

2025/26 Zone IV Hockey Award Nominees

(nominees are listed alphabetically by last name)

Heavy Metal Designs MVP Award Nominees

Tegan Fehr—NPC Nighthawks

For his grade 12 year, Tegan chose to play high school hockey for his first year with the NPC Nighthawks. Tegan will finish the regular season as the league's top goal scorer and points leader. Tegan is an offensive threat whenever he is on the ice and can score from almost any position. Tegan is often aggressively played by opposing teams but his high level of compete and skill allow him to find ways to score even when under heavy pressure.

Grant Friesen—Carman Cougars

Grant, grade 12, is currently second in league scoring with 24 goals and 24 assists for a total of 48 points through regular season. Grant has an exceptional offensive side to his game but he does so playing the right way, taking care of his own end first and creating offense from there. Grant leads our team in almost every statistical category we track. His current +/- is +27 and is rarely on for a goal against, showing both strong offensive and defensive play. He plays a clean physical style, he leads our team in hits with 189 (8.2 hits per game and 100 more than our next player). He has 7 powerplay goals and averages close to 8 shots per game. Grant is relied on heavily in every game situation, whether it be powerplay, penalty kill, or trying to get a goal/prevent a goal late in the game. Grant's play night in and night out, gives us a chance to win. In the rare case he is not finding the scoresheet, he finds other ways to contribute to the team's success. He has taken over 500 faceoffs winning 65% of them, for example. Grant is also our captain and leads by example, while also helping out in any way that he can in the dressing room or on the bench. He is our team's gamebreaker and makes for an ideal candidate for this year's Zone IV MVP.

Cedric Gosselin—Morris Mavericks

Ced has been a great leader for the Mavericks this year in taking on two grade 10s on his line for the majority of the year. He has been able to average over a point and a half a game while sustaining great marks while at school.

Kai Hildebrand—Miller Aces

Kai Hildebrand is the clear choice for the Heavy Metal Designs Most Valuable Player nominee from the WC Miller Aces. Kai is a dynamic two-way forward who influences the outcome of every game he plays. In 23 games this season he has scored 15 goals and added 23 assists, leading the Aces in scoring while also contributing 24 penalty minutes. He plays with intensity and physicality, never backing down from a challenge and showing relentless effort on every shift. Kai is also a natural leader both on and off the ice, helping guide his teammates and holding them

accountable. For his consistent excellence, competitive drive, and leadership, the Aces proudly nominate Kai Hildebrand for league MVP.

Bryce Neufeld—GVC Zodiacs

Bryce Neufeld is a Grade 11 student who has been with the Zodiacs since Grade 10 and has quickly become a central force in the team's success. As the driver of the offense and a dependable assistant captain, he consistently sets the tone with his positivity, encouragement, and strong leadership presence. A hard worker with an exceptional understanding of his position, Bryce is known for digging deep in every game and practice, always giving his absolute best. His excellent work ethic shows in the way he plays—fast, strong, and fully committed. Bryce's intensity, skill, and leadership make him a standout player and a well-deserving MVP.

Dane Robidoux—Mountain Mustangs

The most valuable player to his team, he impacts the game in every situation and consistently elevates the players around him. Whether it's scoring key goals, making smart plays under pressure, or shutting things down defensively, he finds ways to make a difference when it matters most. He leads by example with his work ethic, competitiveness, and commitment to the team, and his presence brings confidence and energy to the bench every shift.

Dwight Sawatzky—Pembina Tigers

Dwight is what I would describe as one of the most complete hockey players I have ever coached. Dwight has more than double the points of the next top scorer on our team. Not only that, he has been top 5 in the league points all year long and was our team points leader last season. He is among the lowest penalty minutes in the entire league, giving Dwight the title of one of the most skilled discipline players in Zone 4 hockey. Not only is Dwight a force on the ice he is also a true leader off the ice, always positive and encouraging to all of his teammates and one of the most coachable players we have. He could easily receive player of the game most games from his peers but often suggests a player who had a better game than usual, often someone who rarely receives the award.

