

Second open practice scheduled for Aug. 18

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

For the second consecutive weekend, the Iowa Hawkeyes will hold an open practice at Kinnick Stadium.

This open practice is scheduled to take place Aug. 18, seven days following the Kid's Day open practice that is held annually every August. According to a release sent out Tuesday morning by the UI, gates are scheduled to open for the public at 11 a.m. Central, with the practice set to go from 12:15-2:15 p.m.

The decision to have a second open practice, according to one source, was made by head coach Kirk Ferentz on Monday. Following the Kid's Day practice held last weekend, which didn't feature a plethora of players due to minor injuries, Ferentz voiced some frustration.

"It makes it hard to make progress, certainly," Ferentz said. "It makes it hard to evaluate the team."

Ferentz hinted at the possibility of something like this happening, saying "I think if we had enough time, I'd do another Fan Day Saturday." He went on to explain how important he thought it would be for the underclassmen, especially the ones who missed the Aug. 11 practice, to have the experience of practicing in front of a crowd before the season began.

"It's a big deal for the younger guys, just to have the music playing and all that stuff that distracts them typically," Ferentz said. "We'll have to create some of that because we're a young team right now."

The release also stated that there wouldn't be an post-practice autograph session as there was following Kid's Day and that concession stands at Kinnick Stadium wouldn't be open for the Aug. 18 open practice.