

**HOPEWELL VALLEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE
NAMED
GATORADE NEW JERSEY BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Sean Dolan of Hopewell Valley Central High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Dolan is the first Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Hopewell Valley Central 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 track, distinguishes Dolan as New Jersey's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Dolan joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 6-foot, 150-pound senior won the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:09.14 at the state Meet of Champions this past season. Dolan also broke the tape in the 1600 at the Group 3 state meet and won the 800 in 1:50.53, which ranked as the nation's No. 6 performance among prep competitors in 2019 at the time of his selection.

Dolan has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, a park clean-up initiative and youth track programs. "Sean is such a phenomenal athlete, and an even better person," said Hopewell Valley coach Daniel Johnson. "I've never met an athlete with so much talent who was so humble at the same time."

Dolan has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Villanova University beginning 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.

Dolan joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Nickolas Mirabelli (2017-18, Rancocas Valley Regional High School), Cory Poole (2016-17 & 2015-16, East Orange Campus High School), Taylor McLaughlin (2014-15, Union Catholic High School) and Curtis Thompson (2013-14, Florence Township Memorial High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Dolan 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, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.