Corby Stemkoski—Morden Thunder

Corby is a Grade 11 student who has been a consistent offensive threat for Morden this winter. He is the main shooting option on the powerplay, kills penalties, and is relied on in all situations to help his team be successful. He is a lead by example kind of player with his commitment and work ethic at practices and in games. He has a very unique skill set where his shot is extremely quick and accurate, he's a great skater, and has come a long way this year in his ability to make plays to his teammates. Statistically he has had an amazing year scoring 30 goals in Zone 4 league play, top 5 in points, and has averaged over 2 pts/game helping Morden to a 1st place finish in the regular season.

Carter Walker—PCI Trojans

Carter is the definition of an MVP and the heart of this team. As our goalie and last line of defence, he has been a steady, reliable anchor since his rookie season. Over three years, Carter has grown tremendously not only in skill, but as a leader, and his impact on this team cannot be overstated.

Carter consistently faces a high volume of shots each game and time after time keeps us competitive with timely, game-saving stops. His goaltending skills are elite and well-rounded: strong positioning and angles, excellent puck tracking, quick reflexes, powerful lateral movement, and smart rebound control. He reads plays exceptionally well, stays calm under sustained pressure, and delivers clutch saves on breakaways, odd-man rushes, screens, and deflections. His mental toughness and composure give the team confidence in even the most challenging moments. Beyond his technical ability, Carter inspires everyone in front of him. His communication and presence help organize the defence, and his calm demeanor settles the team when games get intense. Knowing Carter is in net allows his teammates to play with confidence, trust, and belief. His work ethic, consistency, and resilience set the standard every day, and his leadership has grown stronger each season.

Carter's commitment to the team goes beyond his position. When needed, he willingly dressed as a forward or defenseman and still delivered a solid, dependable performance -proving his versatility, hockey IQ, and true team-first mentality. He does whatever is asked, without hesitation, for the good of the group.

After three years of dedication, growth, and leadership, Carter was awarded a letter by a vote of his entire team. This is an honor that speaks volumes about the respect and trust he has earned. Carter Walker is more than just our goalie; he is a leader, an anchor, and a difference-maker. His skill, character, and ability to elevate everyone around him make him an incredibly deserving MVP.

Lloyd C. Orchard Most Sportsmanlike Player

Nathan Froebe—Carman Cougars

Nathan, grade 12, is an important player on our team in all areas of the game. In 19 games he has 11 goals and 17 assists for a total of 28 points. Along with Nathan's offence is an equally effective defensive side to his game. He currently has a +/- of +17, good for second among forwards on our team, which comes from being very responsible in his own end and helping create scoring in the offensive end. He plays the game at a fast pace with physical play while doing a great job of staying out of the penalty box. Nathan is heavily relied on in all game situations, whether it be powerplay, penalty kill, holding a lead, or trying to tie the game. He also is a fantastic leader. As one of our captains, he leads by example with his play, but is also vocal on the bench and in the dressing room, often helping teammates out whenever he can in a positive way. Nathan's ability to play the game the right way, stay out of the penalty box, and help in all situations, make him an ideal candidate for this year's Most Sportsmanlike Player.

Ethan Funk—Morris Mavericks

After being selected to the all star game last year he has taken great steps as a leader for us this year. He has played all situations for us and multiple positions in those situations. In that he has kept up averaging a point a game in all his roles and only taking 12 penalty minutes all year. This has led to him becoming an important penalty killer for the group.

Andrew Giesbrecht—Miller Aces

The WC Miller Aces nominate Andrew Giesbrecht as our Most Sportsmanlike Player. Andrew is a disciplined and skilled defenseman who consistently plays the game the right way. He excels at shutting down attackers and controlling the defensive zone while standing up for his teammates and respecting the integrity of the game. Andrew recorded 7 points and only 2 penalty minutes in 23 games this season, demonstrating his ability to compete at a high level with poise and respect. For his respectful play, competitive spirit, and commitment to fair hockey, we proudly nominate Andrew Giesbrecht for this award.

Nathanael Mierau—NPC Nighthawks

Nathan is in grade 12 playing his first year with NPC; In fact, this year was Nathan's first year of organized hockey. Nathan is extremely strong skater; he competes hard in all parts of the ice and uses high work ethic to battle for pucks and creating turnovers. Nathan finished the regular season with 13 points and only took one penalty, in the final game of the regular season.

