

Basketball Records of Putnam County

I have compiled a list of records in Putnam County for girls' basketball in the following areas:

1. Most coaching wins
2. PCL winners by school
3. Most team wins in a season
4. Individual game, season and career leaders
5. Team game and season leaders

In each of these categories, the list of players or teams is quite lengthy; the rankings may vary from 50-100.

Many of these individual and team accomplishments have been lost since many schools have not kept their scorebooks and stat sheets up to date. I am still searching for this "lost" information by contacting former coaches and looking through past newspapers.

Coaching Records

Dave Kleman, who coached the girls at Ottoville for 27 years, 1993-2019, leads Putnam County with 532 wins. Gary Kreinbrink, who coached for 39 years at East Knox and Leipsic, is second with 514 wins.

PCL Winners

Ottoville and Kalida have dominated the PCL in girls' basketball. Ottoville has won 19 times and Kalida 18 times. Ottoville won its first championship in 1977 and Kalida in 1979.

High Scoring Players in a Game

The two most prolific scorers are Carol Lammers, a 1977 graduate of Miller City and Char Smith, a 1984 graduate of Continental.

Carol scored 33 or more points in a game 14 times, punctuating her amazing game scoring feats with a Putnam County record of 52 points against Delphos St. Johns in 1977.

Char's scoring feats were also astounding as she scored 33 points or more 11 times with a high of 43.

High Scoring Teams in a Game

The first girls' team to score over 100 points in a game was Kalida in 1981 when the Wildcats defeated poor Perry 104-21.

Miller City and Kalida share the current record with 106 points. Miller City accomplished their scoring feat in 2004 against Tinora and Kalida against Columbus Grove in 1998.

Top Individual Scorers in a Season

Karla Wenzlick, one of the many great players from Ottoville, scored 583 points in 26 games in 1996 to lead Putnam County in this category.

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Lauren Slusser from Columbus Grove, scored 552 points in 23 games in 2002.

Char Smith had two seasons, 1983 and 1984, in which she scored 547 and 540 points respectively, but only played 22 games in each year.

Top Scoring Teams in a Season

The Kalida girls scored 1,767 points in 1989 and averaged 65 points to lead Putnam County.

Four schools have averaged 70 or more points per game over an entire season.

Pandora-Gilboa averaged 71 points in 1987, Ottawa-Glandorf 71 in 1991, Kalida 70 in 1998 and Fort Jennings 70 in 1985.

1,000 Points in a Career

In the history of Putnam County basketball, 57 girls have scored 1,000 points or more in their careers. Karla Wenzlick, a 1996 Ottoville graduate, leads the list with 1,851 points.

Sister/Father/Mother Daughter Combinations

There is only one sister combination to have accomplished this feat. The Wenzlick sisters from Ottoville, Karla, a 1996 graduate and Tracy, a 1995 graduate, scored 1,851 and 1,364 points respectively.

There are two father/daughter combinations.

Ken Vennekotter, a 1958 graduate of Miller City, scored 1,325 points and his daughter, Amy, a 1988 MC graduate, scored 1,149 points.

A second father/daughter combination was at Fort Jennings. Duane Luebrecht, a 1974 graduate, finished with 1,049 points and his daughter, Kristen, a 2000 graduate, scored 1,231 points.

There are two mother/daughter combinations.

Rhonda 'Unverferth' Osterhage, a 1981 Kalida graduate, scored 1,194 points and her daughter, Kylie, a 2016 Wildcat graduate, scored 1,065 points.

A second mother/daughter combination was at Ottawa-Glandorf. Sandy Buddelmeyer – White, a 1989 graduate, scored 1,059 points and her daughter, Kylie, a 2017 graduate, scored 1,056.

Undefeated Teams

In the modern era of girls' basketball, two teams have gone undefeated in regular season and tournament play. In 1988 and 1989, Kalida posted 27-0 records to win back-to-back state championships.

In the early days of girls' basketball before there were any state tournaments, three teams were undefeated in the regular season and the Putnam County Tournament. In 1922, Ottawa was 15-0, in 1930 Crawfis College was 19-0 and in 1932, Columbus Grove was 9-0.

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There have been seven teams that have had undefeated regular seasons, but lost in the tournament.

In 1998, the 24-1 Kalida Wildcats went 19-0 before losing to Hopewell-Loudon in the Regionals.

In 2004, the 25-1 Miller City Wildcats went 20-0 before losing to Mansfield St. Peter in the State Semi-Finals.

In 2005, the 24-1 Ottawa Glandorf Titans went 20-0 before losing to Akron Hoban in the Regionals.

In 2010, the 23-1 Ottoville Big Green went 20-0 before losing to Fort Loramie in the Regionals.

In 2012, the 23-1 Ottoville Big Green went 20-0 before losing to Arlington in the Regionals.

In 2013, the 27-1 Ottoville Big Green went 22-0 before losing to Fort Loramie in the State Semi-Finals.

In 2017, the 27-1 Ottawa-Glandorf Titans went 22-0 before losing to Kettering Alter in the State Semi-Finals.