

County Tournament Opens Up

Major Changes – New Look in High School Tourney

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The new look in the Putnam County high school basketball tournament will open at four gymnasiums around the county Tuesday night.

Ottoville will meet Kalida, Glandorf will take on Leipsic, Miller City will battle Ft. Jennings and Ottawa Sts. Peter and Paul will vie against Continental in first round games that night with the winners moving into the second-round next Friday.

Ottoville will meet Kalida at Glandorf with the survivor taking on Pandora-Gilboa in the second round. Glandorf is pitted against Leipsic at Pandora with the winner meeting Ottawa Public

Miller City and Ft. Jennings will play at Ottawa, the winner to take on Vaughnsville; and at the same time, Sts. Peter and Paul will play Continental at Leipsic, the survivor to take on Columbus Grove.

Sites of the second-round games will be determined by the tournament committee Tuesday night following the first-round tilts.

MILLER CITY, Leipsic, Columbus Grove and Kalida were scheduled in that order. It took a vote of the coaches at the drawings in the court house Monday afternoon, to decide the fourth-seeded club as Kalida, Ft. Jennings, Ottoville and Continental were tied for fourth place in the league. Seeding is done according to the league standings. As it turned out, Kalida will meet Ottoville in the first game.

Semi-final games will be Friday, February 24, the sites again to be decided by the tournament committee following the second round. Consolation and final games will be Saturday, February 25th, and here also the places will have to be picked after the previous round of play.

The junior high tournament will be played concurrent with the varsity meet, the junior high teams using the same draw as the varsity. Their games will be played as preliminaries starting at 7 o'clock. Varsity games will begin 20 minutes after the end of the junior high tilts.

Gym doors will open at 6:15 for holders of advance sale tickets. Ticket sales at the gates will begin at 6:30 at all sites.

EACH SCHOOL has been given tickets for their first game and will be allowed to sell any combination of 400 adult and student tickets. Admission prices are 60 and 35

cents. Advance sales will close at noon on the day of the game.

At the same time, referees for the first and second rounds were announced by tournament managers. The four referees who handled last year's meet were rehired, while the new set-up necessitated the hiring of four additional officials.

Last year's referees Elmer Vorderburg and Tom Williams will work the first two rounds at Leipsic, while Ralph Radabaugh and Frank Toth will work at Ottawa.

Working the first two rounds at Pandora will be Dan Perzynski and Fred Hatfield, while at Glandorf will be Don Kirk and Robert Mewhort.

THE TOURNAMENT Committee will assign referees for the semi-finals after the second round and for the finals on the night after the semi-final games.

The first three teams in the tournament will advance to the district tournaments, which are also being split up this year as the county meet.

One team will play at Bluffton, another at Findlay and a third at Defiance. Finals of the Bluffton and Findlay meets will be at Lima.

The tournament manager is Supt. Gaylord Myers of Vaughnsville, while assistant managers are Prin. Mark Quaintance, Ottawa; Supt. Frank Dick, Pandora, and Robert Streight, Leipsic. On the tournament committee are Supts. Charles Karcher, Kalida; Collins Stackhouse, Columbus Grove; Ferd Ball, Miller City, and Charles Dysert, Continental.

For the past 34 years, the entire tournament was played at one of three sites in Ottawa or Leipsic. Tournaments were held at the Armory and Fourth Street Gym in Ottawa or at Leipsic's gym. To go from one site to four sites on the same evening was a major change in the Putnam County Tournament history. Another major change concerned the officials. Until 1954, only two officials worked all the games. In the 1920's, two officials worked as many as 12 to 14 games in two days. In 1955, four officials were used. In 1956, four more officials were hired for a total of eight.