

The Spectator Sports Department Application (Fall 2025)

Full Name:

Grade:

Directions

- Make a copy of this document and type your responses in said document.
- Title this document according to the following format → Name: Sports Department Application (Ex: Usain Bolt: Sports Department Application)
- Set the document access preferences to “anyone with the link can view.”
- Make sure to send/share the document with sports@stuyspec.com with editing permissions when you’re finished
- **Once you’re done, fill out this [Google Form](#)**

Before you begin...

- Use the [Sports Style Guide](#) as a reference for your articles. We understand that this framework may be very unfamiliar, but please try your best to adhere to the guidelines outlined.
- Include titles for each article.
- Feeling stuck? Get some inspiration from our [past articles](#)!
- Feel free to reach out to an editor ([Eli Choi](#), [Leo Guidi](#), [Boone Ireland](#), [Saif Iftikhar](#), or [Nina Benson](#)) with any questions!
- The application is due at **11:59 PM on Sunday, November 2, 2025.**

PART 1: General Questions (< 4 sentences)

- 1) What extracurricular activities do you participate in, and how might that affect the amount of time you are able to dedicate to writing for *The Spectator* (keep in mind that Spec Sports has a requirement of two articles per semester)?
- 2) Which PSAL & professional sports are you interested in covering?
- 3) Why are you interested in joining the Sports Department?
- 4) What makes you unique as a writer? What are your strengths? Weaknesses? Be honest, we want to help you grow!
- 5) Do you read any publications—sports or other—or have a favorite writer/journalist?
- 6) Please title and briefly describe three (3) ideas you have for articles you might like to write.
- 7) How do you usually respond to constructive criticism or edits on your writing?
- 8) Have you applied to the Spectator before? If so, to which department(s)?

PART 2: Write a brief (300-600 word) article about **ONE** of the following Stuyvesant playoff games. Feel free to create your own quotes and statistics, as long as they are realistic. Also, feel free to use anything else from the PSAL website you deem useful (such as the standings, schedule, etc). Please refrain, however, from bombarding your article with an excess of quotes and statistics, as they should serve to accentuate your article, *not* become the focus of it. Past PSAL articles can be found [here](#).

1. Boys' Varsity Soccer 2021-2022 first-round playoff game.

Game Details: <https://www.psal.org/games/game-detail.aspx#012/407467>

Quotes to be used in your article:

- "It was a good win. We fought hard to the very last minute, and I'm very proud of the team. Hopefully we can make a deep run in the playoffs this year." —Aden Garbutt, senior
- "We needed this win to move on in the playoffs. I like where this team is headed. Obviously we'll need to work a lot harder against Madison in a few days, but we moved the ball well today and the offense was strong, even in the rough weather." —Vincent Miller, coach

2. Girls' Varsity Basketball 2019-2020 first-round playoff game.

Game Details: <https://www.psal.org/games/game-detail.aspx#003/392808>

Quotes to be used in your article:

- "It was a valid win. We fought hard to the very last minute, and I'm very proud of the team. Hopefully we can make a deep run in the playoffs this year." —Paige Wolfing, senior
- "We needed a win to move on in the playoffs. I like where this team is headed. Obviously we'll need to work a lot harder against Frederick Douglass in a few days, but we moved the ball well today and the offense was strong." —Vincent Miller, coach

3. Boys' Varsity Football 2019-2020 first-round playoff game.

Game Details: <https://www.psal.org/games/game-detail.aspx#005/387858>

Quotes to be used in your article:

- "It was a good win. We fought hard to the very last minute, and I'm very proud of the team. Hopefully we can make a deep run in the playoffs this year." —Lucas Dingman, senior
- "We needed a win to move on in the playoffs. I like where this team is headed. Obviously we'll need to work a lot harder against Beach Channel in a few days, but we moved the ball well today and the offense was strong, even in the rough weather." —Mark Strasser, coach

4. Boys Varsity Badminton 2022-23 finals game.

Game Details: <https://www.psal.org/games/game-detail.aspx#067/431074>

Quotes to be used in your article:

- “We played hard to get to this point, and everyone turned up. Today’s matches felt more like a victory lap. I’m really proud of the team for making it up to this point showing full confidence and resilience.” —Lukas Chang, senior
- “I couldn’t be more proud of this year’s team. They worked hard to fend off difficult competition throughout the season. The chemistry between players was extremely strong, and even though some of our seniors are graduating, I am just as confident that next season will be as good as this one.” —Marvin Autry, coach

5. Girls Varsity Golf 2022-23, finals game.

Game Details: <https://www.psal.org/games/game-detail.aspx#047/430939>

Quotes to be used in your article:

- “We played hard to get to this point, and everyone turned up. Today’s match felt more like a victory lap when compared to some of our other playoff games. I’m really proud of the team for making it up to this point, showing full confidence and resilience.” —Sophia Shiu, senior
- “I couldn’t be more proud of this year’s team. They worked hard to fend off difficult competition throughout the season. The chemistry between players was extremely strong, and even though some of our seniors are graduating, I am just as confident that next season will be as good as this one.” —Emilio Nieves, coach

PART 3: Write a 300-600 word **argumentative** article on a sports topic you are passionate about. Be creative with this—we just want to get a sense of your writing style when not constrained to a specific game or sport! Our advice: create a strong debatable thesis that is developed through cohesive body paragraphs, and don’t be afraid to play around with your voice. Again, please make sure to include a title!

PART 4: Some Curveball questions (high stakes)!

1. Name your GOAT.
 - a. Basketball:
 - b. Soccer:
 - c. Tennis:
2. If you could eliminate one sport from the world, which would it be?
3. Best rivalry in sports?
4. If you could interview one athlete (past or present), who would you pick and what’s the first question you’d ask them?
5. Why do we subject ourselves to endless misery as sports fans?

6. Would you rather win silver or bronze?
7. Would you rather be an average player on a good team or a star player on an average team?

Results will be announced in the coming weeks. Thank you for applying to the coolest department!