

**THE FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL**  
*presents the*

**STEPHEN A. M'LAUGHLIN**  
**Champions**  
*of*  
**Character**  
**AWARDS**



**October 17, 2023**

**RESPONSIBILITY • RESPECT • CARING**

**TRUSTWORTHINESS • CITIZENSHIP • FAIRNESS**

**2023**  
**Champions**  
*of*  
**Character**  
**Awards**

## Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards

The Champions of Character ceremony has been renamed in honor of Stephen A. McLaughlin, former Providence District Representative on the Fairfax County Athletic Council.



Mr. McLaughlin's service on the Athletic Council began when he was appointed by then Providence District Supervisor Gerry Connolly. He served in the same position for 26 years under numerous leadership changes.

The Athletic Council has been a major force of positive influence for Fairfax County citizens through

the years. Over the past three decades, the Athletic Council has forwarded many important recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on programs, policies, procedures and budget impacts. Steve was right in the middle of each of those big projects, as a member on committees or in leadership positions. He promoted logic, consensus, authorship and presentation strategies. Steve embodied all the traits we honor tonight: Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Trustworthiness, Citizenship and Fairness.

The Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards program honors youth, coaches and parents for extraordinary service in pursuing victory with honor on and off the field of competition. Instituted by the Fairfax County Athletic Council, this program aims to support the tradition of amateur athletics in cultivating teamwork, leadership, good sportsmanship and community service.

## Program

### *Opening Remarks*

#### **Lloyd Tucker**

*Director*

*Fairfax County Department of  
Neighborhood and Community Services*

#### **Lula Bauer**

*Chairwoman*

*Fairfax County Athletic Council*

#### **Jeffrey McKay**

*Chairman*

*Fairfax County Board of Supervisors*

#### **Bryan Hill**

*County Executive*

*Fairfax County*

### *Special presentation to the McLaughlin family*

### *Awards Presentation*

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Fairfax County School Board

Fairfax County Athletic Council

## Fairfax County Stephen A. M<sup>c</sup>Laughlin Champions of Character Awards

The Champions of Character Awards were first presented in 2001 to recognize those who go above and beyond in demonstrating good sportsmanship and character in youth sports.

The benefits of playing sports are well documented:

- Participants experience improved health, community involvement, family attachment and academic performance.
- Young athletes are less likely to become involved in gangs, violent behavior, drug use and other problem behaviors.

Sports can only work their magic when they are enjoyable, and enjoyment stems from good sportsmanship. Among the thousands of parents, coaches and athletes in Fairfax County, we are proud to honor Champions of Character from each magisterial district in the following categories:

**Female Athlete      Male Athlete      Coach      Parent**

Each honoree has proven himself or herself to be a Champion of Character by exhibiting the following qualities outlined in each award category.

### Athlete Awards

- Being respectful to opponents and game officials.
- Treating all team players fairly, giving attention to all players regardless of skill level.
- Giving respect and consideration to other team members.
- Helping teammates with words of encouragement and inspiration.
- Playing true to the spirit and rules of the game and promoting friendly competition.
- Exhibiting courage in defeat and moderation in victory.
- Showing a willingness to sacrifice personal goals for those of the team.
- Giving back to the team or program by helping out when able.

### Coach Awards

- Being respectful to opponents and game officials.
- Treating all team players fairly, giving attention to all players regardless of skill level.
- Recognizing the efforts of individual team members.
- Motivating teams and individuals in a positive manner.
- Focusing on long term goals, not just win/loss records.
- Promoting the concept that success is measured by individual and team effort, not by a scoreboard.
- Imparting knowledge and love of the game to the team in a positive manner.
- Taking responsibility for the behavior of self, team and parents.

### Parent Awards

- Being respectful to players, coaches, and game officials.
- Treating all players, coaches and parents fairly.
- Recognizing the efforts of individual team members and opposing team members.
- Motivating parents, teams, coaches and fans in a positive manner.
- Promoting the concept that success is measured by individual and team effort, not by a scoreboard.
- Demonstrating good sportsmanship by approving and applauding good team play, individual skill, and good sportsmanship exhibited by players and coaches on both teams.
- Accepting volunteer roles to improve the communication and the needs of the coach and team.

