



UK Coaching Awards

Nomination guidance and judging criteria

Nominating someone for an award? – Please read this first

The UK Coaching Awards provide a unique opportunity to recognise and reward the work of excellent coaches in all sports and at all levels, from community to high performance.

Success in the Awards depends on two factors: the quality of coaching demonstrated by the candidate and the quality of the nomination itself. The nomination process is straightforward, but to do justice to the person you're nominating, please follow this advice:

- Check the judging criteria to ensure you're making a nomination in the right category. Note that some categories are restricted to volunteers only.
- Follow the golden rule of journalism and tell the story about achievement and impact in your first paragraph of Sections 3 and 4, providing further detail to back this up
- Read the ***What are we looking for?*** bullet points and ensure you cover each of these
- Bring the nomination to life with examples of how the coach has made a real difference to your club or sport, preferably with statistics / results and quotes from their athletes
- Include evidence of how the coach has left a legacy within the sport or local environment. This could be through lasting opportunities available to participants or a long-term enhancement to the sport.
- If appropriate, use the ***Additional supporting information*** box for any further detail which makes your candidate stand out from all the others who have been nominated
- The judging panel can only take into account information on the nomination form, so please don't include any attachments.

Judging Criteria - Awards for Coaches

These awards are for individual coaches who have excelled and shown outstanding commitment in a certain area or to an individual and/or group over the last 12 months. Certain categories are restricted to volunteer coaches only, as indicated below. Governing Body endorsement should be sought prior to submission. This can be done through the Governing Body's lead coaching officer.

Children's Coach of the Year, supported by sportscotland

This award recognises the outstanding contribution of a sports coach to the introduction and development of basic skills through excellent coaching. Nominations for coaches working with young athletes at county/regional/national level should be entered in the Performance Development category, not the Children's Coach.

What are we looking for?

- A volunteer coach of children and young people under the age of 16
- Evidence of the development of basic skills through fun in sport
- Evidence of the wider impact the coach has on the young people they coach (such as personal development, health and wellbeing and educational attainment)
- Evidence of how the coach safeguards their athlete(s), and provides suitable coaching to meet their needs at their current stage of development
- Examples of innovative practice.

The content of all nominations and outcome of all short-listing and judging will be treated as confidential until published by sports coach UK



UK Coaching Awards

Community Coach of the Year

This award recognises the outstanding contribution of a volunteer coach to getting more people starting, staying and / or succeeding in sport through excellent coaching.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of the impact the coach has had on widening access to sport through coaching
- Evidence of working within a specific community, particularly low-participation groups
- Evidence of the wider impact the coach has on the community (such as community cohesion, health and wellbeing)
- Evidence of how the coach safeguards their athlete(s), and provides suitable coaching to meet their needs at their current stage of development
- Examples of innovative practice (such as use of technology).

Performance Development Coach of the Year, supported by the Tim Lewis Trust

This award recognises the achievements of a coach working to develop emerging and young performers from within sport.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of excellent player-centred coaching that encourages the development of performance within sport, and nurturing talent
- Evidence of achievements at club, county or regional level by the athletes being coached
- Evidence of innovative practice.

High Performance Coach of the Year

This award recognises the achievements of a coach working with athletes at the highest level of performance in sport.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of player-centred development leading to successful performance
- Evidence of national or international achievements by the athletes being coached
- Examples of innovative practice.

Heather Crouch Young Coach of the Year

This award recognises the important work carried out by a young coach through his or her coaching achievements to date.

What are we looking for?

- A coach who is 25 years of age or under at the date of nomination, either a volunteer or paid for less than 15 hours a week
- Evidence of creativity and determination in their development as a coach
- Evidence of the provision of opportunities and dedicated support to participants/performers to help them reach their goals
- Evidence of the wider impact the coach has on the participants they coach (such as personal development, health and wellbeing and educational attainment)
- Examples of innovative practice (including use of technology).

The content of all nominations and outcome of all short-listing and judging will be treated as confidential until published by sports coach UK



UK Coaching Awards

Disability Coach of the Year

This award recognises the achievements of a volunteer coach working to develop disabled participants. Nominations for coaches working with disabled athletes at county/regional/national level should be entered in the Performance Development, High Performance or Coaching Chain category, as appropriate.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of the impact the coach has had on widening access to sport for disabled people
- Evidence of providing opportunities and/or dedicated support within a mainstream sporting environment or a dedicated disability sport environment
- Evidence of the wider impact the coach has on the participants they coach (such as personal development, health and wellbeing and educational attainment)
- Evidence of appropriate player-centred engagement and excellent coaching
- Examples of innovative practice (such as use of technology).

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award will be presented to an exceptional candidate to recognise his or her achievements through a lifetime dedicated to coaching.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of dedication to player-centred coaching throughout the coach's career
- Evidence of achievement over a sustained period with a number of different participants / performers
- Evidence of the wider impact the coach has on the participants they have coached and their communities
- Examples of innovative practice
- Examples of programmes or legacies which have enabled the coach's work to be continued.

