

**ZIONSVILLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE INDIANA 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 Chris Freeman of Zionsville Community High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Indiana Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Freeman is the third Gatorade Indiana Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Zionsville Community 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 Freeman as Indiana'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, Freeman 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 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior midfielder led the Eagles to a 21-0 record and the Class 3A state championship this past season. Freeman tallied 13 goals and 10 assists, including a goal in Zionsville's 3-1 win over Lake Central High in the state title game. The 2019 Indiana Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year, Freeman was also a United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection. He was also an All-State kicker for the Zionsville football team.

The co-President of the Business Professionals of America, Freeman has volunteered locally with Habitat for Humanity and at a food bank and homeless shelter. "Chris Freeman controlled the midfield, dominated possession and was outstanding on restarts," said Phil Schmidt, head coach of Fishers High. "That was a huge advantage for Zionsville."

Freeman has maintained a weighted 4.07 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to attend Indiana University, where he will play football as a preferred walk-on.

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.

Freeman joins recent Gatorade Indiana Boys Soccer Players of the Year Jack Eaton (2018-19, Chesterton High School), Andrew Cross (2017-18, Reitz Memorial High School), Andrew Cross (2016-17, Reitz Memorial High School), Andreas Roslender (2015-16, Carmel High School), Jordan Kleyn (2014-15, Avon High School), and Michael Riedford (2013-14, Reitz Memorial High 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.

###