

CAPE ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MAINE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 18, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Noelle Mallory of Cape Elizabeth High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Maine Girls 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 Mallory as Maine’s best high school girls soccer player, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colorado), Riley Jackson (2021-22, Blessed Trinity Catholic High School, Georgia) and Addison Halpern (2024-25, Rutgers Preparatory School, New Jersey).

The 5-foot-11 senior forward led the Capers to an 18-0 record and the Class B state championship this past season. Mallory tallied 31 goals and 24 assists, including one of each in Cape Elizabeth’s 3-0 win over Hermon High in the state final. The Varsity Maine Player of the Year and a three-time Western Maine Conference Player of the Year, she concluded her prep soccer career with 91 goals and 48 assists.

Mallory has volunteered locally with Maine Needs, a non-profit organization that provides basic necessities to the underserved. She has also donated her time as a youth mentor and to multiple community service initiatives through her school’s National Honor Society. “Noelle is someone who combines skill, intelligence and leadership in every moment of the game,” said Branden Noltkamper, head coach of Cape Elizabeth High School. “She plays with remarkable composure under pressure, staying calm and confident while making smart decisions that elevate everyone around her.”

Mallory has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will attend Middlebury College, where she will play soccer, 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 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.

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