## Braddock District

**Female Athlete**  
***Katherine Suson***

Lake Braddock Secondary School, Capital Gymnastics — Gymnastics

**Male Athlete**  
***Daniel Belloni***

Lake Braddock Secondary School, Top Caliber Lacrosse — Lacrosse

**Coach**  
***Douglas Alcorn and Malcolm H. Squires, Jr.***  
Braddock Road Youth Club — Soccer

**Parent**  
***Elizabeth Giuliani***  
Braddock Road Youth Club — Soccer

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## Franconia District

**Female Athlete**  
***Mya Cook***

Glory Fastpitch Softball — Softball

**Male Athlete**  
***Urban Ramirez***

Lee Mt. Vernon Sports Club — Soccer

**Coach**  
***Chris Larson***  
Lee Mt. Vernon Sports Club — Basketball

**Parent**  
***Corea B. Smith***  
Lee Mt. Vernon Sports Club — Soccer

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## Dranesville District

**Female Athlete**  
***Riley Losick***  
Great Falls Basketball — Basketball

**Male Athlete**  
***Luca H. Sanchez***  
Langley Club & FISH Swim Team — Swimming

**Coach**  
***Craig Cook***  
Great Falls Little League — Baseball/Softball

**Parent**  
***Patricia Walker***  
Glory Fastpitch Softball — Softball

## Hunter Mill District

**Female Athlete**  
***Noor Atiya***  
Langston Hughes Middle School, Reston Youth Basketball — Basketball

**Male Athlete**  
***Andrew Carroll***  
Premier Athletics Club — Soccer

**Coach**  
***Randy McCargo***  
Vienna Youth Inc. — Football

**Parent**  
***Amber Kluesener***  
Vienna Girls Softball League — Softball

## Mason District

**Female Athlete**  
***Caroline O'Brien***

Annandale Boys and Girls Club — Soccer

**Male Athlete**  
***Bradley McCall***

Villarreal Virginia Academy — Soccer

**Coach**  
***Karen Billingslea***

Villarreal Virginia Academy — Soccer

**Parent**  
***Randa A. Gabr***

Annandale Boys and Girls Club — Soccer

## Providence District

**Female Athlete**  
***Helen Kluesener***

Vienna Girls Softball League — Softball

**Male Athlete**  
***Wes Ochsendorf***

NOVA Cavaliers — Basketball

**Coach**  
***Ryan Webb***

Great Falls - Reston Soccer Club — Soccer

**Parent**  
***Nicole and Chris McGarrigal***

Vienna Youth Soccer — Soccer

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## Mount Vernon District

**Female Athlete**  
***Rhys Smith***

Lee Mt. Vernon Sports Club — Soccer

**Male Athlete**  
***Graham Swoope***

Fort Hunt Youth Lacrosse — Lacrosse

**Coach**  
***Kevin Jeffery***

Lee Mt. Vernon Sports Club — Soccer

**Parent**  
***Tina Hopkins***

Gunston Soccer — Soccer

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## Springfield District

**Female Athlete**  
***Jaisley Tibayan***

Braddock Road Youth Club — Volleyball

**Male Athlete**  
***Connor Cluxton***

Springfield/South County Youth Club — Soccer

**Coach**  
***Paul Miller***

Southwestern Youth Association — Basketball

**Parent**  
***David Fields***

Springfield/South County Youth Club — Soccer

# Sully District

## **Female Athlete**

***Ava Keegan***

Southwestern Youth Association — Field Hockey, Softball, Soccer

## **Male Athlete**

***Christopher Schafer***

Southwestern Youth Association — Track

## **Coach**

***Samantha Nhan***

Southwestern Youth Association — Volleyball

## **Parent**

***Pamela Woodfield***

Southwestern Youth Association — Baseball, Wrestling

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## Congratulations Champions!

**Photos and video of this event will be available:**

[bit.ly/FairfaxChampions](https://bit.ly/FairfaxChampions)

# Do You Know a Champion of Character?

We are now accepting nominations for our 2024 Stephen A. McLaughlin Champions of Character Awards. Help us recognize and honor those Champions of Character in your community. If you know an athlete, coach or parent who you feel is deserving of this recognition for their dedication on and off the playing field or court, we want to hear about them.

**Program details and nomination forms are available online at:**

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/athletics/champions-of-character](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/athletics/champions-of-character)

**Attach a narrative of one page or less and submit them to:**

Fax: 703-324-5546

Mail to: **Champions of Character Awards**  
12011 Government Center Parkway  
10th Floor, Athletic Services  
Fairfax, VA 22035



# The Athletic Council

The Fairfax County Athletic Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, School Board and county agencies on matters relating to sports in Fairfax County. The council, comprised of 23 voting members, advises on policy and establishes priorities for enhancing the availability of sports programs to the citizens of Fairfax County.

Council appointees include one representative from each of the nine magisterial districts; a member-at-large; a representative from women's sports programs; a diversity-at-large representative; representatives from the Towns of Vienna, Herndon, and Clifton; and 8 members appointed from the county's 8 sports-specific councils.

## Fairfax County Staff Serving on the Athletic Council

**Lloyd Tucker**  
*Director*

Department of Neighborhood  
and Community Services

**Pallas Washington**  
*Deputy Director*

Department of Neighborhood  
and Community Services

**Aimee Garcia**  
*Division Director*

*Access and Economic Mobility*  
Department of Neighborhood  
and Community Services

**Karen Avvisato**  
*Manager*  
*Athletic Services*

Department of Neighborhood  
and Community Services

**Kim Eckert**  
*Director of Park Operations*  
Park Authority

**Megan McLaughlin**  
*Board Member*  
Fairfax County School Board

**William Curran**  
*Director of Student Activities  
and Athletic Programs*  
Fairfax County Public Schools

# Athletic Council Members

**Marcia Pape Daniels**  
Braddock District

**Gregory Beckwith Esquire**  
Dranesville District

**Harold Leff**  
Hunter Mill District

**Lisa Mickey**  
*Secretary*  
Franconia District

**Barbara R. Lowrey**  
Mason District

**Lester Munson**  
Mount Vernon District

**Kelly Ego-Osuala**  
Providence District

**Michael Thompson Jr.**  
Springfield District

**Gary Flather**  
*Vice Chair*  
Sully District

**Katherine Quinn**  
Member-at-Large

**Marc Fernandes**  
Diversity-at-large

**Jeffrey E. Stein**  
Town of Clifton

**Roland Taylor**  
Town of Herndon

**Tom Hanton**  
Town of Vienna

**Rob Hahne**  
Baseball Council

**Suzy Willemssen**  
Fast Pitch Softball Council

**Christine Idip**  
Adult Softball Council

**Steve Bergstrom**  
Basketball Council

**Mark Meana**  
Football Council

**Mary Ann Wagner**  
Lacrosse Council

**Lula Bauer**  
*Chairwoman*  
Soccer Council

**Rob Bailly**  
Volleyball Council

**Jenni Cantwell**  
Women's Sports Programs



# Fairfax County Athletic Council and Neighborhood and Community Services



Fairfax County  
Neighborhood and  
Community Services

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/NCS](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/NCS)



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For more information, call 703-324-4600, TTY 711.

