



Parker Youth Sports, Inc. Logan Bauman Memorial Fund



“Spirit of the Game”

2013 Candidates

Cael Kubly, Sam Harding and Adam Zdanowicz

Each year at the end of the Arapahoe Youth League Football Season, a “Spirit of the Game” award is given to a player from a Parker Hawks CFC or AFC 10-year old age group football team. The head coach of each of these teams selects the player that matches the characteristics for which this award was created. Each nominee receives an award at half-time of the AYL 10-AFC Super Bowl game.



The 2013 winner of the “Spirit of the Game Award” **Sam Harding** received a \$250 “Logan Bauman Memorial Fund Sponsorship”. These funds can be used to waive any portion of the Parker Hawks entry fee, and/or, supplement the cost of equipment purchased from any Parker Hawks authorized vendor/reseller.

Coach Andy Kallsen's Nomination:

Sam is the poster child for youth football. Always working hard at practice and during games, he is one of the most coachable players I have ever had. He works hard at every drill, listens to every bit of direction and takes criticism as a learning experience. Where many boys at this age have an attitude of "me first", he is eager to help his team and assist his teammates. Many times throughout the season there was a need to shift positions, he was always prepared and never complained. He started the season as our #3 emergency QB, with very few reps at practice, he was prepared and able to step in lead the team at the end of the season. Even though it wasn't always the greatest performance, he never got discouraged and maintained a focused, positive attitude. Sam leads by example. If there was a lap to run around the field, most kids would cut the corners, Sam would hug the fence looking for the longest possible path. If any player got knocked down, he was the first to lend a helping hand up, teammate or opponent, it didn't matter. Several times this season opposing coaches and referees made a point to mention Sam's sportsmanship to me after the game. Sam truly understands the Spirit of the game.

We were so proud to hear that Sam had been nominated. For him to win the award was beyond exciting. He loves football tremendously and really put in a lot of work this year. While honing his skills he had the opportunity to mentor his new player peers which helped him build confidence and maturity. It was a good season.

I admire your family's dedication to youth sports. As I reflected on the day and the spirit of the award, I could not help but think about how the award came to be. We lived here in Parker and remember when your precious Logan was called to heaven. At the time, I worked as a teacher at Little Blessings Preschool at PUMC. The staff did our best to keep the activity outside the classrooms to a minimum while the services remembered Logan. We marveled at how many lives he touched in his 14 years. It's hard to believe that Sam and Cael were best buddies and were upstairs in the Kindergarten room. Amazing how their lives too crossed with Logan that day and with your family at the ceremony!

As a parent, your loss is unimaginable. Your generosity is profound given the circumstances. Receiving this award helped affirm Sam's confidence and belief in himself with his love of football. Thank you for supporting Hawks 10 year old football and showing these young boys how dedication and spirit can be rewarding both inside and out.

Andrea Harding