The Coaching Chain

This award recognises the contributions made by a group of individuals throughout an elite athlete's life in helping achieve his or her potential.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence that the athlete has achieved notable success during the past 12 months
- Evidence of progressive player-centred coaching and the continuous, dedicated support and time invested in an athlete throughout her / his career
- Evidence of a chain of 3-5 coaches who have enabled the athlete to reach their potential, starting with a school or club coach and progressing through different levels according to the coaching system of the relevant sport
- Evidence of recognition of the need to transfer the athlete to another coach, according to their stage of development.



UK Coaching Awards

Judging Criteria - Awards in Support of Coaches

These awards recognise those who work to recruit, develop, educate, qualify and/or deploy coaches effectively in the UK. Nominees should have made a significant impact within the past 12 months. No award shall be made in any category where, in the opinion of the judging panel, nominations lack the quality or volume to justify an award.

Coach Developer of the Year supported by Coachwise

This award is for an individual who has made a significant contribution to the development of coaching and individual coaches in the UK through delivery of effective education programmes. The focus of this award is on a front-line tutor, rather than an NGB staff member responsible for implementing coach education strategy in their sport. Governing body endorsement must be sought prior to submission for sport-specific nominees. This can be done through the lead coaching officer. sports coach UK will verify short-listed endorsements with the relevant NGB before judging.

What are we looking for?

- An individual front-line coach educator or mentor
- Evidence of the development and management of coaches
- Evidence of the delivery of coaching structures/ qualifications and programmes
- Evidence of coaching research / authorship
- Evidence of leaving a legacy through the development of others, the lasting opportunities now available or alternative enhancement within the sport or environment.

Coaching Intervention of the Year

This award is for a project, programme or contributions made by an agency to enhance activity using high quality coaching to get more people participating, staying or succeeding in sport.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence that this is an agency or company, project or programme, operating on a national, regional or local level
- Evidence of more people participating/staying/succeeding in sport as a result
- Evidence of innovative practice / legacy / new and sustained opportunities through this project or programme
- Evidence of the impact on a particular area of the community in which this project or programme is delivered, such as community cohesion or health and wellbeing
- Evidence of how this project or programme has enhanced the development and deployment of quality coaches.



UK Coaching Awards

Governing Body of the Year

This award is for a governing body that has made a significant contribution to the development of coaching and coaches in the UK.

What are we looking for?

- Evidence of making a significant impact on the development and management of coaches
- Evidence of developing and embedding an excellent coaching system, showing progress across one or more component of their coaching system in the last 12 months
- Evidence that the work of the NGB on the development of coaches and the coaching system is aligned to the participation / performance goals of the sport's overall strategy
- Evidence of innovative practice and interventions across their coaching system
- Evidence of developing coach education qualifications and/or innovative continuing personal development programmes.

Judging Procedure and deadlines

Short-listing

Purpose

To consider all nominations in categories where nominations exceed six, and short-list against the nomination criteria.

Short-listing Group Membership and Role

One representative for each Award Category will be nominated by the Coaching Committee. Their role is:

- To read and assess all nominations in the given category against the criteria above
- To propose the short list in that category, for consideration by the Judging Panel.

Awards Judging Panel

Purpose

To provide individual recommendations and collective decisions on winners and runners-up for each category of the UK Coaching Awards.

Role of the Chair of the Judging Panel

- To liaise if necessary with the Communications Team on the nomination process
- To advise on the process and personnel involved in judging the UK Coaching Awards
- To assess all screened nominations in the second stage of the judging process
- To Chair the Judging Panel meeting, providing a fair and effective process for the winners and runners-up to be selected
- To use a casting vote in the case of a tie
- To provide advice/guidance when required to the sports coach UK events team.

The content of all nominations and outcome of all short-listing and judging will be treated as confidential until published by sports coach UK



UK Coaching Awards

Role of Judging Panel members

- To read and assess all short-listed nominations prior to the Judging Panel meeting
- To attend the Judging Panel meeting, provide comment where relevant and vote for up to three finalists in each category, using the voting process below
- To abstain from voting in any category where they have a conflict of interest
- To maintain confidentiality on the outcome of the judging
- To attend the UK Coaching Awards Ceremony as a VIP guest.

Voting process

1. Each panel member chooses a first, second and third for each category, giving 10, 5 and 1 points respectively. The nomination with the most points per category will win.
2. Ties will be resolved by counting the number of first places. If a tie remains in any category, the Chair will use a casting vote.
3. Three finalists will normally be identified in each category. An exception to this may be made in the High Performance Coach category (notably during years following Olympic, Paralympic or Commonwealth Games) when multiple awards may be made.

Key Dates

13 July	Nominations open on sports coach UK website at 1700
26 September	Nominations close at 2000
by 1200 on 10 October	Appointed representatives to review nominations and shortlist to six per category
By 1700 on 10 October	NGB endorsements checked and short-listed nominations forwarded to Panel
22 October	Judging Panel meeting (1100-1400)
By 30 October	Finalists invited to the Awards; Names published on website Pre-event filming and media campaign starts (under embargo)
1 December	Awards Ceremony at The Midland Hotel, Manchester

Version: v3 130715

The content of all nominations and outcome of all short-listing and judging will be treated as confidential until published by sports coach UK