

WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD CRITERIA
2023

NOMINATION

School administration from each of the member high schools in the state may nominate one male and one female senior for consideration as a Scholar Athlete Award Winner.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Each nominee must be a second semester senior. Please use grades earned through the most recently completed grading period. *Athletic code violations should be considered in the selection process.*
2. Each nominee must have earned at least four varsity letters, through athletic participation in WIAA sanctioned sports during the complete freshman, sophomore, and junior years and the fall and winter seasons of the senior year.
3. Each nominee must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).
 - a. Grade point should include all classwork completed in the student's 9th, 10th, and 11th grade school years as well as the first semester of the student's senior year.
 - b. For each student, grade point should be determined by:
 - (1) Awarding 4 points for an "A", 3 for a "B", 2 for a "C", 1 for a "D" and 0 for an "F". NOTE: If weighted grading system or "pass/fail" concept is in place, please convert to traditional grading format.
 - (2) Disregarding plus and minus grades;
 - (3) Multiplying the point value by the number of credits received for the course;
 - (4) Dividing the points awarded by the number of credits listed to arrive at the grade point average you enter on the nomination form.

NOTE: Failure to determine the grade point average as directed will cause a nominee to be ineligible for statewide honors.
NOTE: To be considered for statewide recognition, a student athlete must be able to attend the WIAA Scholar Athlete Banquet. This year's banquet will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2023.

SELECTION OF SEMIFINALISTS

The determination of the semifinalists will be based on the following criteria:

- A. The top 32 students (16 males, 16 females from each of the four WIAA Volleyball tournament classifications) will be selected for further consideration based solely on grade point average. After the grade point averages have been rounded to the nearest 100th, all ties will be included in the pool of semifinalists.
- B. There will be an option for enlarging the pool of semifinalists. A representative of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association will meet with the Selection Committee (DPI, WASDA, AWSA) and provide information that may provide for additional qualifiers. Consideration will be given to those having a GPA of at least 3.5.

SELECTION OF FINALISTS

Once the 128 (or more) semifinalists are determined, the 32 (8 from each division, 4 boys and 4 girls) Scholar-Athlete Award winners will be selected based on an extensive review of the nomination form. That review includes scoring based on several carefully considered criteria.

POINT SYSTEM CRITERIA

1. Four (4) points will be awarded for each varsity letter earned, through athletic participation, in a WIAA-sanctioned sport, in Grades 9, 10, and 11, as well as letters earned in the fall and winter sports of Grade 12. The maximum total for points earned through athletic participation is 32.
2. One (1) point will be awarded for lead up play to the State Tournament. In sports where there are no regionals, two points are awarded for sectional championships.
 - (a) Conference, regional, sectional, or state championships won by a team on which the nominee played and earned a varsity letter.
Team sports are listed below:

Baseball	Cross Country	Golf	Hockey	Softball	Volleyball
Basketball	Football	Gymnastics	Soccer	Tennis	Wrestling
 - (b) Conference, regional, sectional, or individual state championships won by the nominee. Individual sports are listed below:

Cross Country	Gymnastics	Tennis	Wrestling
Golf	Swimming & Diving	Track & Field	

NOTE: In multiple event sports, i.e. Track & Field, Swimming & Diving etc., championship points will be limited to one (regional and sectional) or two (sectional only) per meet. In sports with both a team and an individual dimension, no more than five points will be awarded during any one year.

- (c) Special team sports-related honors received by the nominee, restricted to team and conference MVP and the conference coaches' all conference first team.
3. The top two candidates with a GPA of 4.0 will be identified as statewide Scholar Athletes in each division. The next two candidates from the remaining 4.0 GPA nominees and those identified by the WADA representative are also selected as statewide recipients.
4. If ties still exist, the essay question will be used. Students who are tied will have their essay questions graded. Each judge will rank the essays in preferential order, 1, 2, 3, etc. The essay with the lowest point totals will be the winner.

Once the Scholar Athlete Selection Committee meets, no additional information can be provided and their decisions are final.