

The “No ‘I’ in Team” Awards

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Diamond Club, Inc.**



“To foster and promote the game of baseball”

SPRING, 2021

THE AWARDS

The “There’s No ‘I’ In Team” Award was initiated in the late 1990s by the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association (GNHBUA). It originally honored a single athlete in the GNHBUA’S coverage area. In 2005, the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club (SCDC) assumed responsibility for and expanded the awards program. The Diamond Club’s stated mission is “to foster and promote the game of baseball” in the New Haven area.

The award is named for longtime West Haven High baseball coach and GNHBUA commissioner John “Whitey” Piurek. The GNHBUA tagged one of Piurek’s favorite phrases from his coaching days onto the award’s name.

Tonight, more than 30 athletes from area high schools will be presented with the John “Whitey” Piurek “There’s No ‘I’ In Team” Award. Athletics directors and coaches jointly made the decision for their school. While it was recommended they choose a senior, they were free to selected any player they felt gave most unselfishly to their team.

The George Klivak “Team of the Year” Award was another honor initiated by the GNHBUA. In 2007, the SCDC instituted the Samuel A. Burrell Jr. Coach of the Year Award.

WHITEY PIUREK

John “Whitey” Piurek holds the distinction of being the only Connecticut coach to earn state championships in three sports -- football, basketball and baseball.

He is best known for his accomplishments as the baseball coach at West Haven High. In 36 seasons, Piurek posted a record of 526-115-2, won two state championships (with two runner-up finishes as well), and won the District League title 21 times. West Haven’s varsity baseball field is named in his honor.

Piurek was a 1935 graduate of Bulkeley High of Hartford and received a bachelor’s degree from the College of the Holy Cross in 1939. From 1948 to 1989, he was a professional baseball scout for the Seattle Mariners. He was inducted into the SCDC Hall of Fame in 1981 and the National High School Hall of Fame in 1998. Piurek passed away at age 94 on December 3, 2009.

GEORGE KLIVAK

George “Ginger” Klivak signed with the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League out of high school in 1938. After being drafted, Klivak was stationed at Manhattan Beach for the U.S. Coast Guard. He still found time to play baseball, coming home on weekends to pitch for the West Haven Sailors and other local teams.

After the war ended, Klivak opted to stay in West Haven, where he had a comfortable job during the week and could play for the Sailors in his spare time. He was one of the Sailors’ top pitchers and was called upon for a game in 1948 against the Birmingham Black Batons of the Negro League.

Klivak pitched for the Baltimore Orioles Triple-A organization. He served as secretary/treasurer for the Greater New Haven Board of Umpires Association for more than 20 years. He is a 1988 inductee into the SCDC Hall of Fame. Klivak passed away on August 16, 2007, at age 91.

SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR.

Sam Burrell taught in the New Haven public school system and worked in the central office of the physical education department. He coached at Wilbur Cross High School and was later the head baseball coach at Hillhouse High. He also coached American Legion Post 47 baseball from 1956 to 1967 and won several zone championships.

In 1968, Burrell was appointed head freshman baseball coach at Yale University, where he coached for many years and is believed to be the first black intercollegiate coach at Yale. He later became an assistant freshman football coach at Yale from 1979 to 1992. In 1993, he was appointed to the Yale varsity football staff, where he served until 1996.

Burrell is the community outreach coordinator for the Yale athletics department. He is a co-founder of the SCDC and was placed in its Hall of Fame in 1990. He resides in Hamden.

AWARD WINNERS

AMITY REGIONAL HS

COACH: SAL COPPOLA A.D. E. GOODWIN

ATHLETE: JUSTIN ROCHE POS: C

“Justin Roche is one of the most unselfish players I have ever met! He spends countless hours getting our pitchers ready for games. He hasn’t received a lot of playing time this year as the backup catcher to a 3-year starter. Justin has played such an important role in the development of this year’s team. We wouldn’t be the same team without him. Most of all, Justin is a person of true character. What an outstanding person, so happy to have coached him,” said Coach Coppola.

ANSONIA HS

COACH: PAT LYNCH A.D.: TOM BROCKETT

ATHLETE: MATTHEW BLACKWELL POS: C, 1B, 3B, SS & OF

“Played 7 of 9 positions this year, wherever team needed him, he played. Batted .420 with 2 HRs & 21 RBIs. Also had 10 stolen bases,” said Coach Lynch.

BRANFORD HS

COACH: S. MALAFRONTE A.D. TOM ERMINI

ATHLETE: DOMINIC BONANNO POS: OF

“Dominic has been a part of the program for four years. He has always shown tremendous heart and hustle on the diamond. His work ethic and drive to compete has made him a great teammate and a valuable asset to the program,” said his coach.

AWARD WINNERS

CANTERBURY SCHOOL

COACH: TODD MATHEWSON A.D.: D WILSON

ATHLETE: JAKE ELSTON POS: 1B

Four year varsity....Said Coach Mathewson, *"He was a leader during the off-season and motivated other players to put in the same amount of work that he was putting in. Whether he is personally playing well or struggling, he continues to play hard and with energy, and motivates others to do the same. He has been a coach's dream."*will continue playing at the University of Scranton.

CHESHIRE HS

COACH: MICHAEL LUSSIER A.D.: STEVE TRIFONE

ATHLETE: NICK VALENTE POS: OF

"Nick has been with the baseball program for 4 years and is willing to do anything that is in the best interest for the team. He is the definition of a team player," said Coach Lussier.

