

CPP SPORTS HALL OF FAME

MARCH NEWSLETTER



After waiting for two years and then another day due to a snow event, the Corning-Painted Post Sports Hall of Fame, Board of Directors finally officially inducted the Class of 2020 into the Hall of Fame on Sunday afternoon, March 13, 2022.

John Abercrombie &
Lisa Hohman

The event took place at the Corning Museum of Glass with a smaller than usual gathering due to the lingering issues of the pandemic. Of the 15 inductees of the Class of 2020, only eight were able to make it to the ceremony.

With Hall of Fame secretary Larry French serving as Master of Ceremonies, the Class of 2020 was presented to the crowd with the eight inductees that were in attendance. Hall of Fame President Rich Fiacco got the afternoon underway with the invocation and memorial to deceased members prior to his President's welcome speech.

Due to some of the restrictions that were in effect at CMOG, the only special guests we had in attendance were George Bacalles and his mother Mary. They were on hand to announce the Bacalles Award winners from the past two years that were honored at the school district's annual Scroll Banquet.

Inductees in attendance delighted the crowd with their stories and remarks as each one had a chance to speak. The main theme for all induction was the thanking of parents, family, coaches and teammates. All explained they would not have been in their current place without all those people in their lives.

The Corning Painted Post Sports Hall of Fame, Class of 2020 consisted of the following:

Bowling – Scott Doan

Lacrosse – Caitlin Cavallaro, Mallory Frysinger, Haley Lukefahr, Lisa Hohman and Tyler White

Football – Danny Joe Giannone and Matt Rhodes

Softball – Chaylen Andolino, Hailey Blencowe and Megan Lewis

Powerlifting – Jacob Bigelow

Track & Field – Peter McCarty and Alexandria Nagle

Archery – Jeffery Blodgett

Prior to the ceremony at CMOG, all inductees and their families and friends were invited to a reception at the VFW in Corning on Friday night, March 11th. That event was catered by the Woodhouse Stadium Grill of Corning and attracted close to 60-70 people. It gave everyone a chance to relax and plenty of time to talk with other inductees. It's the first time the Board of Directors planned a reception like this and it went very well.

The Class of 2020 was hailed by vice-president John Abercrombie at the reception for their perseverance and patience. When the ceremony was originally set for Saturday, March 14, 2020, we were cancelled just two days in advance due to the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. There was no ceremony scheduled for the following year but everyone waited patiently.

The Board of Directors was finally allowed to hold a meeting at the end of August 2021. Not knowing what would happen and when it would happen, they made plans at their monthly meetings to hold an event in March of 2022.

Finally, plans were all set, although a bit restricted, and despite not being able to have a full sit down dinner as they had for the previous 45 years, the ceremony was all a go. Until the snow arrived on Saturday morning. Then the event was postponed and pushed back to Sunday afternoon. With everyone's patience tested once again, Sunday afternoon went on without a hitch, a testament to the Board of Directors and the Class of 2020.

The Board of Directors would like to thank the Class of 2020 for hanging in there and finally able to enjoy the fruits of their labors. The Board of Directors also has invited the Class of 2020 to be special guests at the Induction Ceremony scheduled for March of 2023. The Board would also like to thank the folks at CMOG for working with them and finally getting this done. Another huge thank you also goes out to anyone who has supported the Hall of Fame over the years, especially over the past couple of years.

When the ceremony concluded, you could almost hear a sigh of relief. It took two years and an extra snow day, but the deed done.

The Class of 2020 is now official and their names have been added to the plaques that hang on the walls of the Visitor's Center just off Centerway Square.