

**PUNAHOU SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 8, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Johnnie Dodge of Punahou School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Dodge is the seventh Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Punahou 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 Dodge as Hawaii'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 June, Dodge joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-05, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-8, 147-pound senior midfielder scored five goals and passed for four assists this past season, leading the Buff 'n Blue (11-1-1) to the Division 1 state championship. A two-time First Team All-Conference selection, Dodge was a ScoringLive First Team All-State and Honolulu Star-Advertiser First Team All-State honoree.

Dodge has volunteered locally on behalf of the Waikiki Community Center Preschool. "Johnnie Dodge was the quarterback of their team and always did what Punahou needed," said Mike Ching, head coach at Kalani High School. "He really controlled the middle of the field and he anchored the whole defense with his play. He's also a gifted playmaker and a lot of their offense started with him."

Dodge has maintained a 3.66 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer at Sonoma State University.

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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Dodge joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Players of the Year Skyler Goo (2018-19, Saint Louis School), Alex Liu (2017-18, Iolani School), Duncan McKenna (2016-17, Punahou School), Tyler Ohata (2015-16, Punahou School), Nai'a Graham (2014-15, Kailua High School), and KJ Ahlo (2013-14, Iolani School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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.

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