DERBY HS

COACH: ROBERT SWIERBITOWICZ A.D.: M. BRADSHAW

ATHLETE: BRYCE COTTER POS: P

Bryce has been a 3 year starter, leader for the team. Coach said, *"He has been unselfishly providing the community of Derby with over 20 hours of volunteering."*

EAST HAVEN HS

COACH: BUTCH JOHNSON A.D.: ANTHONY VERDERAME

ATHLETE: SAM CRONK POS: DH

Said Coach Johnson, *"Sam puts the team first- will play anywhere at any time. Volunteers to warm up pitchers and catch bullpens. Always puts the team's goals ahead of his own. Stays positive whether playing or not. Respected by his peers as well as all the coaches. Sam was a no brainer for this award"*.

AWARD WINNERS

FAIRFIELD PREP

COACH: RUDOPH MAURITZ I.V.A.D.: TOM CURRAN

ATHLETE: MATTHEW FLYNN POS: C

“Matt is a first-year varsity player and has spent the season as our back-up catcher. Matt has handled the load when it comes to bullpen duties all year. Matt is a great student and will be attending Wake Forest in the Fall of 2021. Matt is the embodiment of all of the characteristics of Graduate at Graduation profile and has been a terrific teammate,” according to Coach Mauritz

FORAN HS

COACH: GARRETT WALKER A.D.: ANTHONY VITELLI

ATHLETE: NATHAN CHEN POS: OF

His coach said, *“Nathan has been a selfless player for 4 years as a member of the Foran baseball program. His teammates and program’s success always comes before his own. Willing to do whatever is asked of him Nathan has become a valued asset of the program. He will be impossible to replace as he departs for college next fall. The future is very bright for this incredibly hard-working young man.”*

GUILFORD HS

COACH: NICK MERULLO A.D.: JAKE JARVIS

ATHLETE: NIKO TARTAGNI POS: OF/DH

Coach Merullo commented, *“Niko is the epitome of a “team-first” player. Regardless of where he is batting in our lineup, or whether he is on the field or the bench, he is a reliable leader that can be counted on to support his team. Niko leads by example with a great work ethic in practices, and always seems to find the right words when the team needs a lift.”* Coach added, *“He is an excellent competitor, and one who always puts the success of the team before any sort of individual accolades.”*

AWARD WINNERS

HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

COACH: BRAD CHERNOVETZ A.D.: DAVID DOYLE

ATHLETE: MIKE COGGINS POS: P/SS/CF

Coach Chernovetz said, *“Mike exemplifies this award. He will play any position you ask him to. He started off with a rough beginning at the plate and told the coaches the team would be better off if we moved him out of the leadoff spot.”...* will continue his playing career at Hussain College in Maine..

HAMDEN HS

COACH: CHRIS BORELLI A.D.: TOM DYER

ATHLETE: MICHAEL NISTA POS: P/3B

Coach Borelli said, *“Mike is the heart and soul of our team. As a member of our notorious Bench Mob, Mike brings constant positive vibes to our games. Mike also has made significant contributions on the mound and at the plate this season for our team”.* Coach added, *“Mike is also one of the hardest working players on our practice field everyday setting a prime example for our underclassman. Mike will graduate in June and move on to Wesleyan University where he will continue his education.”*

DANIEL HAND HS

COACH: TRAVIS LAPOINTE A.D.: CRAIG SEMPLE

ATHLETE: DANNY CARBONE POS: P

According to Coach LaPointe, *“Danny was sidelined during his season with off-season arm surgery. Despite this, his contributions as a leader and great teammate have been immense. He is a major reason why we have been successful this season.”*

AWARD WINNERS

HILLHOUSE/CAREER H.S.

COACH: RJ VOELKER

Ath. Facil.: ERIC PATCHKOFISKY

ATHLETE: ANGEL LUGO

POS: 1B

“Angel is a two-way player, who plays 1st Base and Pitches. He is the teammate who is first at the ball park and last to leave. He is eager to work and help out,” says Coach Voelker.

HOPKINS SCHOOL

COACH: ROCCO DEMAIO

A.D.: ROCCO DEMAIO

ATHLETE: CHRIS WANAT

POS: 3B/P

Senior co-captain starter at third base and RHP in starting rotation.... Coach DeMaio said, *“Chris leads by example and is a positive teammate and leader on our team. Chris possesses a strong arm and a big bat in the middle of our line-up”* will attend Boston college next year.

JONATHAN LAW HS

COACH: GREG SIMLER

A.D.: VJ SARULLO

ATHLETE: LUKE PLEIMANN POS: C

3-year starter... *“He competes to the best of his ability every day at practice and during games. He has been a great team leader and we are proud that he represents our Jonathan Law High School,”* said Coach Simler.

MORGAN HIGH SCHOOL

COACH: MIKE GRANT

A.D.: LEW PAPPARIELLA

ATHLETE: RYAN INGLES

POS:2B

Leadoff hitter second baseman... captain... *“Gritty unselfish player who sets the tempo for our team,”* said the coach.

AWARD WINNERS AWARD WINNERS

NORTH BRANFORD HS

COACH: BILLY MITCHELL

A.D.: LORI CONNOLLY

ATHLETE: ANTHONY RAFFONE

POS: 2B

According to Coach Mitchell, "Anthony is the true definition of the meaning of the "No I in Team" award. For 4 years he has given 100% effort to his team. He has always supported his teammates with a smile on his face at all times. He was a pleasure to coach and will be truly missed."

