

Paducah Chiefs Asks To Be Released From Valley League

Paducah probably has played its last baseball game in the M-O Valley League.

For the Chiefs asked to be released from this Class D circuit, it was learned here today.

At a league meeting held Thursday night in Centralia, Ill., Polk Brooks, president of the Paducah Baseball Association, requested that Paducah be allowed to withdraw from the league.

He did not mention what the future plans of the Paducah professional baseball club would be, but he did say that there was far too

much travel involved for the Chiefs to remain in the Valley loop.

He told the rest of the league that at a meeting of the board of directors of the Paducah Baseball Association Thursday noon, the board had requested him to ask that Paducah be released from the league.

The travel distance has proved too great a hurdle. Paducah is 80 miles from West Frankfort; Mt. Vernon, 120 miles; Centralia, 135 miles; Vincennes, 180 miles; Mattoon, 220 miles; Springfield, 240 miles; and Paris, 245 miles.

When Paducah got into the Valley League, League President Clarence "Dutch" Hoffman, and other directors, told Paducahans that the league would be "moving south" with possible teams in Missouri, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

Since that time Vincennes, Ind., Paris and Springfield, Ill. have been admitted to the league. Cities now seeking franchises in the Valley are Decatur, Ill., Danville, Ill., and Hannibal, Mo.

Also at the meeting, the directors voted to give the league winner, Centralia \$600, as well as give West Frankfort, Paducah, and Centralia \$200 each equal share in the playoff money.

Centralia beat Mattoon three games to one, and Paducah was leading West Frankfort two games to none when the affair was cancelled because of bad weather.

Brooks was out of town today and could not be reached for comment.