

**CAMDEN HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MAINE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 17, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Kristina Kelly of Camden Hills Regional High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Kelly is the second Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Camden Hills Regional 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 Kelly as 's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Kelly 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-3 senior forward led the Windjammers to an 18-0 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Kelly scored 49 goals and passed for 21 assists, including 14 goals and two assists in four postseason games. The 2019 United Soccer Coaches National High School Player of the Year, Kelly is a three-time USC All-American selection. She scored at least one goal in all but three games over four years and concluded her prep soccer career with 159 goals and 65 assists.

Kelly owns a small business with her brother that includes cutting and splitting wood. A member of her school's Latin Club, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Maine Lobster Festival and as part of multiple fundraising campaigns to benefit Multiple Sclerosis and Diabetes research. "Kristina is an outstanding dribbler and goal-scorer and she is so fast that no one can stop her," said Martyn Davidson, head coach of Brunswick High. "She single-handedly won games, and that defines her as a special player."

Kelly has maintained a weighted A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Central Connecticut 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.

Two-time winner Kelly joins recent Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Players of the Year Sara D'Appolonia (2017-18, Yarmouth High School), Sara D'Appolonia (2016-17, Yarmouth High School), Opal Curless (2015-16, Mount Desert Island High School), Cassie Symonds (2014-15, Windham High School), and Cassie Symonds (2013-14, Windham 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.