NORTH HAVEN HS

COACH: BOB DeMAYO

A.D.: STEVEN BLUMENTHAL

ATHLETE: JASON MAZZARO POS: P

Coach DeMayo said, "JJ's first start was the second game in his sophomore season and he proved he was a competitor from that moment on. As co-captain of this year's team, he is the anchor of our pitching staff. His unselfish commitment to the team concept has made him a very popular teammate. JJ's outstanding work ethic, outlook and supportive attitude has certainly been a positive influence on all the younger players. "... four-year player in basketball where he was also captain...will attend Castleton University in Vermont next fall to study business and plans to continue playing baseball there. Coach added, "One of JJ's strengths is his ability to connect with others. This is evident in the dugout as well as both on and off the field. He claims he has learned a lot about communication skills and how to focus on what's really important because of baseball. JJ's genuine concern and caring for others is evident in all his actions. He is ready and willing to do anything to help the team. JJ always leads by example and has been a joy to coach."

NOTRE DAME HS

COACH: DON MARTONE

A.D.: J. SHEA

ATHLETE: RYAN CANNON

POS: P

His coach wrote, "Ryan Cannon is this award. He came off of hockey season and worked his way into a starting pitching role. He is selfless and does everything no one else wants to do; he is a "War Dog", He does anything he is asked to do, he kills it in practice, he picks up his teammates and last but not least he always brings the JUICE!!!"

AWARD WINNERS

PLATT HS

COACH: TIM REDICAN

A.D.: RICH KATZ

ATHLETE: ANDREW ROMANO

POS: OF/SS

4.1gp.... Bats 5th in the order and plays OF, SS..... Coach Redican added, *“Andrew is always supporting his team and displaying a positive attitude.”*

SHEEHAN HS

COACH: DOM LOMBARDOZZI

A.D.: C. DAILEY

ATHLETE: ANTHONY ROMANO

POS:

Said Coach Lombardozzi, *“Anthony is the ultimate team player. His positivity and energy level are unmatched, and he continually supports all of his teammates. He shows great sportsmanship with other teams, and to put it simply, has fun playing the game of baseball. He is the type of kid that every coach wants to have on their team.”*

SHELTON HS

COACH: SCOTT GURA

A.D.: JOHN NISKI

ATHLETE: SHAWN SMITH

POS: 1B/DH

First-year starter... Said Coach Gura, *“He is more interested in the team’s success than his personal accomplishments. If I could, I would field a team with 9 players that have Shawn’s work ethic and positive attitude each day. I was very fortunate to be able to coach such a mature and exceptional young man. Coach added, *“He has great leadership skills, is a great role model for the younger players, and handles himself with dignity and respect. Shawn was admired by the entire team and coaching staff for his dedication and commitment to our program. It will be difficult to replace the example he set in practice and games.”**

AWARD WINNERS

SOUTHINGTON HS

COACH: CHARLIE LEMBO

A.D.: STEVE RISSER

ATHLETE: JAKE DELLAVECCHIA

POS: C

Coach Lembo wrote, "Jake DellaVecchia is the epitome of the Whitey Piurek " There Is No I In Team Award ". Jake is a very good Senior Catcher and one of the hardest working players on our team. Jake is the true leader of our team which is 17-1 at the time of this writing. Jake is always willing to do the little things to help the team be successful. He has sacrificed his personal numbers offensively to make sure that our team is in the best possible position to win a game and behind the plate he will do whatever it takes to help his Pitchers get through a game whether they are throwing well that day or not. I believe that Jake is the best Catcher that I have seen play this season and I am very proud to nominate Jake for this prestigious award."

WESTBROOK HS

COACH: DEREK HANSSEN

A.D.: TEG COSGRIFF

ATHLETE; NICK PALUMBO

POS: 1B

Said Coach Hanssen, "Nick fully embodies the ideas behind the No I in Team award. Nick is the consummate team player. He puts the needs of the team and his fellow players above himself. He can always be counted on to be in the right place and to do the right thing. Over his varsity career, beginning in his sophomore year, Nick has contributed greatly on and off the field. Facing the most difficult situation a team captain could face over the last two years Nick has helped to keep his team together and pointed in the right direction."

WEST HAVEN HS

COACH: RON LUNEAU

A.D.: JOE MORRELL

ATHLETE: MICHAEL BONI

POS: OF

Said Coach Luneau, "Michael has been a 4-year starter for us at various positions throughout his career. He has done everything asked of him as a senior leader in our baseball program. He hit .360 this year and led the team with 17 RBI's. He committed no errors in the field and has been our best right field player in my 7 years as head coach. Michael does this without much fanfare or accolades. He just gets the job done!! He has improved immensely throughout his years in our program in the areas of hitting, fielding and baserunning." He added, "The West Haven High School program will miss him next year!! Michael is attending UConn-Avery pt. in the fall. Coach Ian Ratchford is getting a great player and person!!!"

AWARD WINNERS

WILBUR CROSS HS

COACH: ANGEL RAMOS ATHLETIC FAC: ERIK PATCHKOFSKY

ATHLETE: CAL MELENDEZ POS: IF/OF

Captain....honor student...Coach said *“Cal is a leader on and off the field and works hard at practice.”*...will continue playing at the University of New Haven.

