Japan. Portions of the 1975 games were filmed by Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., in addition to the Alaska press corps.

With things still in the planning stage for this year's games, to include a host of

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Native sports and a pageant of beauty queens, Heffle has called a meeting of the Olympics committee for today, at 7:30 p.m. at Careage North, 1949 Gillam. The Olympics committee serves annually on a voluntary basis and anyone wishing to assist is welcome to attend.

Heffle said the committee would meet every other week, until July; then begin meeting at least once a week. A number of volunteers are needed to make the games a success.

Heffle also announced the selection of George Bell, Fairbanks, a board member of the Bering Straits Native Corporation, as co-chairman of the Olympics.

While plans for Canada's

Northern Games the same week at Coppermine will prevent many Canadian Eskimo and Indian athletes from attending the Olympics in Alaska, there are plans to send some Alaskan athletes to the Northern Games and vice versa, said Jerry Woods another member of the Olympics committee.

Athletes interested in participating should advise the Olympics committee in writing. Address correspondence to the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, % Tundra Times, Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

Young women planning to participate in the queen competition should also advise the Olympics committee. Contestants will be judged on poise, beauty and knowledge of their Native culture.