

No More Home Sites for Tourney Games

Recommendations by County Supt. Collins Stackhouse
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Putnam County coaches Monday night gave their approval to a new county basketball tournament setup designed to eliminate a number of complaints heard in recent years, and it is believed that local school administrators will follow suit. The recommendations were made by County Supt. Collins Stackhouse.

Under the new setup, no team will play two consecutive nights during the first two rounds and all games will be played on neutral floors. It is designed to eliminate situations, such as this year, when the Ottawa and Continental teams had to play two straight nights and both times on their opponents' home floors.

Starting next year there will be only 10 teams in the county, resulting in six of them drawing byes for the first round. This means four teams will have to play in the first round and these two games will be played on Thursday night.

On Friday night, there will be two games among the teams drawing the byes and on Saturday two more games between winners of Thursday night's games and the other two teams drawing byes.

Semi-finals will be on Friday of the following week and the consolation and championship game on Saturday at Delphos this year. This will mean consecutive nights for the four teams involved but it was not considered a factor

since conditions would be the same for all involved.

GLANDORF, OTTOVILLE, Pandora, and Columbus Grove gyms will be tournament sites, but none of these gyms will be used on the night that that school's team is playing. If the drawing is such that three or four of these schools might be playing on the same night, the Ottawa and Leipsic gyms will be used as alternatives.

In the past several years, the tournament site schools were allowed to play on their home floors because the school administrators felt it was almost impossible to obtain workers if that school's team was playing out of town.

Mr. Stackhouse said that he has also submitted the plan to the school administrators asking them to file any objections with him. To date, he has heard no objections, he said.

The county superintendent had made one recommendation which the coaches did not favor. He had suggested that the consolation game be played in the county on Saturday afternoon and the championship game only be played that night at Delphos.

Coaches, however, voted to play both games at Delphos in the evening, as has been done for the past several years, and it is believed that their decision will stand.