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**APPOQUINIMINK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 11, 2016) — In its 31th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Matt Dina of Appoquinimink High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Dina is the second Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Appoquinimink 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 Dina as Delaware'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 May, Dina joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-1, 165-pound senior midfielder and defender scored nine goals and passed for three assists this past season, leading the Jaguars (15-2) to the Division I state semifinals. Dina is the Delaware Boys High School Soccer Coaches Association's State Player of the Year, and was an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Dina has maintained a weighted 3.98 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at an animal shelter and as a youth soccer coach in addition to donating his time to multiple community-service initiatives through his church youth group.

"Matt Dina has all of the physical attributes you love to see in a soccer player: good size, strength, speed and athleticism," said Justin Null, head coach of St. Georges Tech. "He's also extremely skilled in both tactical ability and technical skill. He sees the field and reads the game extremely well and is extremely impactful while on the field." Dina is undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Dina joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Players of the Year Sam Jester (2014-15, Appoquinimink High School), Dylan Huber (2013-14, Salesianum School), Hunter Dann (2012-13, Salesianum School), Matt Hogsten (2011-12, Dover High School), Nick Dirienzo (2010-11, Charter School of Wilmington), Andrew O'Malley, (2009-10 & 2008-09, Salesianum School), Matt Margiotta (2007-08, Salesianum School), and Matt Marcin (2006-07, Charter School of Wilmington) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit www.gatorade.com/poy.

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