

EAST ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALASKA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2025)— In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Muhammed Sabally** of **East Anchorage High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Sabally is the first Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from East Anchorage 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 Sabally as Alaska's best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 185-pound senior guard had led the Thunderbirds to a 24-2 record and a berth in the Class 4A state tournament, scheduled to begin March 19. Sabally averaged 13.7 points, 4.3 assists, 4.4 rebounds and 1.8 steals through 26 games this past season while shooting 53 percent from the floor, including 40 percent from beyond the arc. He was voted by coaches as the preseason Class 4A Player of the Year.

Sabally has volunteered locally on behalf of Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Special Olympics and as a peer tutor. He has also donated his time with The Arc of Anchorage, a Halloween fundraiser for Alaskans with intellectual or physical challenges. “His ability to score inside and out is a matchup nightmare,” said Brandon Gall, head coach at Chugiak High School. “He was hitting 3-pointers on us from six feet beyond the 3-point line and still showed the ability to attack downhill effectively and convert.”

Sabally has maintained a B average in the classroom. He remains undecided on a collegiate destination.

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.

Sabally joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Players of the Year Kellen Jedlicka (2023-24, Grace Christian School), Stewart Erhart (2022-23 & 2021-22, West Valley High School) and Patrick McMahon (2020-21, Colony 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 \$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 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.