

History of 7th & 8th Boy's Basketball in Putnam County 1975 - 2023

Organized, Junior High basketball has been played in Putnam County since at least 1936. From 1936 to 1965, boys from the 7th, 8th and 9th grades were combined to play on one team. In 1966, the Ohio High School Athletic Association, legislated that the 9th graders would be combined with high school students, or grades 10-12. The 7th and 8th graders would be treated separately. As a result, from 1966 to today, the 9th Grade PCLT includes only 9th graders and schools from Putnam County. The tournament site is alphabetically rotated each year.

In the late 1950's through the mid 1970's, schools in Putnam County started to have individual 7th & 8th grade teams playing interscholastically. However, the season ending tournaments at this level were combination teams from all three grades until 1966. The Junior High tournaments in Putnam County from 1936 - 1940 were invitational tournaments. Delphos St. Johns won the first invitational in 1936. There is no evidence of a tournament in 1941 probably because of World War II. Beginning in 1942, the Junior High tournaments included only Putnam County teams. In 1960, Pandora hosted a tournament in which 7th and 8th graders were put on one team. Miller City won that tournament. From that point on, there were a few invitational tournaments for the 7th and 8th graders run by various organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, CYO and Ottawa SPPS.

Fort Jennings's High School started a Junior High tournament in 1975 in which only 8th graders would play. In 1988, the Putnam County League formed two tournaments, one for 7th graders and one for 8th graders, in which any Putnam County school could enter. This format is still used today and the tournament is alphabetically rotated among the PCL schools.

PCL Tournament Winners

Year	8th Graders Only	7th Graders Only
1975	Kalida	
1976	Kalida	
1977	Fort Jennings	
1978	Ottoville	
1979	Kalida	
1980	Continental	
1981	Miller City	
1982	C.G. St. Anthonys	
1983	Continental	
1984	Kalida	
1985	Miller City	
1986	Miller City	
1987	Ottoville	
1988	Miller City	Continental
1989	Continental	Miller City
1990	Columbus Grove	Ottoville
1991	Columbus Grove	Ottoville
1992	Kalida	Miller City
1993	Miller City	Miller City
1994	Miller City	Miller City
1995	Ottawa Public	Fort Jennings
1996	Fort Jennings	Glandorf
1997	Ottoville	Continental
1998	Kalida	Continental
1999	Continental	Ottawa Public
2000	Glandorf	Kalida
2001	Fort Jennings	Ottoville
2002	Glandorf	Ottoville
2003	Ottawa Public	Fort Jennings
2004	Glandorf	Ottawa SPPS
2005	Ottawa Public	Continental
2006	Ottawa SPPS	Ottoville
2007	Kalida	Kalida
2008	Kalida	Ottawa SPPS
2009	Glandorf	Ottawa SPPS

PCL Tournament Winners

Year	8th Graders Only	7th Graders Only
2010	Ottawa SPPS	Glandorf
2011	Glandorf	Ottawa SPPS
2012	Ottawa SPPS	Leipsic St. Marys
2013	Kalida	Glandorf
2014	Glandorf	Kalida
2015	Kalida	Kalida
2016	Kalida	Ottoville
2017	Ottoville	Ottawa SPPS
2018	Ottawa SPPS	Kalida
2019	Kalida	Miller City
2020	Kalida	Fort Jennings
2021	Fort Jennings	Kalida
2022	Kalida	Miller City
2023	Miller City	Kalida

	8th Grader Winners in the Past 49 Years	7th Grader Winners in the Past 36 Years
Columbus Grove	2	0
C.G. St. Anthonys	1	0
Continental	4	4
Fort Jennings	4	3
Glandorf	6	3
Kalida	14	7
Leipsic	0	0
Leipsic St. Marys	0	1
Miller City	7	6
Ottawa Public	3	1
Ottawa SPPS	4	5
Ottoville	4	6
Pandora-Gilboa	0	0