

# Nominations are open for the



## The Award

We give a monetary gift from the Jeff Dickins Memorial Bursary. For the 2025/26 school year, we'll be selecting four winners to receive \$750 each. In addition, each winner will receive a one-year complimentary digital subscription to The Hamilton Spectator.

Community involvement would show a student-athlete's participation outside the school environment. Volunteer work with various social agencies, visiting seniors in nursing homes, and coaching non-school teams, are just some of the possible considerations.

## Nominations

Consideration for this award comes from the individual schools who are encouraged to seek nominations from the entire school bodies, not just coaches or athletic department heads. But it should be the schools and not parents. Letters from individuals and organizations in support of a candidate could be included with the nominations.

## Eligibility

A grade 12 student from the Hamilton or Halton (Burlington schools) boards who will be going on to post-secondary education.

## Criteria

The three criteria are athletic involvement, academic achievements and community involvement

Athletic involvement should not be limited to abilities and skills demonstrated in any number of sports, but should include those students who act as trainers, fundraisers, or managers of teams. There may be individuals whose contributions to a team are not reflected on score sheets.

Academic achievement points to the student's ability to consistently maintain high grades while competing or being involved in multiple sports, although participation in a single school sport would not necessarily disqualify one for consideration. For example, an individual could be a member of the school's rowing team and a member of a provincial or national team which has earned recognition for its efforts. By the same token, a student could be a manager of a school team and coach or manage a team away from the school.

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**Jeff Dickins**

Jeff Dickins was a sportswriter at The Hamilton Spectator who passed away in 2003. In his 26 years at The Spectator, he wrote about professional baseball, hockey and football but drew the most satisfaction from covering amateur sports. Whether it was McMaster Marauders and the university leagues or high school athletics, Dickins loved the atmosphere of competitors playing for the sake of participation.

The award in his name is given annually to a high school student who has demonstrated a commitment to athletic participation, while maintaining a high academic standard and being involved in the community.