

Eleven former Wadsworth High School athletes, along with one inductee for Meritorious Service to Wadsworth athletics. and one current Wadsworth head coach will be inducted into the Wadsworth Sports Hall of Fame on October 10, 2026. The Sports Hall of Fame induction will take place at the Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth. Social hour will run from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, with dinner beginning at 6:30, and the induction ceremony to follow. Guest tickets can be purchased for \$60 adult and \$ 30 for children online at www.eventbrite.com (enter "Wadsworth High School Sports Hall of Fame Banquet").

To be inducted are former standout Grizzly athletes Sarah (Berger) Winkler, Peyton Booth, Jessie (Gearhart) Combs, Leah (Runkle) McCrory, Paige (Szabat) Mason, Sheldon Brandenburg, Nate Ball, Brandon House, Sean Kemmerer, Kenny Owens, and Jacob Sussman, along with Meritorious Service, Craig Easterday and Head Girls basketball coach Andrew Booth.

Sarah (Berger) Winkler was the co-Outstanding Female Senior Athlete in 2014 at Wadsworth High School, after earning four varsity letters in soccer and track, and 1st team All League honors in both sports. She set the Wadsworth school record in the 1600, and was a member of the school record 4x800 relay in track. She was All-Ohio in track in the 1600, 4x800, and 4x400. She then ran cross country and track at Walsh University, where she won the 2018 Division 2 Cross Country National Championship in 2018, won the 2018 Division 2 National Championship in the 1500 on the track, was the Great Midwest Athletic Conference's Runner of the Year and Female Athlete of the Year in 2017, and was an eight time All-American. Sarah is currently a practicing PA in women's health at OBGYN Associates of Akron. She lives in Medina with her husband, Nate, and their dogs, Bosco and Tuna.

Peyton Booth was the co-Outstanding Female Senior Athlete in 2014 at Wadsworth High School, and also the Medina Gazette Female Athlete of the Year. She earned three varsity letters in volleyball, along with earning All-Suburban League, All-Medina County, All-District, and All-Ohio honors. She was the Medina Gazette MVP in volleyball, and also in basketball, a sport in which she earned four letters, along with All-Suburban League, All-Medina County, All-District, and All-Ohio honors. She was also named to the Medina Gazette All-Decade Team for basketball for the decade of 2011-2020. She earned a Division 1 college scholarship to the University of New Hampshire, where she was a four year letter winner and two year captain. Peyton lives in New Hampshire, where she works as a technical recruiter at Seaglass Technology Partners. In addition, she was recently named the new High School girls head basketball coach at Oyster River High School in Durham, New Hampshire. Her father, Coach Andrew Booth is also being inducted into the Wadsworth Athletic Hall of Fame in this class.

Jessie (Gearhart) Combs was the Outstanding Female Senior Athlete in 2012 at Wadsworth High School following a career during which she earned seven varsity letters (three in basketball, two in soccer, and two in track). On the basketball court, She earned All-Suburban League 1st team, All-Medina County 1st team, All-NE Inland District 1st team, and All-Ohio honors. In soccer, she was 1st team All-Suburban League, All-Medina County, and All-District. In track, she was a Suburban League Champion in the 4x100 and 4x200 relays. She went on to play soccer at Walsh University, where she was a four year letter winner, team captain for 2 years, All-GLIAC all four years, and led the team in scoring three out of the four years. Jessie currently lives in Wadsworth with her husband, Ryan. They have two boys (Cooper and Kai), and a daughter on the way.

Leah (Runkle) McCrory was a four year letter winner in both soccer and track at Wadsworth High School. As a soccer player, she was two time All-Ohio (1st team in 2012), and she was a three time All-District and All-Suburban League selection. She is the school record holder in career goals (84), season goals (32), and goals in a game (5). In track, she was All-Ohio in the 4x800 relay and the 4x400 relay, was a State qualifier in the 400 meter run, and is a member of the school record 4x800 relay. She was also the Suburban League champion and the District champion in the long jump. She was named the Post Girls Athlete of the Year in 2013. She then played soccer and ran track at Bowling Green University. Leah currently lives in Michigan with her husband, Andrew, her son, Malakai, and her two cats (Momo and Nala). She practices yoga daily. She is a yoga instructor, and she is the chief of operations for Simply J, a consulting firm specializing in supporting holistic and other niche industries.

Paige (Szabat) Mason ran cross country and track at Wadsworth High School. In cross country, she qualified for the State cross country meet in 2008, 2009, and 2011, and earned All-Ohio honors all three years. In track, she graduated with school records in the 1600, 3200, and 4x800 relay. She was a three time Suburban League champion in the 3200, and was also Suburban League champion in the 1600 and 4x800 relay. She was a two time state qualifier in the 3200. She went on to run both cross country and track at Division 1 West Virginia University, where she was Academic All-Big 12, and ran in the Division 1 Cross Country National Championship race. Paige graduated college in 2016, and then attended law school in Houston, Texas. She has been a practicing attorney for 7 years. Currently, Paige lives in Denver, Colorado, with her husband and their 2 dogs.

Sheldon Brandenburg wrestled at Wadsworth High School and was a key member of Wadsworth's Division 1 State Championship team in 2010. He was 5th in the State that year at 160 pounds. He was the State runner up in 2011. He was a USA Junior Freestyle and Greco State champion wrestler while at Wadsworth High School and qualified and wrestled in the USA Junior National Tournament in Fargo, North Dakota. He went on to wrestle at Cleveland State University. Sheldon still lives in Wadsworth. He works in Medina for a fabrication company called Kraft Werks Engineering. He enjoys fishing in his free time.

