

**TIMBERLINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 14, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Zach Taylor** of **Timberline High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Taylor is the fifth Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Timberline High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Taylor as Idaho’s best high school boys soccer player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Lyle Yorks (1987-88, E.O. Smith High School, Conn.), Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, N.J.) and Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.).

The 5-foot-10, 155-pound junior midfielder led the Wolves to an 18-2-2 record and a third straight Class 5A state championship this past season. Taylor scored 21 goals and passed for 10 assists and netted a hat trick in Timberline’s 3-1 win over Rocky Mountain High School in the state final. The Idaho Press Boys Soccer Athlete of the Year, he concluded his junior year with 43 goals and 18 assists in his prep soccer career.

Taylor has volunteered locally at the Idaho Food Bank and with Night Strike, an organization that feeds the homeless in Portland, Ore. He has also donated his time as a peer math, science and English tutor and as a youth soccer coach and referee. “Zach doesn’t get flustered and can overcome tough situations,” said Austin Rogerson, head coach of Owyhee High School. “In the [state] final, he was the one who took over, which allowed them to win their third straight.”

Taylor has maintained a weighted 4.22 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Taylor joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Players of the Year Kai Hatten (2022-23, Timberline High School), Carlos Camacho (2021-22, Borah High School), Damian Arguello (2020-21, Caldwell High School) and Jordan Sykes (2019-20, Skyview High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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