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

COACH: NICK CERRETA A.D.: TONY JASKOT

ATHLETE: EVAN EICHHORN POS: C

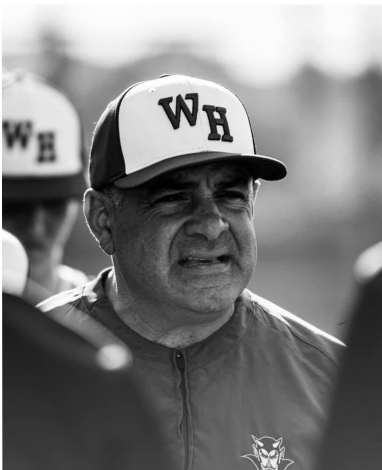
“Evan is the most positive player I have ever been around in 17 years of coaching,” said Coach Cerreta. *“ He supports all of his teammates every single day and always puts the team first. You simply don’t find young men anymore like Evan when it comes to sports. Evan is the perfect example of a team player. It is never once about him and he always puts others first. The humility Evan displays is so rare these days among his generation. Evan has a love for the game that I admire and plays with passion unlike anyone else.”* Coach added, *“Evan is a coach’s dream because he is loyal, hard-working, energetic, kind-hearted, responsible, trustworthy, intelligent, humorous, and genuine. Not a day goes by that Evan does not have a huge smile on his face which is so infectious towards his teammates. They thrive off the positive vibe he gives off every day! Evan is a true student-athlete because as dedicated as he is on the field, he works even harder in the classroom. It has been an honor watching him grow into such a fine, poised young man over the last 4 years. If I had a team full of Evan’s I would rarely lose a game. He is the heart-beat of the Xavier baseball program.”*

**COACH OF THE YEAR -
CHRIS BORELLI, HAMDEN HS**



Coach Borelli has been at the helm for the Green Dragons since the 2012 season. Borelli has an overall mark of 97-97 during that time with six straight CIAC state tournament appearances, five straight SCC tournament appearances, and four SCC division championships. Borelli's transformation of the program has been evident over the last five seasons where the Green Dragons have been 69-30 in the regular season. Many of Coach Borelli's former players have gone on to have successful careers playing college baseball.

**COACH OF THE YEAR
RON LUNEAU, WEST HAVEN HS**

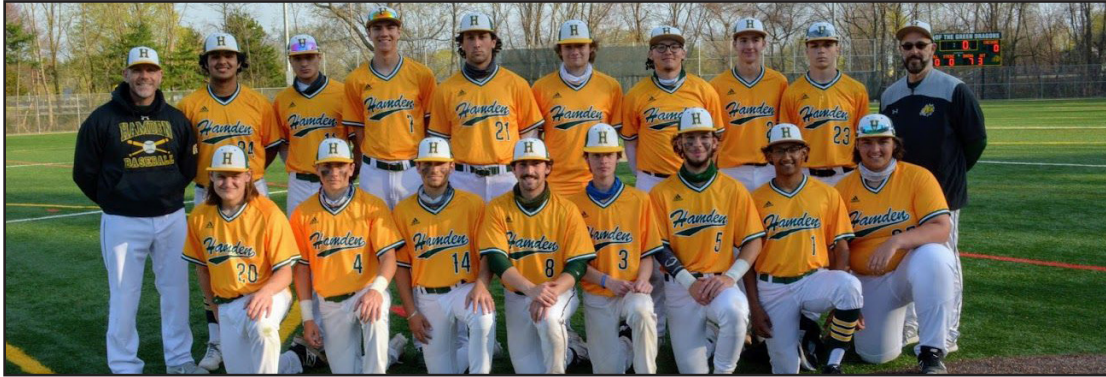


Ron Luneau has been a coach and teacher for the past 28 years. He began his career as a social studies teacher at Derby High School, where he coached football, basketball, and baseball from 1992 to 2006. He also had coaching stints as the defensive line coach at Southern Connecticut State University from 1999 to 2001 and as an assistant baseball coach at Emmett O'Brien Tech in 2005.

In 2008, he started teaching and coaching at West Haven High School. He has coached the defensive side of the ball in football since the 2008 season as a "Westies" assistant coach. From 2008-2014, Ron served as a baseball assistant coach on the staff of West Haven's head coach Mike Anquillare.

In 2009, Ron was part of the staff that led the Blue Devils to the Class LL State Championship. In 2015, Ron was named head baseball coach at West Haven, and has consistently been competitive in the Southern Connecticut Conference in his six years at the helm.

**TEAM OF THE YEAR
HAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL**



The 2020-2021 Hamden Green Dragons baseball team has enjoyed an excellent season to date. The team is led by a core group of nine seniors who not only offer excellent baseball skill but also exceptional leadership. The Green Dragons finished the regular season with a 17-2 record and captured the the SCC Hammonasset Division title for the fourth time in the last five years. As the two seed in the SCC tournament, the Green Dragons defeated Shelton in the quarterfinals before falling to Fairfield Prep in the semis. Four Green Dragon players have been honored by the SCC, anchored by the 2021 SCC Player of the Year centerfielder Jake Pisano. Pisano, Max Gross, and Jake Jovia were also all selected to the 1st team All-SCC and outfielder Cody Colon was selected to the 2nd team. The Green Dragons are the two seed in the upcoming CIAC Class LL state tournament.

