

## **WEST ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALASKA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 6, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Jack Green of West Anchorage High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Green is the ninth Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from West Anchorage High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Green as Alaska's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Green joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-04, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-7, 140-pound senior forward scored 25 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Eagles (11-5-1) to the Division 1 state finals. An All-State honoree, Green is also a two-time All-Cook Inlet Conference selection.

A religious education instructor at his synagogue, Green has volunteered locally on behalf of his school's Life Skills program for special education students. "Jack Green is one of the best playmakers I've seen in any position on the field," said Dan Rufner, head coach at Service High. "He had some big goals in critical games to help them turn their season around. He's also a great kid and a leader who doesn't try to do it all himself."

Green has maintained a weighted 4.10 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at American University in Washington, D.C. this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Green joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Players of the Year Noah Krozel (2017-18, Colony High School), Bubacar Touray (2016-17, West Anchorage High School), Talon Stanley (2015-16, South Anchorage High School), and Jack Sedor (2014-15 & 2013-14, Dimond High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Green also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).