

**BROKEN ARROW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OKLAHOMA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 11, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Mackenzie McGuire** of **Broken Arrow High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Player of the Year**. McGuire is the third Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Broken Arrow 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 court, distinguishes McGuire as Oklahoma's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in January, McGuire joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahlert High School, Iowa), Alisha Glass (2005-06, Leland Public High School, Mich.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View High School, Neb.) and Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas High School, Fla.).

The 6-foot-1 senior outside hitter amassed 556 kills and 262 digs this past season, leading the Tigers (24-11) to the Class 6A state quarterfinals. McGuire also compiled 58 service aces and 49 blocks while posting a .427 kill percentage and a .294 hitting percentage. A First-Team All-State selection, McGuire is a three-time Frontier Valley Conference First Team honoree.

McGuire has volunteered locally as a tutor to a special needs students at Broken Arrow High. She has also donated her time to the Special Olympics and as a youth volleyball coach. "Mac has always been a hard-working player who leads by example but she's also a vocal leader of her team," said Ian Bullen, head coach of Broken Arrow High School. "She has been very solid under pressure and often played her best on the biggest stages."

McGuire has maintained a weighted 3.94 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Kent State University this fall.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

McGuire joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Players of the Year Audrey Buford (2020-21, Bishop Kelley High School), Kamryn Bacus (2019-20, Edmond North High School), and Olivia Curtis (2018-19 & 2017-18, Christian Heritage Academy), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, McGuire has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. McGuire is also eligible to submit a short video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).