

Mid-Atlantic Recreation & Parks' Sports Alliance Good Sports Award

2009 Harford County Winner

U13B Girls LSC Team

Sidney N.



The following detail was sent to the Mid-Atlantic Sports Alliance to nominate Sidney. Only one player from Harford County is selected each year. She will travel to Annapolis to receive her award at the State General Assembly with other County winners in the State.

Dedication

I sincerely cannot think of anyone I have coached who defines dedication more than Sidney. She always does more than asked and pushes herself to become the best soccer player possible for her team. Sidney also plays Hickory\Forest Hill Lacrosse and displays the same level of dedication as she does in soccer. She is the consummate team player who understands that the team comes before any selfish individual need. Sidney always performs at the highest level but that comes from hours of practice at home to be the best player possible. She will play anywhere on the soccer field that she is needed and never asks to go in or complains about playing minutes. Sidney understands that although she is one of the best players on the team - her role is within the team and what is best for her teammates to be successful.

Respect for Teammates

Sidney is very respectful of her teammates and always thinks of others before herself. She is very mature for her age and genuinely cares about the girls on her team. She is mentally tough and can be relied on by her team in the second half of a regular season game or in a Championship. Sidney understands that respect is not given but earned through her personal actions and good sportsmanship at all times.

Leadership

Leadership is the art of motivating a group of people to act towards achieving a common goal. Sidney's dedication to her team and teammates is second to none. She is routinely the first to practice (whether with soccer or lacrosse) and will set the pace of play during practice or a game to ensure our team is playing at its best. Everyone looks to Sidney not only as one of the best players on the team but someone who they can rely on in difficult situations. She was voted season team captain for the 2008 soccer season by her teammates and helped lead the team to a Championship, both in tournaments and the regular season. The performance by the team was a direct reflection of Sidney's hard work and leadership skills. Sidney helps inspire her teammates with hard work, dedication and skill by playing the majority of minutes during each and every game.

Academic Effort

It shouldn't be any surprise that Sidney also excels in the classroom applying the same hard work and dedication to her school work. In each quarter of 2008 Sidney achieved straight A's in 6th grade at Southampton Middle School while also receiving perfect attendance. She was also named 6th Grade Team Representative for the Student Service Organization. Her accomplishments didn't stop there – she received the following awards in 6th grade for her outstanding academic performance:

- The Mathematics Mastery Award
- The William Paca Award (Social Studies)
- The John Newberry Award (Language Arts)
- The Challenger Science Award

Community Service

Her family belongs to St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Bel Air with Sidney participating in their Junior Youth Group, helping in the Sunday School Office and Church Food Pantry. In addition to their church activities their family has sponsored a child through World Vision. World Vision is a Christian humanitarian charity organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. They serve close to 100 million people in nearly 100 countries around the world. Sidney is a Pen Pal to the child from World Vision and enjoys communicating throughout the year.

Attitude

The smile on Sidney's face really tells the whole story – she loves her team, teammates and all the activities in between. There is seldom a time when Sidney isn't smiling and enjoying her time on the field with her friends. Her great outlook routinely transfers to her teammates and everyone enjoys time together. I have never experienced a time that I had to calm Sidney down or correct inappropriate

behavior either on the practice field or in a game. She consistently demonstrates a great attitude on and off the soccer and lacrosse field.

Commitment to Practice

Sidney loves to practice – it may be difficult at times but she looks for the positive and quickly gets her team motivated to play. One of the reasons Sidney excels is her commitment to practice on her own outside of team practice. Beyond her own extra work the soccer team is given a specific workout routine during the month of July. This is to be done in addition to our team practices – Sidney was always one of the first players to present her journal to the coaches for review. She takes pride in doing what is asked and doing it very well. She is an important reason why our soccer team has had the success it's experienced over the past two seasons.

Respect for Coaches/Officials

Sidney is a student of the game and always plays within the rules by respecting her teammates, the opposing team, her coaches and referees. She has never received a yellow or red card in the two years she has played travel soccer spanning numerous regular season games and tournaments. To this day she still thanks the coaching staff for their time after each and every practice.

Sidney is truly a joy to coach and be around as a player, teammate and young woman. I am so proud of her accomplishments on and off the field and cannot think of a better award recipient than Sidney. I hope you will consider all of her qualifications and recognize that she is deserving of this Good Sports Award.

Thank You

Jamie Filiaggi
Lazers Soccer Club U13 Head Coach
Lazers Soccer Club Director