

**THE PHELPS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 16, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Collins Oduro** of **The Phelps School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Oduro is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from The Phelps 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 Oduro as Pennsylvania'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, Oduro joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.), Jacob Shaffelburg (2017-18, Berkshire School, Mass.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire School, Mass.) and Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-7, 140-pound senior forward scored 39 goals and passed for two assists this past season, leading the Lions (22-2) to the Pennsylvania Independent Schools Athletic Association state championship game. Oduro recorded 11 multi-goal games including six hat tricks in his only season at The Phelps School. As captain of the Right to Dream Academy side in Ghana, he led the team to the title at the 2022 Gothia Cup in Sweden, one of the largest youth tournaments in the world.

Oduro has volunteered locally with Feast of Justice, a group dedicated to helping the unhoused and needy in Philadelphia. He also donated his time to his school's Martin Luther King Day celebration. "What makes Collins special are not only his physical attributes, but also his ability to finish with both feet in front of goal," said Evan Prybutok, head coach of the The Phelps School. "His work rate and leadership are also exceptional."

Oduro has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Indiana 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.

Oduro joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Players of the Year Sebastian Tis (2021-22, Conestoga High School), Ben Liscum (2020-21, Lewisburg Area High School), Dom Reiter (2019-20, Quaker Valley High School), and Nathan Dragisich (2018-19, West Allegheny High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.