Tyson Mullin—Morden Thunder

Tyson is the captain of the Morden Thunder, and has performed at a very high level all season. He plays on both sides of special teams, has averaged over a point per game (6 goals and 20 assists) – is second in defenceman scoring only to his teammate Connor Olson --- is plus 37, and plays a physical/competitive style while only receiving 4 penalty minutes in Zone 4 league play. Sportsmanship is much more than just staying out of the penalty box, Tyson treats officials with respect, communicates super well with other players and coaches, and sets an extremely positive example of what it means to be a leader for Thunder Hockey.

Jason Park—Pembina Tigers

Always positive, always smiling a real team guy who is a pure gentleman. Jason does what it takes to make even the hard plays clean. Even though Jason has 16 penalty minutes, Jason is known across the league for being the little guy who puts his body on the line to do his job.

Colby Shepherd—GVC Zodiacs

Colby Shepherd is a Grade 10 defenseman who plays with heart, grit, and a high level of discipline. Despite logging significant ice time throughout the season, he has kept his penalty minutes remarkably low—an impressive mark of his respect for the game and his opponents. Colby's dedication to both the team and the sport is evident in every shift. He is humble, hardworking, and consistently dependable, doing whatever is needed to support his teammates. His sportsmanship, steady presence on the blue line, and strong commitment to fair play make him a deserving recipient of the Sportsmanlike Award.

Kaleb Tanner—PCI Trojans

Kaleb Tanner exemplifies the true meaning of sportsmanship in high school hockey. Throughout the entire season, he competed at a high level while finishing with zero penalty minutes. This is an achievement that speaks volumes about his discipline, self-control, and respect for the game. Kaleb plays with integrity, humility, and accountability every time he steps on the ice. He treats opponents with respect, competes hard without crossing the line, and consistently demonstrates fairness, honesty, and composure in all situations. His ability to remain calm under pressure,

accept officiating decisions without complaint, and lead by example sets a standard for everyone around him.

Beyond the ice, Kaleb has earned tremendous respect from players, coaches, parents, and officials alike. He is known for his positive attitude, strong character, and willingness to support teammates. He shows leadership through actions rather than words - encouraging others, owning mistakes, and putting the team first. His work ethic, reliability, and coachability reflect a mature understanding of what it means to represent his school and the sport of hockey with pride.

Kaleb Tanner competes with class, respects the spirit of the game, and elevates the culture of hockey wherever he plays. His conduct throughout the season makes him a truly deserving recipient of the Most Sportsmanlike Player award.

Mason Turner—Mountain Mustangs

A highly sportsmanlike player who competes hard while consistently showing respect for teammates, opponents, and officials. He plays the game the right way — with discipline, composure, and a team-first attitude. Even in intense moments, he stays calm, leads by example, and earns the trust of coaches through his maturity, accountability, and positive presence on and off the ice.

Lew Mueller Defenseman of the Year

Gavin Bergen—NPC Nighthawks

Grade 12 defenseman that played his first year of high school hockey. Gavin was relied upon to play heavy minutes game after game for the Nighthawks; often facing the top players of opposing teams. Gavin's steady defensive play was key to the success of the team and for the success of our grade 10 starting goaltender. Gavin is a consistent competitor that holds himself to a high standard of play in every part of the ice. He is also an excellent teammate and leader on the team that has helped mentor the younger players over the year.

Mason Dearborn—Morris Mavericks

Mason has been a steady string defensemen for us this year. He has been a leader on and off the ice for the back end and has played in all situations for us. He has been an instrumental part of the back end for the powerplay for the Mavericks this while playing a tough role on the penalty kill.

Tucker Mangin—Pembina Tigers

Tucker is one of our most driven competitive players on the team. His intensity and determination always means Tucker is at the door ready to make something happen when his name is called. Leading our defence core in points proves Tucker has the skill to match his intensity as well.

Jaxon McLean—Carman Cougars

Jaxon, grade 10, has been a fantastic defenseman for us this year. He currently sits with 2 goals and 12 assists for a total of 14 points through 23 games. We have asked a lot of him this year, often matching him up against other team's top lines. The confidence his coaching staff has in him

is incredible considering it's his first year in the league. He does not shy away in the slightest as he has a strong physical side to his game to go along with his offence. Jaxon is also extremely coachable, something that is valued by all coaches. He leads our team's defence in points, +/- (+15), and in hits (77). Along with that, he has earned a spot on our top powerplay and penalty kill units and is relied on heavily in all game situations, whether it's holding a lead or trying to get a late goal. For these reasons, Jaxon is our candidate for Top Defenceman.

