



News 12 Long Island announces the start of their Scholar Athlete Award Program for the 2016/17 season. We proudly continue the tradition with Bethpage Federal Credit Union as sponsor.

Now in its 30th year, this weekly award program recognizes outstanding ability shown by high school seniors in athletics, scholarship, leadership and service to others. Nominations are sent in by coaches all across Long Island. The awards total thirty over the academic year.

A segment featuring the weekly winner is taped at the student's high school and airs on the News 12 Long Island broadcast. It's also posted online at news12.com in the sports & features sections. A plaque is issued to the winner's high school to document this achievement.

The thirty winners will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship check at the end of the program in June.

Criteria to win this prestigious honor:

- Eligibility requires unweighted grades from 90 upwards or a minimum GPA of 3.5 out of 4.0. To evaluate all students equally, weighted grades will not be considered.
- SAT scores of 1200 or higher, or ACT scores of 30 or higher are required.
- Excellent achievement in athletics. Most winners are two or three sport stars. Some play a single sport year round. They should compete on a county, division, state or national level and earn high honors such as All-League, All-County, All-State, etc.
- Examples of leadership and service to others. Leadership includes being team captain, class president, club president or other important roles. Extra-curricular acclaim comes from being involved in music, theater, writing, work outside of school, charities and other projects. Some run clinics, passing on their knowledge to younger students. All winners demonstrate the ability to get along with others, modesty and sportsmanship.
- The student's coach or athletic director must approve and submit the nomination. Once a nomination is received, it will continue in competition week after week.
- The student may provide a brief essay to allow us to get to know them better and why they deserve this award. The essay should accompany the nomination form.

We believe that winning a News 12 Long Island Scholar Athlete Award is the most prestigious honor that a high school senior can achieve, for it embraces the talent, hard work and dedication required to be considered the best on Long Island.

Please distribute this criteria and the attached nomination form to each athletic director and coach across Long Island. The nomination form can also be accessed on news12.com under sports.

Sincerely,
Bob Wolff and Kevin Maher
News 12 Long Island