

**CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Nicole Calle** of **Cumberland High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Calle is the second Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Cumberland 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 Calle as Rhode Island's best high school girls 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 Aly Wagner (1997-98, Presentation High School, Calif.), Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.) and Kennedy Fuller (2022-23 & 2021-22, Southlake Carroll High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-4 senior forward led the Clippers to a 17-0-2 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Calle scored 21 goals and passed for seven assists, setting up two goals in Cumberland's 3-1 win over Mount Hope High in the state final. A United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection, she concluded her prep soccer career with 42 goals and 15 assists.

Calle has volunteered locally as a peer Spanish tutor and as a youth soccer coach. "Nicole is a quality player and a game-changer on the Cumberland team," said Martyn Hollands, head coach of Barrington High School. "If you don't shut her down, she will hurt you with her goal-scoring ability. You can never switch off against her. You think you've shut her down all game, then she'll produce something out of nothing."

Calle has maintained a 3.69 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at LeMoyne College in New York 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.

Calle joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Soccer Players of the Year Emma Kucal (2022-23, Cumberland High School), Sarah Lynch (2021-22, Pilgrim High School), Catherine Clements (2020-21, La Salle Academy) and Faith Hutchins (2019-20, South Kingstown 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.