**TEAM OF THE YEAR
WEST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL**



This is the most wins in a year for our team since our LL state championship team in 2009. They were 21-5 overall. At this point we are 16-5. We made it to the SCC tournament final for the first time since 2003. We haven't broken any individual records up to this point for a year but, we have 5 players hitting above or near the .400 mark and we have 3 pitchers with ERA's below 2.5 with Gianni Gambardella at 1.2. Gianni Gambardella, Dan Izzo and Tyler Jones made ALL-SCC. Izzo made the Senior All-Star game, Michael Boni is the "No I in team" award recipient. Gianni Gambardella is playing in the junior all-star game. All 6 of our seniors are going to four year colleges and our captain Hunter Axelrod is our class valedictorian.

**PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS
"NO I IN TEAM" AWARD**

2005

Amity - Pat McKenna
Branford - Edward Bethke
Cheshire - Bobak "Bob" Emamian
Choate - Brian Marcus
Cross - Rich Rivera
Hand - Nick Brettingen
Derby - Michael Smith
East Haven - Ryan DaCorte
Foran - Mike Dooling
Guilford - Stuart Campbell
Hamden Hall - Jon Swirsky
Hamden - Kevin Stanford
Hill Career - Luis Gaston
Hopkins - Craig Cooper
Hyde - Brendan Logan
Lyman Hall - Mike Oswald
Morgan - Eraclito Rapuano
North Branford - Kyle Beefus
North Haven - Dan Golden
Notre Dame - Mike Flynn
O'Brien RTVS - Chris Smith
Platt - Nick Culver
Platt RTVS - Pat Dixon
Sheehan - B.J. Senna
Shelton - Brian Marsegua
West Haven - Steve Alves
Westbrook - Chris Lombardozi

2006

Amity Regional - Brian Paturas
Branford - Doug Papuga
Cheshire - Matt Cesca
Choate - Michael Cecchi & Timothy Brettinger
Derby - Jason Devonshuk
East Haven - Casey Tyler
Foran - Corey Lydiksen
Guilford - Anthony Callegari
Hamden Hall - Sam Eldrich
Hamden High - Justin Chabot
Hand - Travis Gulick
Hill Career Regional - Tom Hauburger
Hopkins - Chris Santopolo
Hyde - T.Q. Gray & Jesse Camacho
Hillhouse - Danny Burke
J. Law - Brandon Edo
Lyman Hall - Michael Mccarthy
Lyme-Old Lyme - Rob Neaton
Morgan - Scott Rembisz
North Branford - Mark Giannelli
North Haven - Nate Shatsoff
Notre Dame - Mike Kolakowski
Platt - Rene Nieves
Platt RVTS - Mike Bereza
Sheehan - John Gumkowski
Shelton - Mark Garamella
Westbrook - Justin Lawrie
West Haven - Steve Carden
Wilbur Cross - Rob Tamaro

2007

Amity Regional - Kyle Birdsall
Branford - Brian Maturo
Cheshire - Thomas Sirois
Choate - Mark Beaudoin, Jr.
Derby - Mlichael Matosian
East Haven - Joe Lucibello
Eli Whitney RVTS - Luis Garayua
Fairfield Prep - Kevin Collins
Foran - Cody Quinn
Guilford - Nick Hahn
Hamden Hall - Jackson Arpine
Hamden High - Richard DeMatties
Hand - Kevin Korwek
Hill Career Regional - Austin Edwards
Hillhouse - Brandyn Wright
Hopkins - Sam Schrieber
Hyde - Tiquentes Gray
J. Law - Chris Kochiss
Lyman Hall - Paul Thurston
Lyme-Old Lyme - Eddie Freeman
Morgan - Adam Taylor
North Branford - Greg Remyey
North Haven - Jeff Gaudioso
Notre Dame - Michael Biondi
O'Brien RVTS - Peter Jankauskas
Platt - Jim Wielgosz
Platt RVTS - Tom Green
Sheehan - Mike Dean
Shelton - Tom Lindberg
Westbrook - Matt Trasacco
West Haven - John Wezenski
Wilbur Cross - James Shapiro
Xavier - Will Hendel

2008

Amity Regional- Steve Siena
Branford - John Ahern II
Hill Career Regional - Otis Brown
Cheshire- Dan Feldshon
Choate - Ben Pascale
Derby - Tim Geer
East Haven - Stephen Pelliccia
Eli Whitney RVTS - Tylor Wetmore
Fairfield Prep - Peter Eason
Foran - Ben Besket
Guilford - Mike Pavelko
Hamden Hall -Alessandro Gasparro
Hamden - MJ Lombardozi
Hand- Chris DiMarco
Hillhouse -Danny Burke
Hopkins - Keith Bolles
Hyde - Bobby Coleman
J. Law - Steve Kubik
Lyman Hall - Michael McCarthy
Lyme- Old Lyme - Rob Gentile
Morgan - Steve French
North Branford - Frank Mentone III
North Haven - Steve Rudiewicz
Notre Dame - Anthony Pisani
O'Brien RVTS - John Gromotskie

PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS "NO I IN TEAM" AWARD

Old Saybrook - Frank Eucalitto
 Platt - Raymond Thayer
 Platt RVTS - Nick Dudek
 Sheehan - Ben DiTota
 Shelton - Marek McCormack
 Westbrook - Ryan Riggio
 West Haven - Mike Carden
 Wilbur Cross - Elvin Rodriguez

