

History of the Basketball Gymnasiums for Glandorf High School 1922 – 1964

The first newspaper reports of basketball at Glandorf was in 1922 in a game with Kalida. There is no mention of where this game was played, but during this era, basketball was played outside or in any building with a large room. Baskets were attached to a wall with no court markings and limited seating.

GYMNASIUM #1 1922 - 1950

One source stated that Glandorf did not have a gym in which home games were played. All games were played on the road. However, they did have a practice gym in the upstairs of the Town Hall. This building was located across the street from the Glandorf Lumber Building and next to the Fire Station on Main Street.

This practice gym was used for 29 years, 1922-1950. The floor dimensions were 36 x 54. Chicken wire was put across the windows to guard against stray basketballs. There was no seating or locker rooms.

Another source in an article in the Vidette stated that “Glandorf played their home games in an upstairs room of the school. A crowd of 50 fans represented about the maximum which could be squeezed into the quarters.”

There were some years when the Armory was used as a neutral site, but nearly all games were away.

Glandorf’s first known coach was Reverend Anthony Meyer who coached from 1922-1924.

GYMNASIUM #2 1951 - 1964

An article in the Putnam County Sentinel stated that “the dedication of the new parish hall of St. John’s Catholic church in Glandorf will be on Sunday, November 26, 1950, when the Most Reverend Bishop George J. Rehring will officiate at the ceremonies”.

On December 8, 1950, the “Ottoville basketball team spoiled the opening of the new Glandorf gymnasium by defeating the home club in a scrappy county league game 37-32 before a full house”. The leading scorer was Tom Weber with 14 points and the coach was Joe Nienberg.

This gym was used for 14 years, 1951-1964. The floor dimensions were 47 x 82. There were permanent bench seats on three sides. These seats were elevated six feet above the playing court. On one end was a stage. The seating capacity was 900.