Nathan Ball wrestled at Wadsworth High School and was a member of Wadsworth's Division 1 State Championship team in 2010. He was 6th in the state that year. He was then the state runner up in 2011. While wrestling at Wadsworth, he also won three Suburban League championships, three Sectional championships, and two District championships, in addition to qualifying for the State tournament three times. Nathan also earned a 6th place finish at The Ironman Tournament, one of the Nation's toughest high school wrestling tournaments. He went on to wrestle at Lake Erie College. Nathan has been a police officer for 11 years, and has served on the Wadsworth police force for the past 7 years, including as a School Resource Officer for Wadsworth City Schools. He lives in Wadsworth with his wife, Nicole, and their three children, Cecelia, Myles, and Lilliana.

Brandon House was a three year starter at goalkeeper for the Wadsworth High School soccer team. He was a two time team captain, three time 1st team All-Suburban League and All-Medina County selection, and a two time 1st team All-Akron District selection and All-Region in 2009. He was selected 2nd team All-Ohio in 2008 and 1st team All-Ohio in 2009. Brandon was the Medina County MVP in soccer in 2009, and holds the Wadsworth record for career shutouts (27). He continued his soccer career as the goalkeeper at Walsh University. Brandon has built a career in the mental health and addiction field, and he currently works as a clinical coordinator for a nonprofit organization in Akron. He is a Licensed Social Worker, and he recently completed his Master of Social Work degree. He enjoys being near the water, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

Sean Kemmerer was a track and field standout at Wadsworth High School. He is the school record holder in the 110 meter hurdles, running 14.17 in 2008. He was the Suburban League champion in the hurdles in 2008, was a two time District champion, and was All-Ohio in that event. He was also a two time District champion in the high jump (jumping 6'2"), and ran on a 4x100 relay team that won the Suburban League and District championships and also set the Wadsworth school record in 2008. Sean was a 1st team All-Medina County selection in 2007 and 2008. He ran track at Ashland University, where he holds the freshman indoor 60 meter hurdle record (8.23 seconds). Sean currently works for All About Windows, a company based in Wadsworth. He lives in Wadsworth with his wife, Roni, and their 2 children, and they own Cambria's Bistro, a restaurant in downtown Wadsworth.

Kenny Owens was the Outstanding Male Senior Athlete at Wadsworth in 2007, after a career during which he earned three varsity letters in football (a sport in which he was 1st team All-Suburban League), and four more letters in track. As a pole vaulter in track, he was the Suburban League champion in 2007, and the District champion in 2006 and 2007. In 2007, he was 6th in the State in the pole vault, earning him All-Ohio honors. He continued his track career at the University of Akron, where he was the MAC champion in the pole vault in 2011, advanced to the NCAA Championship Meet, and had a personal record in the pole vault of 16'8". He was also 9th in the MAC in the decathlon in 2009. Kenny is the General Superintendent at Williams Concrete, and he serves on the apprenticeship board for Local 109 cement masons. He lives in Wadsworth with his wife, Kaitlin. They have a 6 year old daughter, Korrie, and a second daughter on the way.

Jacob Sussman was a four year letter winner in track and a two year letter winner in soccer while at Wadsworth High School. In 2010, he had three All-Ohio finishes in track, which included a 7th place in the State in the 1600, a 3rd place in the State in the 4x400 relay, and a State championship in the 4x800 relay with a State record time of 7:39.72. He was also All-Ohio in the 4x800 relay in 2009 with a 5th place finish. Jacob then ran Division 2 track and cross country at Ashland University, where he was a three time All-American, placing 8th in the Nation in the indoor mile in 2013, 7th in the indoor distance medley relay in 2013, and 7th in the outdoor distance medley relay in 2013. Jacob still lives in Ashland and works at Ashland University, where he is the Head Cross Country Coach and the Director of Operations for Track and Field. He has helped take the track teams to nine top 4 finishes at the NCAA Championships, with three of those being team National Championships. He has coached 14 All-Americans.

Craig Easterday will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service to Wadsworth athletics. Craig graduated from Wadsworth High School in 1979, where he was awarded three varsity letters as the basketball team manager. After graduation from high school, he became the statistician for the boys basketball team for the 1979-80 season, and he has remained the team statistician since that time. Next season will be his 50th season involved with the basketball program; during that span, he has missed less than 15 boys basketball games. Craig is a member of the Medina County Athletic Hall of Fame, as the 2006 Al Thomas Award winner, which is given annually to an individual who has made a large impact on the local sports scene in a support role. Craig lives in Barberton with his wife of 31 years, Debbie, and their dog, Trixie. He recently retired from the United States Postal Service after 33 years.

Andrew Booth will be inducted into the Hall of Fame as the Head Girls Basketball coach at Wadsworth High School, a position he has held for 21 years as of March 2026. He is a prominent figure in Ohio high school sports, recently surpassing 500 career wins and earning recognition as a top coach in the State. He is the winningest girls coach in Medina County history with over 500 wins. He was named the Medina County Girls Coach of the Decade for the 2011-2020 decade, during which Wadsworth compiled a record of 213-52, won seven District championships, won two Regional championships, and won the State championship in 2016 (with a 28-1 record that season). His Lady Grizzly teams have totaled 14 Suburban League championships, 11 District championships, and they have made the State Final Four 4 times, including their 2016 State Championship. The Wadsworth Girls basketball team has amassed a record of

418-116 since Coach Booth took over the program in 2005. Coach Booth lives in Wadsworth with his wife, Rachel. They have two children, both Wadsworth graduates: son Alec (class of 2016), and daughter Peyton (class of 2014) who is also being inducted into the Wadsworth Athletic Hall of Fame in this class.