2009

Amity Regional - Ryan Adams
 Branford - Justin Giddings
 Cheshire - Steve Howard
 Choate- Jason Cohen
 Derby - Tim Geer
 East Haven - Daniel Russo
 Fairfield Prep - John Blagys
 Foran - Chris Folsom
 Guilford - Matt Anthonis
 Hamden Hall - Nolan Rich
 Hamden - Kingsley Birdsall
 Hand - Brendan Maghini
 Hill Career Regional - Aaron Perry
 Hillhouse - Leon Davis Jr.
 Hopkins - Thomas Driscoll
 Hyde - Jordan Green
 J. Law - Mike Nelson
 Lyman Hall - Lloyd Jacques
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Mike Smith
 Morgan - Mitch DeMazza
 North Branford - Jeff Rivellini
 North Haven - Frank J. Barbiero
 Notre Dame - Eric Romano
 O'Brien RVTS - Gary Britto
 Old Saybrook - Jon Palmer
 Platt - Patrick Bruenn
 Platt RVTS - Nick Cowell
 Sheehan - Nick Hatcher
 Shelton - Nick Georgalas
 Westbrook - Dylan Twigg
 West Haven - Rich Prydol
 Wilbur Cross - Jose Acosta
 Xavier - Bob Stachura

2010

Amity - Brian Kernan
 Branford - Chris Carbone
 Cheshire - Mike Severino
 Choate - Kyle McDonough
 Cross - Edinson Rodriguez
 Derby - Ryan Skelly
 East Haven - Paul Spadacenta
 Eli Whitney RVTS - Brian Aquino
 Fairfield Prep - Andrew Fitzsimmons
 Foran - Dan Geier
 Greens Farms Academy - Gerard Connelly
 Guilford - Craig Schlitter
 Hamden Hall - Jordan Kubilus
 Hamden - Will Hindinger
 Hand - Jeff Buck
 Hillhouse - Reno Dunkley

Hill Regional Career - Sheldon Poole
 Hopkins - Ryan D'Souza
 Hyde - Noelio Espinal
 J. Law - Jeff St. Pierre
 Lyman Hall - Eric Thurston
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Sawyer Gregory
 Morgan - Mike Lee
 North Branford - Matt Proto
 North Haven - Stephen Cusano
 Notre Dame - William Meade
 O'Brien RVTS - Shane Sweeney
 Old Saybrook - Ken Henry
 Platt - Jake Wolf
 Sheehan - Reid Nelson
 Shelton - Eric Christensen
 Westbrook - Dane Pallotto
 West Haven - John Ascenzia
 Xavier - Brandon Sullivan

2011

Amity Regional - Anthony Faggiana
 Ansonia - Alex Chosczyk
 Branford - Joe Massey
 Cheshire - Greg Leonetti
 Derby - Adam Greenhill
 East Haven - Adam Poulin
 Fairfield Prep - Alex Heiman
 Foran - Steven Polito
 Greens Farms Academy - Spencer Traver
 Guilford - Austin Bramann
 Hamden Hall - Marco Gasparro
 Hamden High - Don Pfeiffer
 Hand - Brian Heflin
 Hill Career Regional - Juliano Nieves
 Hillhouse - Lazaro Barrios
 Hopkins - Matt Luciani
 Hyde - Will Nieves
 J. Law - Max Nowicki
 Lyman Hall - Billy Graeb
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Wyatt Stanland
 Morgan - Nate Calini
 North Branford - Taylor Gamache
 North Haven - Brian Sica
 Notre Dame - Matthew Biondi
 O'Brien RVTS - Nick Ascencao
 Old Saybrook - Joe Ferrantelli
 Platt - Daniel Mrocza
 Platt RVTS - Peter Brauer
 Sheehan - Mark Brennan
 Shelton - Dan McCue
 Westbrook - Cody Forrest
 West Haven - Jeff Hill
 Wilbur Cross - Neftali Arroyo
 Xavier - Steven Lockman

2012

Amity Regional - Rob Rosner
 Ansonia - Vincent Bonaparte
 Branford - Travis Krause
 Cheshire - Jordan Kubilis
 Derby - Brian Dobek

**PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS
"NO I IN TEAM" AWARD**

East Haven – Joe Gioia
 Fairfield Prep – Matt Beck
 Foran – Ryan Manning
 Greens Farms Academy - Brandon Velez
 Hamden Hall – Nick Strada
 Hamden High – Erin Moskal
 Hand – Matt Girardi
 Hill Career Regional – Adam Olszyk
 Hopkins – Darren O'Brien
 Hyde/Hillhouse - Kahlil Morant
 J. Law – Michael Spadaro
 Lyman Hall – Matt Moran
 Morgan – Robbie Lee
 North Branford – Matt Scavo
 North Haven – Jake Scafariello
 Notre Dame – Jacob DeRosa
 O'Brien RVTS – Chad Sweeney
 Old Saybrook – Justin Beal
 Platt – Pasquale Silvia
 Sheehan – Andy Mazzone
 Shelton – Bryan Kondor
 Westbrook – Tyler Shamas
 West Haven – Dan Chambrelli
 Wilbur Cross – Jonathan Tirado
 Xavier – Ryan Verdi

