

## **DORMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE SOUTH CAROLINA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (January 9, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Reese Shugart** of **Dorman High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade South Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year**. Shugart is the fourth Gatorade South Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dorman High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Shugart as South Carolina’s best high school volleyball player and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Ca.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Ca.) and Ayden Ames (2023-24, Prosper High School, Texas).

The 6-foot-1 junior outside hitter led the Cavaliers to a 35-4 record and the Class 5A, Division 1 state championship this past season. Shugart recorded 464 kills and 261 digs, including a 27-kill, 17-dig effort in Dorman’s 3-1 win over Wando High School in the state final. The Class 5A Player of the Year and an American Volleyball Coaches Association Second Team All-American honoree, she compiled 57 service aces, 30 assists and 28 blocks on the year in addition to posting a .457 kill percentage and a .309 hitting percentage.

Shugart has volunteered locally with Operation Christmas Child and the Special Olympics. She has also donated her time as a youth volleyball coach. “Reese is an incredible volleyball player and impacted Dorman High School’s success from start to finish,” said Kady Cellemare, head coach of Eastside High School. “She is smart, powerful and overall the most dominant player we came across this season.”

Shugart has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play volleyball at Auburn University beginning in the fall of 2026.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Shugart joins recent Gatorade South Carolina Volleyball Players of the Year Carly O’Brien (2023-24, Dorman High School), Kennedy Martin (2022-23, Nation Ford High School), Marianna Singletary (2021-22, Porter-Gaud School) and Lauren McCutcheon (2020-21, J.L. Mann Academy), 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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).