Connor Olson—Morden Thunder

Connor is a highly competitive, very hard working defenceman with excellent speed and skill. Connor quarterback's the powerplay where his puck distribution skills are very effective in the success of Morden's powerplay. Connor is relied on as a penalty killer where his tenacity on the puck makes it very tough for opposing teams to generate offense on their man advantage. He is able to rush the puck and has worked a lot on his vision of making plays to teammates while he maintains puck possession. Connor is leading the league in defensive scoring, is top 10 in league scoring with 34 points, is the overall league leader in assists with 30, and is plus 26 this season. He has had a truly phenomenal year helping Morden have a successful regular season.

Brady Peters—Miller Aces

Brady Peters has had a significant impact on the Aces' defense all season. A strong, smart, and skilled blueliner, Brady excels at holding the zone, clearing attackers from the front of the net, and playing the position the right way in all three phases of the game. He also contributes offensively with 14 points (2 goals, 12 assists) in 23 games while using his physical presence to defend his teammates and neutralize opposing threats. Brady's consistency, strength, and game awareness make him our nominee for the Lew Mueller Defenseman of the Year Award.

Dane Robidoux—Mountain Mustangs

A steady, reliable defenceman who takes pride in doing the little things right. Strong in his own zone, he plays with good awareness, keeps his gaps tight, and makes smart first passes to move the puck efficiently. He competes hard every shift, battles consistently in corners and net-front situations, and isn't afraid to block shots when it matters. His work ethic stands out — he shows up prepared, stays coachable, and puts in the extra effort on and off the ice to keep improving.

Mark Schefer—GVC Zodiacs

Mark is a Grade 12 student who has been a key part of the high school team since Grade 10. Over his years with the Zodiacs, he has earned every bit of this recognition through his strong play, consistency, and contribution to the scoreboard. As team captain, Mark leads with positivity, encouragement, and a calm confidence that lifts everyone around him. His defensive play is defined by fearlessness—especially in his willingness to block shots without hesitation. Mark uses the blue line effectively, reads the ice exceptionally well, and is always looking to make the smartest possible play. A strong skater with excellent puck-handling and puck-moving ability, Mark is the kind of defenseman every team wants: steady, reliable, and impactful on every shift. His dedication and leadership have set the standard for the team, making him a truly deserving recipient of the Top Defense award.

Luan Van Wyk—PCI Trojans

Luan Van Wyk made an immediate and lasting impact in his senior year of high school, quickly establishing himself as one of the most complete and dependable defencemen in Zone 4 Hockey. From his very first games, it was clear that Luan brought a supreme skill level, high hockey IQ, and the poise of a seasoned veteran to our blue line.

Luan possesses all the elite qualities of a top-tier defenceman. He is an exceptional skater with strong gap control, excellent positioning, and the ability to read and neutralize developing plays before they become threats. His stick work is precise, his decision-making is calm and efficient, and his physical presence is controlled and effective. When Luan is on the ice, scoring chances against are limited as he consistently shuts down opposing attacks and brings stability to the defensive zone.

What truly separates Luan is his ability to impact the game at both ends of the ice. While being a defensive anchor, he also creates offensive opportunities when needed through smart puck movement, confident zone exits, and timely activation into the play. He understands when to simplify the game and when to push the pace, making him a trusted option in every situation. Despite being new to the program, Luan earned a letter from both his coaches and his teammates. This honor speaks volumes about the respect he gained early in the season through his work ethic and professionalism. Opposing teams took notice as well, consistently matching their top players against Luan, knowing his presence could change the outcome of the game.

Luan Van Wyk joined the team for one season, but his impact will be remembered far beyond it. His skill, composure, leadership, and ability to control the game make him a truly deserving recipient of the Best Defenceman award.

Eddie Belfour Top Goaltender Award

Peyton Enns—GVC Zodiacs

Peyton is a Grade 10 student in his first year with the Zodiacs, and he has made a significant impact between the pipes. Facing some of the toughest teams in the league, he has remained solid in net all season, standing tall against an overwhelming number of shots. What sets Peyton apart is his remarkable focus. No matter how many pucks come his way, he stays composed, locked in, and ready for the next play. His energy, determination, and willingness to battle for his team have been undeniable. Peyton's resilience and calm presence have given the Zodiacs confidence in every game he played. For his consistency, mental toughness, and strong performance under pressure, Peyton is a well-deserving recipient of the Top Goaltender award.