2013

Amity Regional – Nick Ceneri
 Ansonia - Ryan O'Connor
 Branford – Dylan Carlton
 Cheshire –Kevin Mirando
 Derby – Dillon McMahon
 East Haven – Thomas Moore
 Eli Whitney – Jaury Santiago
 Fairfield Prep – Michael Carter
 Foran – Christopher Yee
 Greens Farms Academy - Brian Dexheimer
 Guilford – Dante Parisi
 Hamden Hall – Christopher Salaway
 Hamden High – Andrew Calabrese
 Hand – Corey Smith
 Hill Career Regional – Jose Matos
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Jerell Baines
 Hopkins – Simon Mathews
 J. Law – David Pingarron
 Lyman Hall – Kevin Naimoli
 North Branford – Chris Caron
 North Haven – Andrew Iovanna
 Notre Dame – Zachary Korwek
 O'Brien RVTS – Justin Rochon
 Platt – Gage Forney
 Platt Tech – Angelo Genovasi
 Seymour – Mike Conlon
 Sheehan – Rob Sprafek
 Shelton – Tyler Tice
 Westbrook – Chris Dahl
 West Haven – Tyler Gambardella
 Wilbur Cross – Thomas Miele
 Xavier – Jason Schaff

2014

Amity Regional – Mike Tavalacci
 Ansonia - Darwin Elias
 Branford – BJ Massey
 Cheshire – Kyle Waldron
 Derby – Jordan Larue
 East Haven – Tyler Gaudino
 Fairfield Prep: Austin Crane
 Foran – Christopher June
 Guilford – Ricky Williams
 Hamden Hall – Joe Lord
 Hamden High – Tyler Mitchell
 Hand – Andrew Card
 Hill Career Regional – Kamil Wielechowski
 Hopkins – Jim Martino
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Calvin Riley Jr.
 J. Law – Rich Dow
 Lyman Hall – Ben Miller
 North Branford – Evan Pollick
 North Haven -Patrick Mikos
 Notre Dame – Arden Burton
 O'Brien RVTS – Kyle Bertanza
 Old Saybrook – Adam Seegart
 Platt – Scott Dargan
 Platt Tech – James Cowry
 Sheehan – Brian DeMaio
 Shelton – Pat Murphy
 Westbrook – David Hermansen
 West Haven – Ricky Balzano
 Wilbur Cross – Carlos Diaz
 Xavier – Daniel Lawler

2015

Amity Regional – Jake Smith
 Ansonia - Larry Cafaro
 Branford – Dom Acquarulo
 Canterbury School – Richie Barrella
 Cheshire – Connor Gunnesom
 Derby – Michael Koval
 East Haven – Anthony Pepe
 Eli Whitney - Devaunie Dacres
 Fairfield Prep – John Carroll
 Foran – Joe Radecki
 Guilford – Tyler Donlon
 Hamden Hall – William Rhone
 Hamden High – Marc Masciantonio
 Hand – Matt LoStocco
 Hill Career Regional – Alex Bunnell
 Hopkins – Johanan Knight
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Terence Cooper
 J. Law – Mac Taylor
 Lyman Hall – Tucker McClure
 North Branford – Jason Quido
 North Haven – Hunter Iacobelli
 Notre Dame – Jon David Cascio
 Old Saybrook – Ethan Casberg
 Platt – Jaelin Highsmith
 Sheehan – Pete Abate
 Shelton – Paul Salley
 Westbrook – Dylan Engels
 West Haven – Jake Kelly
 Wilbur Cross – Sean Ranz
 Xavier – Jacob Corrone

2016

Amity Regional – Matt Tomei
 Ansonia - Michael Rhodes
 Branford – Bryce Baker
 Canterbury School – Jrstin Proteau
 Cheshire – Troy Rtchmond
 Derby – Jake Finnucan
 East Haven – Matt Coyle
 Eli Whitney – Michael DeMatteo
 Fairfield Prep – Jack Oricoli
 Foran – Michael Howell
 Guilford – Connor Peters
 Hamden Hall – Luke Wilcox
 Hamden High – Brendan Berube
 Hand – Pat Nelson
 Hill Career Regional – Tyler Osborne
 Hopkins – Billy McGrath
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Jon Williamson
 J. Law – Frank Mucciacciaro
 Lyman Hall – Kyle Shea
 North Branford – Matt Chamberlain
 North Haven – Joseph Balzano
 Notre Dame – Joe Morris
 Platt – Andrew Abrahante
 Platt Tech – Justin Candido
 Sheehan – Jake Gawlak
 Shelton – Craig McNamara
 Westbrook – Chris Benzi
 West Haven – Kalan Morgillo
 Wilbur Cross – Reynaldo Duprey
 Xavier – Dennis Beaudry

2017

Amity Regional – Josh Crow
 Ansonia - Jordan Jones
 Branford – Trevor Brown
 Canterbury School – Dan Brady
 Cheshire – Ryan Mostoller
 Derby – John Dytko
 East Haven – Dominic DelBasso
 Fairfield Prep – Matt Zeffino
 Foran – John L[ckteig
 Guilford – Logan Hitchcock
 Hamden Hall – Tim Bradley
 Hamden High – Mark Durwin
 Hand – Matt Sampson
 Hill Career Regional – Angel Mendez
 Hopkins – Ryan Meury
 Creed/Hillhouse – Jonathan Browne
 J. Law – Mitchell Smith
 Lyman Hall – Zach Blier
 North Branford – Gio Tirollo
 North Haven – Dom Onofrio
 Notre Dame – Brad Zsampar
 Platt – Devyn Mc Carty
 Platt Tech – Michael Hernandez
 Sheehan – Sam DeMaio
 Shelton – Jason DeSeo
 Westbrook – Matt Gallagher
 West Haven – Mario Kiaunis
 Wilbur Cross – Omar Diaz
 Xavier – Kevin Canney

