

The Larry Goldstein HSLC Lacrosse Player of the Year Award

This HSLC high school award is presented annually at the end of each boys' lacrosse season. It is named in honor of Larry Goldstein, who introduced lacrosse to southern Indiana in 2006. Larry devoted countless hours to growing the sport in his community, tirelessly bringing the game to new players and establishing lasting programs where none existed before. As an exceptional leader of young boys in lacrosse, he embodied outstanding good citizenship, unwavering sportsmanship, integrity, and selfless service—making him an inspiring role model on and off the field. This award seeks to honor those same qualities in today's players.

The award recognizes a boys' lacrosse player who combines exceptional on-field performance with superior good citizenship, sportsmanship, leadership, integrity, and meaningful contributions to their school, team, and community.

Purpose

The award celebrates a high school boys' lacrosse player who excels athletically while embodying respect, responsibility, and service—proving that true greatness goes beyond statistics, goals, or wins to include strong character and positive influence.

Eligibility

- Must be a current varsity boys' lacrosse player (or equivalent approved scholastic program) in high school during the award season.
- Must have participated in a majority of the team's games as a significant contributor (starter or key rotational player).
- Must maintain good academic standing and citizenship (eligible under school/state athletic rules, with strong classroom performance).
- Nominations are limited to one per high school team/program.

Selection Criteria

The award balances on-field excellence with off-field character and impact, placing strong emphasis on citizenship and sportsmanship.

1. On-Field Excellence and Lacrosse Performance (Required foundation)

- High-level skill, leadership, game impact, and contributions to team success.
- Consistent effort, resilience, and excellence throughout the season.

2. Sportsmanship and Integrity (Core emphasis)

- Exemplary conduct: respect for opponents, officials, teammates, and the game.
- Humility in victory, grace in defeat, and commitment to fair play.

3. Good Citizenship and Leadership

- Positive role model: mentoring younger players, promoting team unity, and demonstrating responsibility/accountability in daily life.

4. Community Service and Philanthropy

- Meaningful, sustained involvement in volunteer work, charity, school/community projects, or causes (e.g., youth mentoring, fundraising, lacrosse clinics for underserved kids).
- Genuine, impactful commitment beyond one-off events.

5. Academic Achievement

- Strong classroom performance reflecting discipline and balance as a scholar-athlete.

Nomination and Selection Process

- Each participating high school/program nominates one player meeting the criteria.
- Nominations include a detailed submission including but limited to three required letters of recommendation/support:
 - A personal letter/statement from the nominee themselves, reflecting on their lacrosse experience, personal growth, commitment to sportsmanship/citizenship, and community impact.
 - A letter from the head coach (or assistant coach if head is unavailable), addressing on-field excellence, sportsmanship, leadership, and character within the team.
 - A letter from another unrelated adult (e.g., a teacher, principal, guidance counselor, employer, or community organization leader—not a family member, lacrosse coach, or program affiliate), highlighting the nominee's good citizenship, integrity, academic standing, and off-field service/philanthropy.
- The SISL Board of Directors will act as the selection committee. This committee reviews nominations' submissions and names one overall winner annually.
- The winner receives recognition at end-of-season tournament finals (including JV and middle school events), with a SISL board member presenting the award (certificate and/or trophy) at the player's school end-of-season banquet.

This award underscores that the finest high school lacrosse players lead by example, inspiring teammates, opponents, and the community through character and service.