



2025 Support4Sport Awards Information Sheet

Link to nominate: <https://support4sportawards.awardsplatform.com/>

Nominations open: Thursday, January 30 at 12:00 a.m.

Nominations close: Tuesday, April 1, at 11:59 p.m.

Event date: Saturday, May 24, 2025, at the Halifax Convention Centre

Eligibility timeline: Accomplishments must have taken place between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025.

Important information about the nomination software:

We are working with software called *Award Force* for the nomination process. There are two streams for nominations- the *Provincial Sport Organization Stream* and the *Support4Sport Overall Award Stream*. It is very important that each nominee is only nominated through one stream. Please note that Sport Nova Scotia does not have the ability to modify nominations once they have been submitted, so please take your time when filling out the forms.

Support4Sport Overall Award Stream

This stream is for candidates who you would like to be selected as the automatic winner for your provincial sport organization, AND to be put in the running for an overall *Support4Sport Award* (amongst all sports).

Provincial Sport Organization Award Stream

This stream is for candidates who you would like to be selected ONLY as the automatic winner for your provincial sport organization.

If you have any questions about nominations, please contact Renee Boucher at rboucher@sportnovascotia.ca.

*The criteria for each category are below.

Coach of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's premiere coach. This individual is considered an elite manager of talent and/or developer of talent with his/her sport.
- Nominations are accepted only from member Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.
- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, they will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The nominee must be considered "normally" a resident of Nova Scotia who has contributed to the development of the Nova Scotia sport system.
- The nominee must presently coach Nova Scotian or Canadian athletes in a club, provincial, national and/or international level competition. High school and/or post-secondary school coaches do not qualify.
- The nominee must hold a minimum of NCCP Comp Intro certification.
- Both paid and unpaid coaches are eligible for this award.
- Nomination must be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Coach of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Coach of the Year will also be recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Community Sport Organization

Background

- This award recognizes community sport organizations for the incredible work they do to deliver sport opportunities to Nova Scotians. This award highlights the individuals and teams who have gone above and beyond their regular day-to-day operations to make a positive difference for participants. They strive for excellence in how they operate, how they collaborate, innovate, lead, and, in some cases, use sport as a tool to create positive social change.
- All Sport Nova Scotia member provincial sport organizations (PSOs) will have the opportunity to select one community sport organization who will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards.

- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations. Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or someone with signing authority must endorse the nomination.
- Each selection must be accompanied by documentation of the organization's achievements (Since they are not a "nominee").
- One selection will be accepted per sport. If there is more than one submission from a single PSO, the information will be returned and the PSO will be invited to choose/submit only one by the deadline.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

- The organization must be a member of its national sport organization and Sport Nova Scotia during the past year.
- This award is based on accomplishments in successful hosting initiatives, programming innovation, strong management and/or administration and creating progressive programs for athletes, coaches and volunteers. The sport organization approaches both participation and competition with equal commitment.
- This award is for a sport governing body and not an individual. Provincial sport organizations are encouraged to nominate themselves; however, any member of Sport Nova Scotia can also advance nominations. Additionally, a PSO can nominate a club or affiliate organization that has demonstrated organizational excellence.
- Nominations must be based upon efforts between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.

Junior Female Athlete of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's outstanding junior female athlete. This individual possesses the qualities associated with performance excellence and sport achievement.
- Athletes can compete either individually or in team events.
- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.
- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the nominations will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The junior category is for outstanding athletes under the age of 20 who competed in a developmental or age group category event. U23 and U21 events count as long as the athlete was under the age of 20 at the time of the competition.
- Accompanying results from an open competition (over 21) will only be considered as supporting information for the *overall* decision about the nominee's standing compared to their competitors.
- The nominee must be considered "normally" a resident of Nova Scotia who has developed within the Nova Scotia sport system. Athletes who have left the province for temporary training or scholastic reasons and consider Nova Scotia their primary residence will be eligible if they meet the additional criteria.
- The nominee must be a member of, or endorsed by, their Provincial Sport Organization or its member organizations and represent Nova Scotia as a member of a club, provincial or national team in competition.
- Achievements from high school or post-secondary events will not be considered in the selection process. However, times or records recognized by a Provincial Sport Organization will be considered.
- Please Note: Professional athletes are eligible as long as the performance takes place at an International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, or International Federation sanctioned event.
- Nominations should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Junior Female Athlete of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Junior Female Athlete of the Year will also be recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Junior Male Athlete of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's outstanding junior female athlete. This individual possesses the qualities associated with performance excellence and sport achievement.
- Athletes can compete either individually or in team events.
- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with

suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.

- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the nominations will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The junior category is for outstanding athletes under the age of 20 who competed in a developmental or age group category event. U23 and U21 events count as long as the athlete was under the age of 20 at the time of the competition.
- Accompanying results from an open competition (over 21) will only be considered as supporting information for the *overall* decision about the nominee's standing compared to their competitors.
- The nominee must be considered "normally" a resident of Nova Scotia who has developed within the Nova Scotia sport system. Athletes who have left the province for temporary training or scholastic reasons and consider Nova Scotia their primary residence will be eligible if they meet the additional criteria.
- The nominee must be a member of, or endorsed by, their Provincial Sport Organization or its member organizations and represent Nova Scotia as a member of a club, provincial or national team in competition.
- Achievements from high school or post-secondary events will not be considered in the selection process. However, times or records recognized by a Provincial Sport Organization will be considered.
- Please Note: Professional athletes are eligible as long as the performance takes place at an International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, or International Federation sanctioned event.
- Nominations should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Junior Female Athlete of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Junior Female Athlete of the Year will also be recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Official of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's premiere official. This individual demonstrates dedication to leadership, contributions to local sport development, and is seen as an advocate for fair play and ethical behaviour in the sport.
- Nominations are accepted only from provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.
- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the nominations will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The nominee must be considered "normally" a resident of Nova Scotia who has contributed to the development of the Nova Scotia sport system.
- The nominee must presently officiate Nova Scotian or Canadian competitions in a club, provincial, national and/or international level competition. High school and/or post-secondary school officials do not qualify.
- Both paid and unpaid officials are eligible for this award.
- Nomination should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Official of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Official of the Year is also recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Senior Female Athlete of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's outstanding female athlete. This individual possesses the qualities associated with performance excellence and sport achievement.
- Athletes can compete either individually or in team events.
- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.

- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the nominations will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The senior category is for any athlete who competed in open age group competitions.
- The nominee must be considered “normally” a resident of Nova Scotia who has developed within the Nova Scotia sport system. Athletes who have left the province for temporary training or scholastic reasons and consider Nova Scotia their primary residence will be eligible if they meet the additional criteria.
- The nominee must be a member of, or endorsed by, their provincial sport organization or its member organizations and represent Nova Scotia as a member of a club, provincial or national team in competition.
- Achievements from high school or post-secondary events will not be considered in the selection process. However, times or records recognized by a provincial sport organization will be considered.
- Please Note: Professional athletes are eligible as long as the performance takes place at an International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, or International Federation sanctioned event.
- Nominations should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Senior Female Athlete of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization’s Senior Female Athlete of the Year will also be recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Senior Male Athlete of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia’s outstanding male athlete. This individual possesses the qualities associated with performance excellence and sport achievement.
- Athletes can compete either individually or in team events.
- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.

- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one nomination is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the nominations will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The senior category is for any athlete who competed in open age group competitions.
- The nominee must be considered “normally” a resident of Nova Scotia who has developed within the Nova Scotia sport system. Athletes who have left the province for temporary training or scholastic reasons and consider Nova Scotia their primary residence will be eligible if they meet the additional criteria.
- The nominee must be a member of, or endorsed by, their provincial sport organization or its member organizations and represent Nova Scotia as a member of a club, provincial or national team in competition.
- Achievements from high school or post-secondary events will not be considered in the selection process. However, times or records recognized by a provincial sport organization will be considered.
- Please Note: Professional athletes are eligible as long as the performance takes place at an International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, or International Federation sanctioned event.
- Nominations should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Senior Male Athlete of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Senior Male Athlete of the Year will also be recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Sport Makes a Difference

Background

- Any individual, group, organization, committee or similar body that creates, establishes or initiates an innovative program, competition or event, or demonstrates an outstanding example of fair play, is eligible for this award. Nominees do not need formal provincial sport organization (PSO) membership. Nominees for this award must be nominated by a PSO, must be compatible with the values and mission of Sport Nova Scotia, and be in good standing with member organizations. This award is based solely on the advancement of leading edge thinking that results in an improved sport system for Nova Scotians, and/or where exceptional merit has been demonstrated.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

- The selection committee makes its decision based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

- Nominations should be based upon achievements and/or acts between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025.

Recognition

- The selection committee may select up to three winners of the *Support4Sport* Makes a Difference award from the pool of nominees. Only these winners will be contacted by letter and will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Team of the Year

Background

- This award is presented annually to Nova Scotia's outstanding sport team.
- Nominations are accepted only from member provincial sport organizations (PSOs). Individual members, recreation directors and sport media are encouraged to contact their PSO directly with suggested nominations. The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the nomination.
- One nomination will be accepted per sport. The nominee selected by each PSO should represent the best candidate in that sport. If two or more nominations are submitted in a category from a single PSO, they will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility

- The team consists of two or more people competing simultaneously as a single entity in an event for the same award. Sports that include team elements such as pairs, crews, relays, doubles, triples, fours, eights, etc. are eligible. Please note, nominations where individual results have been tabulated for a team award are not eligible.
- The members of the nominated team must all be considered "normally" residents of Nova Scotia who have developed within the Nova Scotia sport system. Athletes who have left the province for temporary training or scholastic reasons and consider Nova Scotia their primary residence will be eligible if they meet the additional criteria.
- Teams must be members of, or endorsed by, their provincial sport organization or its member organizations and represent Nova Scotia in competition.
- Achievements from high school or post-secondary events will not be considered in the selection process. However, times or records recognized by a provincial sport organization will be considered.
- Nomination should be based upon accomplishments between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Information from previous years will not be considered.
- The selection committees make their decisions based solely upon the information you provide. Please assist the committee by ensuring that the nomination is accurate, succinct and as complete as possible.

Recognition

- Awards will be given to the overall winner of the *Support4Sport* Team of the Year, as well as the two runners up. Each provincial sport organization Team of the Year is also recognized. All winners will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

Volunteer of the Year

Background

- Each Sport Nova Scotia member Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) has the opportunity to select one (1) volunteer who will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards. Each PSO's winner will be recognized.
- Nominations are accepted only from member Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs). The PSO president or a signing authority of the PSO must endorse the selection.
- Each selection must be accompanied by documentation of the winner's achievements and/or rationale for being selected. Please note that the biographies that appear in the evening's program will be written based on this information.
- One selection will be accepted per sport. The PSO selection should represent the best candidate in that sport. If more than one selection is submitted in a category from a single PSO, the forms will be returned and the PSO will be responsible for submitting only one by the deadline.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

- Responsibility of each Provincial Sport Organization.

Recognition

- Each Provincial Sport Organization Volunteer of the Year will receive an award. All will be honoured at the *Support4Sport* Awards on Saturday, May 24, 2025.