

## **WOOD RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 12, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Reidar Slotten of Wood River High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Slotten as Idaho’s best high school boys soccer player, and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, New Jersey), Cristian Roldan (2012-13, El Rancho High School, California) and Dan Klink (2024-25, Loyola Blakefield, Maryland).

The 5-foot-10, 155-pound senior midfielder led the Wolverines to an 18-1-2 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Slotten scored 17 goals and passed for 15 assists, including one score in Wood River’s 5-0 win over Vallivue High in the state final. The Class 5A State Player of the Year, Slotten was also the United Soccer Coaches High School State Player of the Year. He concluded his prep career with 52 goals and 27 assists.

During his soccer offseason, Slotten helps lead his family’s commercial fishing business in Bristol Bay, Alaska, directing summer boat crews and helping to maintain the fleet during the winter. He has volunteered locally in his mother’s elementary school classroom. “Reidar is an incredible player who forced opponents to have to game-plan around him and seek to lessen his impact on the game,” said Dan Anderson, head coach of Sandpoint High School. “We even went as far as putting a man on him for the second and overtime of (the state semifinals) and he still found a way to get free and score the game-winning goal.”

Slotten has maintained a weighted 3.99 GPA in the classroom. He will attend the University of Utah this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the winners in each sport.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X (Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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