

Chase County's home meet pushed back a week to April 22

By Jan Schultz

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Weather this spring has not been cooperative with the track meets on Chase County's 2013 schedule.

Snow and wind forced cancellation of last Friday's Sutherland Invitational. It will not be rescheduled.

And, with the snow and rain forecast early this week, Chase County's home track meet on Tuesday,

April 16, was moved to Monday, April 22.

Events Monday will be as originally scheduled, starting with field events at 9 a.m. Running events start at 10:30 a.m. with the 3200 meter relay.

Originally, six teams were planning to attend the April 16 meet in Imperial. Six will still compete Monday, said A.D. Troy Hauxwell, but Southwest will replace Sutherland.

In between now and then, the Longhorns are also scheduled to compete at the Hershey Invitational this Saturday.

Three of the five meets on Chase County's schedule thus far were either cancelled or postponed due to the weather—Cambridge, Sutherland and Chase County's. The Longhorns have competed in just two meets at Ogallala and Perkins County.

Head track coaches Al Zuege and Carl Zuege said the cancellations and postponements certainly have an effect.

Boys' Coach Carl Zuege said, naturally, they all want to be competing, but the Longhorns have kept up their morale and have had a good attitude.

However, he said lack of competition affects development of technique, especially in many of the field events and hurdles.

"You always pick up something on technique in a contest," he said.

Head Girls' Coach Al Zuege agreed, saying the weather has hampered his team in the areas of conditioning and technique.

The team has been able to be outside for at least part if not all of its practices, except for two days when all of the practice time was held indoors with workouts in the gym

One thing to remember, both coaches said—most other schools are in the same boat.

Coach Al Zuege said he talked to one other coach in central Nebraska whose team had been only in half of one meet so far. They started the meet but received an inch of rain and hail halfway through, when it was called off.

He noted class event leading marks and times across the state are not where they usually are at this time of the season.

"If we are going to have cold and wind, I wish we would get more precipitation with it," he said.

If the weather behaves in the coming weeks, Chase County's schedule will really have the meets stacked up.

After Saturday's invitational in Hershey and Monday's meet in Imperial, the Longhorns will travel to the SPVA Conference meet in Hershey April 26, then to the Best of the Midwest in

Sutherland April 30. The final regular season meet will be just three days later—May 3 in Benkelman.

Junior high meets

It hasn't been any better for Chase County's junior high track teams.

The Shorthorns have only been to one meet so far, the opener April 4 at Dundy County/Stratton.

Perkins County's meet April 11 was not held, and Wednesday's meet this week in Sutherland was cancelled late Tuesday afternoon.