

U.S. Figure Skating Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

Award Overview

U.S. Figure Skating presents an annual *Outstanding Sportsmanship Award*. This award recognizes an individual or individuals who have shown an unparalleled example of sportsmanship.

In 2001, Richard Gillam was presented with the first Sportsmanship of the Year award. Gillam was a competitor in the 2001 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships senior pairs event. During an official practice, Steve Hartsell was seriously injured and Gillam responded immediately to assist the fallen skater. Gillam's training in the military prepared him to professionally direct the procedure of administering first aid. He unselfishly forfeited his own practice to ensure Hartsell's well-being. He displayed the character of a true sportsman.

In 2004, Jacyln Klann was the recipient. She assisted her Fraser Eclipse teammate, Kendyl Diederich, who had suffered an arm injury while skating at the 2004 U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships. Diederich spent four days in the hospital but thanks to the quick assistance and care from Klann, her injury was minimized. Diederich said, "I think Jacyln is a true hero. Her main concern was to put pressure on my arm and get me off the ice to the medical station as soon as possible. Jacyln is the captain of our team, and she acted with true leadership that day."

How to Nominate Someone

Nominees should be individuals who best exemplify the ideals of sportsmanship, including but not limited to: fairness, civility, honesty, unselfishness, respect of the rules, setting a good example and acting responsibly.

Any current member of U.S. Figure Skating in good standing can nominate an award recipient. The 2006 nomination period will run from January 1, 2006, to December 15, 2006. The nomination application is on the back of this document or can be downloaded from the U.S. Figure Skating web site at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Athletes.asp?id=213>.

Nomination forms must be mailed to:
Danielle Hartsell-Minnis
Athlete Advisory Committee Chair
12308 Gayton Bluffs Lane
Richmond, VA 23233.

Deadline: December 15, 2006

