



Categories and Criteria 2018

All nominees must either have been born, live in, or undertake their activity (e.g. play, coach, volunteer) in the Black Country. Projects and clubs must be active in the Black Country.

Community Coach of the Year

This award recognises the achievements of a paid or unpaid coach who has made a significant impact on those they have coached and is committed to providing more opportunities for people to start, stay and succeed in sport.

The criteria are:

- Nominee is a qualified coach (paid or unpaid) who has made a significant contribution to others through their coaching in the following areas: Physical Wellbeing, Mental Wellbeing, Individual Development and Social/Community Development
- Nominee leads the delivery of a sport recognised by Sport England in one of the following roles: co-ordinator, leader, activator, assistant coach, coach, instructor or other equivalent
- Contribution of coach towards inspiring and encouraging more people to start, stay or succeed in sport and physical activity.
- Widening access to sport and physical activity through high quality coaching and innovative practices.
- An inspiration and positive role model for participants and their peers.
- Be qualified and show a commitment to formal or informal continued professional development.
- Has built strong relationships and links with participants, clubs, schools and/or other community organisations.
- Overall personality, attitude and reliability as well as special qualities that set them apart from others.
- The winner of this category will be put forward to represent the Black Country at the West Midlands Community Sports Awards on the 6th December 2018.

Community Club of the Year

This award recognises a community sports club that provides a high-quality sports environment for its members. The club will have achieved this through supporting coaches and volunteers and developing the infrastructure of the club in order to benefit members.

The criteria are:

- A club providing a sport/sports recognised by Sport England.
- Committed to raising standards and have achieved (or at least be working towards) Clubmark or an equivalent quality mark or affiliation.
- Engaged with the local community.
- Actively encouraging members to start, stay and succeed in sport.
- Can demonstrate commitment to the development of the members of their club, including participants, coaches and volunteers.
- Has built strong links with schools and other community organisations in order to engage with young people (if relevant i.e. the club has a junior section).
- Developed an effective management structure.
- Is committed to the long-term development of their club, for example, has put in place a club infrastructure which will sustain the club in the future, trying to ensure members can participate at good quality facilities etc.
- Has widened access to their sport to include people who do not normally have the opportunity to take part / targeted work at engaging people from 'hard to reach' groups.
- Special qualities that set them apart from others.
- The winner of this category will be put forward to represent the Black Country at the West Midlands Community Sports Awards on the 6th December 2018.

Community Project of the Year

This award recognises an innovative project which uses sport and physical activity to improve and enhance the quality of life of the people in a Black Country community. Examples of projects could include Sportivate projects or Community Games events.

The criteria are:

- A project that has made a significant contribution to overcoming barriers in the participation of sport and physical activity in the geographical areas of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall or Wolverhampton.
- Effectiveness at creating new opportunities for more people, particularly 'hard to reach' groups to start, stay or succeed in sport and physical activity.
- Evidence of encouraging a community to lead more active and healthy lifestyles.
- Evidence of how innovative ideas have been used to promote, develop or enhance participation in sport and physical activity.
- Has built strong community relationships and links.
- Dedication and commitment from those involved.
- An inspiration and example of best practice for others.
- Special qualities that set the project / team apart from others.
- The winner of this category will be put forward to represent the Black Country at the West Midlands Community Sports Awards on the 6th December 2018.

Aspiring Talent

This award recognises a young person (including disability athletes/players) who has progressed and excelled in his/her sport and is a positive role model to others.

The criteria are:

- **Nominee must be under 18 years of age on 6th Dec 2018**
- A sports man or woman who has excelled in their chosen sport e.g. at regional, national or international level.
- Progress against rankings and achievements made during the eligibility period (1st Sept 2017 to 31st August 2018) must be given
- Has demonstrated considerable commitment
- Is an inspiration and positive role model to others
- Has used his/her achievements and experiences to make a positive impact on their community and / or club
- Special qualities that set them apart from others
- The winner of this category will be put forward to represent the Black Country at the West Midlands Community Sports Awards on the 6th December 2018.

Power of Sport Award

This award recognises an individual whose life has significantly changed and improved through adopting a more active lifestyle. Being new to an active lifestyle in the past 18 months, the individual will have made significant improvements to their life as a direct result of taking part in their chosen sport or activity/activities and may have also made a positive impact on the lives of others' around them. Improvements can be in their physical health, mental wellbeing, personal improvement, social development or any combination.

The criteria are:

- Open to individuals of any age
- They should be active in the Black Country
- Must be new to the sport or activity/activities within the last 18 months leading up to Autumn 2018
- Their participation in the activity must be sustained, or they must have gone on to participate in other activities
- They have started to take further positive action as a result of the initial impact (e.g. making other positive lifestyle/social changes, seeking personal development opportunities or employment etc.)
- The individual is an inspiration/role model for others
- The winner of this category will be put forward to represent the Black Country at the West Midlands Community Sports Awards on the 6th December 2018.

Unsung Hero Award (in association with the BBC Get Inspired Unsung Hero Award)

The Unsung Hero Award celebrates the outstanding contribution of those individuals who tirelessly help in the development and running of grassroots sports.

Now in its 16th year, the award celebrates people who volunteer their time and effort in encouraging the talents of others, and whose work enables local clubs and groups to thrive and flourish.