

Brownsville Little Leagues Opening Date Set May 18

Officials of Brownsville's East and West Little Leagues met in joint session last night and set May 18 as the opening day for Little League play here.

The nine-week season will run from May 18 to July 18. This leaves two extra weeks for makeup games and playoffs to determine the city champion. All local Little League play must be finished by Aug. 1. Regional, state and national playoffs will follow the official Aug. 1 closing date.

Each team will play 18 games, two each week. Following the close of regular season play, champions from each league will play a short series to determine the city champion. There will also be at least one game between each league's All-Stars. The All-Star teams will represent the leagues in the regional playoffs.

League play will open with a double-header to be played at

the West Brownsville Little League park. One game will be between two East Brownsville League teams, the other between two West Brownsville teams. After the opening day game, each league will play its games in its own park. The West Brownsville Little League park is near Lions Field in West Brownsville; the East Brownsville Little League park is in Fort Brown.

Pre-season activity will begin April 6. On that date, all new players will report to one of the two parks to pick up questionnaires and official forms. A new player is one who did not participate last year, or one who was not assigned to a regular team last year. All new players living west of the 7th St.-Paredes Line Road boundary will report to the West Brownsville Lions Park. All new players living to the east of the boundary will report to the Kiwanis Little League park.

The registration and tryouts of new players will last for two weeks.

The player auction will be held by May 3.

League officials also voted to schedule night games which will not conflict with night games of the Brownsville Charros.

Tentative plans for farm clubs or minor leagues for the youngsters who are not assigned to one of the four teams in each league were also discussed. Officials pointed out the success of such minor leagues is dependent on enough adults to coach the players volunteering for the jobs. They urged that all adults interested in working with the Little Leagues this season contact Barney Hale, president of the East Brownsville Little League or Gus Vano, president of the West Brownsville Little League. The East league is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, the West league by the West Brownsville Lions Club.

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