

H.S. Baseball Teams Open Tournament Without Practice

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Regardless of what the weather has been or what the weatherman says, this is the baseball season and the county high school tournament is scheduled to open Friday afternoon.

Practically every team in the county will go into the tournament cold, without any prior games and most with very little practice. The teams have less than two weeks in which to run off the first three rounds of the meet, and decide the district tournament representatives.

The two finalists will enter district tournament play the latter part of this month.

Several coaches have reported that their players have not had a baseball in their hands yet this spring, while others have stated the only practice they have had were inside gymnasiums. While most coaches are concerned about their pitcher's arms, they are not expecting much brilliant play in the tournament and some are entering the tournament only as a matter of formality.

First round games in the tourney pit Ottawa Public against Continental, Glandorf against Fort Jennings, Ottoville against Ottawa Sts. Peter and Paul and Columbus Grove against Miller City.

In second-round games scheduled for next Tuesday afternoon, Vaughnsville will meet the Ottawa Public-Continental winner; Pandora-Gilboa will vie with the Glandorf-Fort Jennings victor; Leipsic will be pitted against the Ottoville-Ottawa SPPS survivor and Kalida will get a crack at the Columbus Grove-Miller City winner.

WINNERS OF the first two games of the second round will meet in the top bracket semi-finals and the other two survivors in the bottom bracket semi-final, and winners of those games will move into the district meet. They will play for the county championship after the district tourney.

Semi-final games are scheduled for Monday, April 22.

In the first round Ottawa SPPS will play at Ottoville, Columbus Grove at Miller City and Fort Jennings at Glandorf. Site of the Ottawa Public-Continental games has not been set. Sites of other games are to be decided by the coaches of the teams involved.

Columbus Grove is the defending county tournament champion. Continental won last fall's league in which Columbus Grove did not participate.