

## **COHASSET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS BOYS TRACK AND FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 26, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Nicholas Askjaer of Cohasset High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track and Field 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 Askjaer as Massachusetts’ best high school boys track and field athlete and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Alan Webb (2000-01, South Lakes High School, Virginia), Kerron Clement (2002-03, Laporte High School, Texas) and Tate Taylor (2024-25, Harlan High School, Texas).

The 6-foot-1, 210-pound junior throwing talent won the shot put title at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor earlier this month with a throw of 64 feet, 1 inch. Askjaer also took fifth in the discus at NBNO with a throw of 196-6, which ranked No. 29 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring, securing him dual All-American honors at the meet. He swept the shot put and discus titles at both the Division 6 state meet and the MIAA Meet of Champions and his winning shot of 65-2 at the New England Championships ranked No. 24 nationally.

A National Honor Society member, Askjaer has volunteered locally by rebuilding bridges along local hiking trails. He has also donated his time to the Appalachian Service Project, where he spent a week repairing houses for less fortunate families in Kentucky. “Askjaer was by far the state’s most engaging athlete to watch (this season),” said Bill Foley, head coach of Xaverian High School. “He was absolutely dominant in the shot put and discus this year. Resilient and competitive, he’s definitely worthy of the award.”

Askjaer has maintained a 4.29 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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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