Rylan Enting—NPC Nighthawks

As a grade 10 player in his first year of high school hockey, Rylan has had a strong season as the primary starting goaltender for the Nighthawks. Rylan will finish the season top 5 in wins and top in the league for most minutes played by a goaltender; Rylan will finish the season with almost 200 more saves than the next closest goaltender in the league. Rylan is a fierce competitor that loves to play in big games and rises to the challenge against strong opposition.

Kyle Gee—Pembina Tigers

Even though Kyle is only a grade 10 student he has made the best of his starts. With a save percentage over 0.900 Kyle always seems to be on his game. If he can see it he can stop it and we always like our odds with Kyle even on a breakaway or cross crease pass.

Sam Johnston—Morris Mavericks

Sam has been a steady backbone to the Mavericks cage for the last three years. Though splitting time with Theo Lambert he has been able to get 7 wins and only losing 3 games while recording 2 shutouts. His 2.16 GAA and 0.906% save percentage has made him nothing but consistent over the three years.

Robby Keith—Carman Cougars

Robby, grade 10, has had a solid rookie year in net for us this season. In 12 games played, he has 10 wins, a 3.00 GAA, and a .922 save percentage. These are great numbers for any goalie, let alone a goalie in their first year. His numbers are even more impressive considering he saw an average of almost 40 shots a game. His only two losses this season were both by small deficits, where he gave our team a chance to get back in the game. He battles hard game in and game out. Robby's play has earned him as our candidate for Top Goaltender.

Kaden Simon—Mountain Mustangs

This goalie has been a huge reason for our team's success this year, consistently giving us a chance to win every night. With strong positioning, quick reflexes, and great rebound control, he stays calm under pressure and makes big saves at key moments. His confidence and steady play have been a difference-maker all season.

Kali Hildebrand—Morden Thunder

Kali has been the backbone of Morden's team defense this winter. She has performed consistently all season playing in the biggest games of the year against the best competition in Zone 4. She has gone through the season undefeated leading the league in wins (14) including 2 shutouts, has played over 800 minutes (842), leads the league in GAA (1.57), and has a save percentage over .900. Playing on a team that performs at a high level defensively can be tricky for a goaltender, but she has been extremely reliable making timely saves or keeping her team in games/preserving a lead when opposing teams push back with high shot volume.

Christoph Vetter—Miller Aces

Christoph Vetter has been the backbone of the Aces in net all season. A talented goaltender with a strong competitive spirit, Christoph has worked hard in every start to give his team a chance to win. He has faced 40+ shots in numerous games, standing tall and ready for every challenge. Over the course of the season he posted a 0.879 save percentage and a 4.56 goals-against average, consistently keeping games within reach for the Aces even under heavy offensive pressure. For his grit, resilience, and reliability in net, we proudly nominate Christoph Vetter as our Top Goaltender.

Carter Walker—PCI Trojans

Carter Walker is our nomination for best goalie and he is the heart of this team. As our goalie and last line of defence, he has been a steady, reliable anchor since his rookie season. Over three years, Carter has grown tremendously not only in skill, but as a leader, and his impact on this team cannot be overstated.

Carter consistently faces a high volume of shots each game and time after time keeps us competitive with timely, game-saving stops. His goaltending skills are elite and well-rounded: strong positioning and angles, excellent puck tracking, quick reflexes, powerful lateral movement, and smart rebound control. He reads plays exceptionally well, stays calm under sustained pressure, and delivers clutch saves on breakaways, odd-man rushes, screens, and deflections. His mental toughness and composure give the team confidence in even the most challenging moments. Beyond his technical ability, Carter inspires everyone in front of him. His communication and presence help organize the defence, and his calm demeanor settles the team when games get intense. Knowing Carter is in net allows his teammates to play with confidence, trust, and belief. His work ethic, consistency, and resilience set the standard every day, and his leadership has grown stronger each season.

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After three years of dedication, growth, and leadership, Carter was awarded a letter by a vote of his entire team. This is an honor that speaks volumes about the respect and trust he has earned. Carter Walker is more than just our goalie; he is a leader, an anchor, and a difference-maker. His skill, character, and ability to elevate everyone around him make him an incredibly deserving MVP.