



2021 Boston Bruins-MIAA Sportsmanship Award Recipients

For the 19th consecutive year, the MIAA and Boston Bruins have partnered to honor a student-athlete from boys and girls high school ice hockey leagues across the state for best exemplifying a commitment to sportsmanship throughout the season. These student-athletes were selected by representatives of their league according to the following award criteria:

- An exemplary record of complying, both in spirit and letter, with all league and MIAA rules and regulations during the season.
- A demonstrated record of respectfully accepting the rulings of game officials.
- A record of conduct, on and off the ice that brings honor to self, team, school, and community.
- A commitment to teamwork by providing all members with recognition of their talents, an opportunity to contribute them to the team, and a spirit of camaraderie.
- A demonstrated respect for opponents before, during, and after games.

Melanie McClay
Archbishop Williams High School '21

"Mel had an outstanding year in hockey leading the team as its only senior and as a captain. She is an outstanding role model for all of her teammates, following all the rules and regulations during all contests and off the ice. She accepts the ruling of the officials and will always acknowledge them at the end of every contest regardless of the outcome of the game."

-Gordie McClay, Athletic Director

Norah Brown
Canton High School '21

"Norah Brown has been a constant supporter and motivator for the Canton High School Girls Ice Hockey Program for the past four years. Norah is proof that you do not have to be an everyday player to be a great role model and make a difference in your team's success. Norah signed on as a manager but was also able to play in a game on her Senior Night this year recording an assist in one of her first shifts of the game!"

-Dennis Aldrich, Head Coach

Jodi Mercier
Central Catholic High School '21

"Jodi Mercier played on the Central Catholic Girls Varsity Hockey Program for the past four seasons and was named Co-Captain by her peers her senior year. Jodi has led by example on and off the ice and continued to improve every practice and every game. Her positive attitude and passionate energy resonated throughout the rink. She was constantly supporting her teammates, especially the underclassmen and encouraging them to step outside of their comfort zone by using her own stories of where she started and how far she has come."

-Michelle Collett, Assistant Coach

Makayla Doherty
Arlington High School '21

"Makayla Doherty is what I imagine the Boston Bruins-MIAA Sportsmanship Award is all about. She has set an example by her work ethic for all her teammates since the day she became a part of the team as a freshman. In this most challenging of years, she has been the key communicator to the team about how players arrive at rinks, when they can arrive, how they need to wear their masks, as well as how they should respect opponents and one another. As a rare two-year captain, she has been a vital link between coaches and players to ensure everyone complies with the rules and the games could go on."

-Jeff Mead, Head Coach

Allie Woods
Pembroke High School '24

"Allie is as hard of a worker we have had, she is always trying as hard as she can! She has also been very generous giving back her time to Pembroke Youth Hockey. Allie has been working with the young girls of Pembroke on their hockey skills."

-Bill Flynn, Head Coach

Mae Pittenger
Duxbury High School '21

"Mae was the heart of the soul of the team this year. A true leader who kept the team together through a truly unique season. She was both a leader with her hustle on the ice but also with her ability to get the team off of it."

-Thom Holdgate, Athletic Director

Jacob Gurdin
Brookline High School '22

"Jacob has been a model student-athlete and citizen during his three-year high school hockey career to date. He was a team captain this past season as a junior and he is captain-elect of next year's squad. In addition to his respect for teammates, opponents, coaches and officials, Jacob has demonstrated commitment to his sport on a higher plane. In 2017, Jacob started the junior Beanpot tournament consisting of 20+ club hockey teams. The tournament has since grown to include high school and college teams. Jacob has donated all of the tournament proceeds to the Travis Roy Foundation. Jacob and Travis were very good friends and, in February of 2019, Jacob organized a Travis Roy benefit game as the culminating event on Brookline High School's regular season schedule. Travis was in attendance on that occasion and, before the game, he addressed both locker rooms, as well as the crowd, in one of his last public appearances. Today, Jacob continues to expand his charity and spread the words of Travis."

-Pete Rittenburg, Athletic Director

Jack Guindon
West Springfield High School '21

"Jack stepped up to the plate and took the challenge of playing goal for the team despite never playing hockey, let alone goal, in his life. Perhaps Jack's overall consistent positive attitude may have come from surviving cancer when he was younger as he is a fighter that shows up every day with a smile on his face ready to give 100%, without complaint. Jack without question is deserving of the Boston Bruins-MIAA Sportsmanship Award."

-Rick Williams, Head Coach

**James Dillon
Boston Latin Academy '21**

"Representing the Boston City League for the Boston Bruins/MIAA Sportsmanship Award is senior James Dillon. James was not only a stand out player, but exemplified how to play the game the right way. "JD" was a two year captain at Boston Latin Academy and was always a positive role model for his teammates, school, and community. He treated his teammates, opponents, officials, and the game of hockey with the utmost respect and has left a lasting impression on the athletic program at BLA."

-Patrick Mudie, Head Coach

**AJ Quetta
Bishop Feehan High School '21
*Honorary Captain***

"During every game and every shift AJ Quetta always gave one hundred percent. He honored the game of hockey and Bishop Feehan through his relentless hard work on ice. He may not have been the biggest player on the ice, but he always played like it. For this reason, many of the younger hockey players on the team look up to AJ and he serves as a mentor for them. His commitment to the team and his teammates is something he holds in the highest regard."

-Christian Schatz, Athletic Director

**Nick Recupero
Archbishop Williams High School '21**

"Nick has been a steady member of the Archbishop Williams varsity hockey team since his freshman season. He is an exceptional leader who drives the team on and off the ice, never taking shifts off and always pushing those around him to be their best. Nick's leadership, character, and professionalism are exceptional."

