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WINNERS OF BAY STATE GAMES' HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

First annual initiative awards winning Massachusetts high schools with cash grants

WOBURN, MA – The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation (MASF) is pleased to name the nine schools that have won cash grants through the first annual High School Spirit Program.

- Large Schools (more than 1,000 students):
 1. Andover High School; 2. Agawam High School; 3. Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School
- Medium Schools (501-999 students):
 1. Belchertown High School; 2. East Longmeadow High School; 3. Northampton High School
- Small Schools (500 or less students):
 1. Pioneer Valley Regional High School; 2. Georgetown High School; 3. Millis High School

The first, second and third place schools are awarded \$1,000, \$500 and \$250, respectively, for having the highest number of students participate in the 2009 Bay State Summer Games.

“Since our inception in 1982, high school athletic directors from across Massachusetts have played a huge role in supporting the Bay State Games by encouraging their athletes and coaches to get involved,” said Kevin Cummings, Executive Director of the Bay State Games. “The High School Spirit Program is a great way to show our appreciation for this support and also a way to provide financial resources to athletic programs across the commonwealth during these difficult economic times.”

Winning schools plan to use the funds for such things as medical supplies, equipment and to finish the construction of sports facilities.

“I would like to thank the Bay State games not only for this most generous grant but also for providing an opportunity for our athletes to sharpen their competitive edge during the off-season,” said Chuck Grant, Athletic Director at Millis High School. “The Bay State Games also provide athletes with a glimpse of area competition and the ever improving skill level of our athletes. It provides a venue for exchanging training ideas and the opportunity to receive top level coaching from area coaches that will serve to strengthen their recruiting network. We are proud to have been a part of the 2009 Bay State Games and we look forward to many more years of active participation.”

For more information regarding the High School Spirit Program, the winners or other programs run by the MASF, please visit our website www.baystategames.org or call the Bay State Games' office at (781) 932-6555.

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