



SEAN MCDERMOTT

HEAD COACH

Sean McDermott was named head coach of the Bills on January 11, 2017. With five playoff appearances under his belt in his first six seasons, he methodically transformed the culture of a franchise that had not experienced a postseason berth since 1999.



"Sean is a proud, Christian, determined man," said Bills owner Terry Pegula. "I remember before his interview for the Bills head coaching job thinking about him being a two-time National Prep Wrestling Champ. I thought to myself, you wrestled, you're determined, you love what you're doing and you won. He comes to the Bills everyday and will never ask anyone, player or coach to do anything he wouldn't do."

McDermott is ranked 1st in team history in win percentage and ranked third in franchise history in wins behind Marv Levy (123) and Lou Saban (70).

From 2020-22, the Bills captured three consecutive AFC East division titles for the first time since 1988-91. Buffalo and Kansas City are the only 2 teams in the NFL to win 10+ games and earn a playoff berth each year from 2019-22.

In 2021, the Bills defense ranked first in the NFL in fewest points allowed per game (17.0) for the first time in franchise history and also finished first in fewest yards allowed per game (272.8) and the fewest passing yards per game (163.0).

In 2020, the Bills won their first playoff game since 1995 as McDermott finished 2nd for the NFL's coach of the year. He was also a finalist for that honor in 2019 and 2022.

In 2017, McDermott became the third coach in Bills history to earn a playoff spot in his first season, joining Joe Collier (1966) and Wade Phillips (1998).

McDermott was hired by the Bills after 6 seasons as the defensive coordinator in Carolina, where he led a top-10 defense 4 times and helped the Panthers earn 3 division titles and a trip to Super Bowl 50. Over his six-year tenure, the Panthers defense ranked second in the NFL in sacks (261), 3rd in takeaways (169), 9th in yards per game (339.1) and 12th in points allowed per game (22.1).

In 2015, McDermott's defense helped lead the way to a 15-1 record and trip to Super Bowl 50. Four players – Thomas Davis, Luke Kuechly, Josh Norman and Kawann Short – earned Pro Bowl and All-Pro honors. He was The Sporting News Coordinator of the Year in 2013.

He spent his first 12 NFL seasons with Philadelphia, working his way up to defensive coordinator in 2009-10. In 2009, he was named the NFL's top defensive coordinator by Pro Football Weekly. A protégé of the late Jim Johnson, the Eagles legendary defensive coordinator, McDermott served as defensive assistant/quality control coach (2001-02), assistant defensive backs coach (2003), secondary/safeties coach (2004-06), and linebackers coach (2007-08).

He joined the Eagles in 1998 as a scouting administrative coordinator before being promoted to assistant to the head coach under Andy Reid in 1999. McDermott worked with several Pro Bowlers during his time in Philadelphia, including Hall of Fame safety Brian Dawkins.

McDermott and his family are active in the Western New York community, making multiple visits to Oishei's Children Hospital of Buffalo. They have participated in many different efforts to provide awareness for food allergies and skin cancer, including a food drive at Wegmans that helped food-insecure families with food allergies and special diet needs. They also partner with Wegmans on skin cancer awareness initiatives.

A member of the LaSalle College High School Hall of Athletics, McDermott was a two-time All-Catholic League and a National Prep School Champion in 1992 and 1993 and went undefeated in 75 consecutive wrestling matches. A member of the William & Mary Athletics Hall of Fame, he was an All-Atlantic 10 Conference choice at safety in 1997 and graduated with a degree in finance. He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at his alma mater in 1998. He was a teammate of Steelers coach Mike Tomlin.

Sean and his wife, Jamie, have three children. His father, Rich, was a football coach at West Chester and Ursinus and his brother, Tim, is the Chief Business Officer of the Philadelphia Union of the MLS. McDermott was born in Omaha, Nebraska on March 21, 1974.

THE STAMPEDE

FAVORITE ATHLETE GROWING UP:

Brian Bosworth

FAVORITE MOVIE:

Vision Quest

FAVORITE MUSICAL ARTIST:

Michael Jackson

FAVORITE TV SHOW GROWING UP:

Monday Night Football