-Derackk Curtis, Head Coach

**Stephen Nardelli
Cardinal Spellman High School '23**

"Stephen is a spirited competitor who plays hard game in and game out and is always a class act. Stephen is a three-sport athlete who is respected by his teammates. He is co-captain of the baseball team as a sophomore. Stephen is an excellent student and who is involved in many aspects of the high school life."

-Michael Gerrish, Athletic Director

**William MacNeil
Catholic Memorial School '21**

"As an undersized skilled, power forward, Will MacNeil is the poster child for the Boston Bruins MIAA Sportsmanship Award for the Catholic Conference in the 2020-21 hockey season. Will plays the game hard, competes with energy and enthusiasm, is an honest player, and always respects the game of hockey, his opponents, the referees, and his teammates. Will has been a model captain for CM over his two years as team captain, always finding a positive way to work with his teammates and challenging situations that arise throughout the year (s)."

-Larry Rooney, Head Coach

**Spencer Gorcyca
Chicopee High School '21**

"Spencer did not start playing hockey until his freshmen year. He worked hard and never missed a practice in four years. This hard work got him playing time his junior and senior year and was captain his senior year. He was voted by his teammates as captain for his hard work, leadership skills, and sportsmanship. Although he got limited time his freshman and sophomore years he only received one penalty all four years."

-Alan Styckiewicz, Head Coach

**Nick Summers
Malden High School '21**

"Nick continually exemplifies sportsmanship on and off the ice for the last 4 years. Every player he has faced, regardless of the sport, can attest to his outstanding character."

-Joe Ciccarello, Head Coach

**Ryan Spano
Brockton High School '21**

"We had 3 goalies last season and Ryan was always supportive when one of the other goalies was in net, cheering them on from the bench. This past season, Ryan missed time due to Covid and never got down. When he did return, he worked hard to get in game shape. Once again, he was the biggest supporter for the other goalie who played many games this year. I have never seen Ryan complain about any official's calls or get upset at any player or himself when he lets a goal in. He was an excellent leader as he was selected as one of my captains."

-Dan Mark, Head Coach

**Ethan Chan-Polcari
Lowell High School '21**

"Ethan has overcome personal loss and battled back from significant knee injuries to be a valuable member of our team. He personified our core values of working hard; being physically and mentally tough; not making excuses; and being a great teammate. Ethan truly represents the City of Lowell, Lowell High School and our hockey program in the greatest possible light."

-Brian Akashian, Head Coach

**Brian Workman
Dracut High School '21**

"Brian is an exceptional student-athlete who excels in the classroom and on the ice. Brian continually shows tremendous effort and leadership and was recently inducted into the Dracut High School National Business Honor Society. Being chosen unanimously by his teammates, Brian exemplified the role of our team captain. He is looked up to and respected by all of his peers, but has also always shown the utmost respect to each official, opposing coach, and player who we faced. Most notably, in Brian's three year varsity hockey career, he has never had a minor or major penalty during a high school game."

-Jeff Duross, Head Coach

Brendan Fennell
Melrose High School '21

"Brendan's true love of sports is hockey, he will be attending Avon Old Farms next year to continue his academic and hockey career. When Brendan wasn't competing, he spent his time as an announcer for many of our live stream games due to the limited attendance policy. Brendan had a cult-like following; whether it was soccer, basketball, volleyball, or unified basketball, he brought his enthusiasm and love of sports to support and promote our other athletic offerings."

-Stephen Fogarty, Athletic Director

Jake Roth
Plymouth South High School '21

"Jake Roth is a young man that any coach would be proud to have represent their program. He is a worthy ambassador of our hockey team, always conducting himself in a respectful manner coupled with unrelenting work ethic. Jake treats officials, coaches, teammates, and opponents with the utmost respect. As an upper classman, Jake took on the role of "big brother" to many of his younger teammates, and always made an extra effort to make everyone feel like they were a part of the team. His physical presence will be missed, but the examples he set will continue to shape and grow the program for years to come."

-Stephen Whyte, Head Coach

Bobby Bekerian
Marshfield High School '21

"Bobby was a 4 year member of the Marshfield Hockey program. In his 4 years, he only committed 2 penalties. He plays the game the right way. He is a quiet leader, always the first one at practice. He would always make sure all the locker rooms were clean before he left the rink. He is well respected by all his teammates and coaches. He is the kid that is willing to help anyone that needs it. Our program is involved in numerous community service projects throughout the year and Bobby is always at every one making sure everything was done the right way and completed."

-William Battis, Athletic Director

Sam Fettuccia
Norwell High School '21

"Sam Fettuccia is one of the finest young men I have ever coached, on and off the ice. He is a scholar athlete that will be attending Colgate University next year. Sam is respectful of officials, coaches, and fellow players. As a captain, he has made all the players in the program feel welcome and fostered a wonderful inclusive environment. "

-James Casagrande, Head Coach

Brendan Bartucca
Norwood High School '21

"Brendan displayed a great deal of sportsmanship over his 4 years at Norwood High School. Always supporting his teammates and showing respect for his opponent and officials. He had great empathy for and created a fundraiser for AJ Quetta, the high school player who was injured during a high school game. This event raised a few thousand in support of his recovery. "

-Jon Longley, Athletic Director

Derek Lenois
Greenfield High School '21

"Derek has been playing hockey for 12 years. Outside of hockey he plays Varsity Golf as well. He finished his senior year with a State Championship, a Western MA Championship and 4 straight Wright Division Championships. Derek also played Varsity Hockey as an 8th grader. Derek was named leader of the Green Wave Hockey Team throughout his playing career, but especially his last 2 seasons. Not only because of his leadership on the ice but more importantly off the ice. Continually pushing himself to be a stellar student in the classroom. He also participates in numerous community service projects, including helping to organize and run the learn to skate program here at our local rink."

-Adam Bouchard, Head Coach