

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2025

Wellington North Council recognizes local athletes for Outstanding Achievements in Sports

Eight individual athletes, three teams recognized by Council for their outstanding achievements on Wednesday, May 7 in Kenilworth

WELLINGTON NORTH – Wellington North Council hosted its fourth Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Sports Night on Wednesday, May 7 at the Council Chambers in Kenilworth.

Eight individual athletes and three teams were recognized by Council for their accomplishments during their respective sports seasons.

"On behalf of Council, staff and residents of the Township of Wellington North, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to all of the athletes recognized as part of our Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Sports program," said Mayor Andy Lennox. "Your dedication and hard work have been rewarded with your great achievements this year. You have all been great ambassadors for the Township of Wellington North. Your community is proud of you."

Grayson Dann and Hudson Dann

Grayson Dann (Skip) and Hudson Dann (Lead) were members of the Palmerston Farm Boys team that won the Ontario Elementary Curling Championship, held in Palmerston April 3-6. The team beat 63 other teams in the four-day event to win the provincial title in a tight 3-2 Championship Game, stealing two points in the final end to win.

Charlotte Cunningham

Charlotte Cunningham was recognized for achievements in not one, but two sports: kickboxing and moguls skiing.

Cunningham won silver in the Junior A Light Kick 42kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships. She fights out of RISE Combat in Mount Forest.

On the slopes, Cunningham won gold in the U12 category at the Provincial Mogul Championships in February, held at Horseshoe Valley. She also won gold at the provincial qualifier at Calabogie Peaks. This was her first year of competitive skiing, representing the Beaver Valley Ski Club.

Kennedy Ray

Kennedy Ray is a 13-year-old Mount Forest resident who has been kickboxing since 2021 at RISE Combat in Mount Forest. She followed up her provincial championship from 2023 with another in 2024, capturing gold in the Junior B Light Kick 42kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships, held in Toronto in December.

Kieran Romanowski

Kieran Romanowski of Mount Forest is a kickboxer, training at RISE Combat in Mount Forest. The 13-year-old captured the national championship in his division in 2024 and followed that up with a gold medal in the Junior B Light Kick 57kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships, held in Toronto in December.

Logan Brookes

Logan Brookes is a kickboxer training out of RISE Combat in Mount Forest. Brookes won gold in the Junior B Kick Light 47+ kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships, held in Toronto in December.

Taylor Krueger

Taylor Krueger is a kickboxer training out of RISE Combat in Mount Forest. Kreuger won gold in the Junior B Kick Light 60kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships, held in Toronto in December.

Thomas Rushton

Thomas Rushton is a kickboxer training out of RISE Combat in Mount Forest. Rushton won silver in the Junior B Kick Light 63kg category at the 2024 WAKO Provincial Championships, held in Toronto in December.

The athletes from RISE Combat will be participating in the WAKO National Championships, which take place from May 8-11 at the International Centre in Mississauga.

Mount Forest Rams U11 B Girls

The Mount Forest Rams U11 B Girls team had a season to remember. The team had a win-loss-tie record of 51-4-5 this season, including playoffs. The U11 B Rams captured gold at the Barrie Sharkfest tournament in November 2024 and at the Meagan Byers Memorial Tournament in Mount Forest in January. They also won silver at the London Devilettes tournament in February. At the OWHA Provincial Championships in April, the

team won silver after a hard fought 2-0 loss to North Middlesex in the championship game.

Team members include Cataleya Hutchison, Karli Reeves, Scotty McLeod, Danica Farrell, Lexi McCarey, Sophia Gibson, Harper Officer, Kyla McIntosh, Rosie Bodendistle, Briar Richardson, Trinity Hume, Kenna McCorquodale, and Anna Burns.

Arthur Vipers U13 LL

The Arthur Vipers U13 LL team finished first overall in the WOAA White South Playoff Division with a 6-1-1 record. As a result, the team advanced to the WOAA White Championship series against Saugeen Shores, winning the best-of-three series 2-0 while only allowing one goal.

Team members include Ryker Anderson, Mason Bingelman, Jamie Culp, Sawyer Fowlie, Mason Haworth, Levi Hostrawser, Jaxon Marshall, Trace Morrison, Nicolas O'Donnell, Levi Pereda, Eric Rooney, Hudson Springall, Jonathan Stevenson, Jacob Tearle, and Corey Vevoort.

Arthur Vipers U18 LL #1

The Arthur Vipers U18 LL #1 team were a force to be reckoned with during the regular season, finishing atop the standings with a 14-2-2 record. Their momentum carried over to the playoffs, where the team finished first in the WOAA Maroon South Playoff Division with a 7-1 record.

In the WOAA Championship series, the Vipers faced Saugeen Valley #1 and won a hard-fought best-of-three series 2-1 to win the championship. This season marked the fourth consecutive year a U18 LL team from Arthur has won the WOAA Championship.

Team members include Samuel Bratto, Clare Driscoll, Simon Grasman, Nathan Hasson, William Hessels, Cameron Hobbs, Drew Hobbs, Kian Hope, Jessy Lamont, Ethan McDougall, Owen McDougall, Nick Roubos, Jake Simon, Keagan Stewart, Braeden Vandongen and Joel Hasson.

More information about Council's Recognition of Outstanding Achievements in Sports Program can be found online at <u>www.wellington-north.com</u>.

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Attachments

- Mayor Lennox with Hudson Dann and Grayson Dann of the Palmerston Farm Boys curling team.

- Mayor Lennox with RISE Combat athletes Charlotte Cunningham, Kennedy Ray, Kieran Romanowski, Logan Brookes, Taylor Krueger and Thomas Rushton.

- Mayor Lennox with members of the Mount Forest Rams U11 B Girls hockey team.

- Mayor Lennox with members of the Arthur Vipers U13LL team.

- Mayor Lennox with members of the Arthur Vipers U18LL #1 team.

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