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**Shane Griepentrog Student-Athlete Awards Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay Grant Through Gatorade**

**GREEN BAY, Wis. (April 20, 2022)** – Green Bay native and Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Player of the Year, Shane Griepentrog, awarded Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay with a $1,000 grant to help accomplish our mission to engage and meet the unique needs of greater Green Bay area youth so they may achieve academic success, demonstrate good character and citizenship, and live a healthy lifestyle.

Sports have seen a double-digit decline over the past decade, largely due to tighter budgets in communities, but young people that participate in sports are found to be happier, healthier and better students. Gatorade Play It Forward empowers Gatorade Player of the Year recipients across the country to award local or national sports organizations with grants, so they can continue helping young athletes enjoy the benefit of sports.

“The Gatorade Player of the Year award highlights student-athletes who set an example both on and off the field,” said Kara Darling, Assistant Marketing Manager for Gatorade Player of the Year. “The grants give these athletes a chance to donate to organizations like Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay, that positively impact the youth in their own communities.”

“The goal of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay is to help kids create healthy habits that will last a lifetime. We believe by creating healthy habits in our youth, we're building healthier communities,” said Jen Witt, Marketing & Communications Coordinator for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay. “At Club, health is of great importance and grants like these provide our members an opportunity to participate in programs that promote a healthy lifestyle.”

All 608 Gatorade State Player of the Year recipients are awarded a grant to donate to the organization of their choosing. Each Player of the Year can also submit a video about why their organization is deserving of one of 12 Spotlight Grants, which is a larger monetary award.

Gatorade has a longstanding history of serving athlete communities and is committed to doing more to create positive change. Most recently, Gatorade announce *Fuel Tomorrow,* a new multi-year initiative to help everyone have equal opportunities to play sports and realize their potential.

To stay up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. For more on Gatorade Play It Forward, the Gatorade Player of the Year, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [PlayerOfTheYear.Gatorade.com](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJenniferWitt%5CDesktop%5CPlayerOfTheYear.Gatorade.com)

**About Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay**

[*The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay*](http://www.bgcgb.org)*, 1451 University Avenue, believes every child deserves to be in an environment that brings out the very best in them. For more than 50 years, the Club has provided youth aged 7-18 with a safe place to learn and grow during out-of-school hours, while also opening the door to positive relationships with caring adult professionals and life-changing opportunities through educational programs. The Club has five locations throughout greater Green Bay where memberships are available for only $10 per year. For more information, please visit www.bgcgb.org. You can also find us on* [*Facebook*](http://www.facebook.com/bgcgb)*,* [*Instagram*](http://www.instagram.com/bgc_greatergreenbay) *and* [*Twitter*](http://www.twitter.com/bgcgb)*!*

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