2018

Amity Regional – TED CRISCUOLO
 Ansonia - JAMES BROWN
 Branford – ROBERT BARBASH
 Canterbury School – JORDAN PEREZ
 Cheshire – MICHAEL PEPE
 Derby – MATTHEW OLIWA
 East Haven – SALVATORE BUFFONE
 Fairfield Prep – DAN FALLACARO
 Foran – MATTHEW KENNEDY
 Guilford – MATT DONLAN
 Hamden Hall – JOSEPH LIUCCI
 Hamden High – ROBERT LYON
 Hand – CHRIS HARTMANN
 Hill Career Regional – ISAIAH BAEZ
 Hopkins – LIAM DAY
 Creed/Hillhouse – DAN CASTILLO
 J. Law – NATHAN MERCHANT
 Lyman Hall – RUSSELL EDEEN
 North Branford – JEFF JABLONSKI
 North Haven – NATHANIEL ZALEGOWSKI
 Notre Dame – CHARLES RHODES
 Platt – CAMERON GERME
 Platt Tech – EVAN MAZAKO
 Sheehan – AUSTIN LEE
 Shelton – WILL CICCONE
 Southington – DAN TOPPER
 Westbrook – JACK HAYES
 West Haven – MARK BASTA
 Wilbur Cross – BRIAN PETTWAY
 Xavier – MATTHEW BJORKLUND

2019

AMITY – LOGAN CORRIS
 ANSONIA – JOHN PICHECO
 BRANFORD – ANTHONY BURZYNSKI
 CANTERBURY – GREG MCKENNA
 CAREER – XAVIER BURGOS
 CHESHIRE – PATRICK MURPHY
 DERBY – ALEX HICKEY
 EAST HAVEN – GIRO ESPOSITO
 FAIRFIELD PREP – ANDREW CHAGLASIAN
 FORAN- JACK GREENSPAN
 GUILFORD – JACK STRAND
 HAMDEN HALL – JAIME WALKER
 HAMDEN - JULIAN VIVENZIO
 HAND- JAKE SALUTARI
 HILLHOUSE –HOWARD JONES
 HOPKINS – JORDAN SHAND
 LAW – VINNY SCHULTE
 MORGAN – AJ FRITZ
 NO. BRANFORD – NICK MANCINI
 NO. HAVEN – BEN SBABO
 NOTRE DAME – AUSTIN ORMROD
 PLATT – PEYTON THIEL
 PLATT RVTS – JAGGER ART
 SHEEHAN – EVAN WILKINSON
 SHELTON – HUDSON MEYER
 SOUTHINGTON – BRENDAN KAVANAGH
 WESTBROOK – TAVISH ERNST
 WEST HAVEN – DEREK BAKER
 WILBUR CROSS – ANDREW MARRERO
 XAVIER – JOHN LASKO

**THE SAMUEL A. BURRELL, JR.
COACH OF THE YEAR**

2007 - Pete Civitello, Guilford H.S.
2008 -Ed Marocco, Shelton H.S.
2009 - Mike Anquillare, West Haven
H.S.
2010 - Steve DiCrosta, Hyde Leader-
ship
2011 - Billy Mitchell, North Branford
2012 - Scott Gura, Shelton
2013- Rich Magner, Xavier
2014- Greg Simler, Jonathan Law
2015 - Chris Borelli, Hamden High
2016 - Jeff Farrell, Wilbur Cross High
School
2017 - Brian Hayden, Guilford H.S.
2018 - Travis LaPointe, Hand H.S
2019 - Mike Lussier, Cheshire H.S.

**THE GEORGE KLIVAK
TEAM OF THE YEAR**

2007
Amity - SCC
Lyme-Old Lyme - Shoreline
Hopkins - Independent
2008 - Guilford HS.
2009 - Jonathan Law HS
2010 - Amity Regional HS
2011 - Branford HS
2012 - Derby HS
2013 - Xavier HS
2014- Jonathan Law HS
2015 - Fairfield Prep
2016 - Hamden HS
2017 - Amity Regional HS
2018 - Fairfield Prep
2019 - Cheshire H.S.



The SCDC has been involved in numerous community outreach efforts, including youth skills clinics, sponsorship of events, and award dinners. You can review the links of the Hall of Fame dinner and the High School Awards Night for more information on those events on our website: *southernctdiamondclub.org*

All of our board members are volunteers, and proceeds are donated back to the community.

Here are some of the organizations and initiatives that have been supported:

American Legion Baseball, donations to support local Posts.

Connecticut Collegiate Baseball League Teams

DonorsChoose.org campaigns related to baseball

Hamden Education Foundation - (For a yearly scholarship awarded to a senior baseball player)

Local Athletics Halls of Fame

Local Little Leagues

March of Dimes

New Haven Register Fresh Air Fund

Various Foundations

Various Scholarship Funds

Various local charitable baseball tournaments

West Haven Twilight League

