

VICTORIAN SPORT AWARDS

2021 Nominations Criteria

The Victorian Sport Awards is the night of nights for the Victorian sporting community. A night that recognises and celebrates the achievements of our home-grown sporting heroes and legends.

Each year the Victorian Sport Awards will honour those who have made an outstanding contribution to sport in Victoria as an individual or team athletes, coaches, administrators and volunteers from both metropolitan and regional areas in Victoria.

For all information regarding the 2021 Victorian Sport Awards, click [here](#).

The overarching definitions to assist with the below documentation:

Definitions

Competition level definitions:

Association/District	Club tournaments/competitions – i.e. Association/District events
State	State Championships – i.e. Association versus Association, Region versus Region, District versus District, School State Championships
National (recognised by the governing sporting body)	State versus State competition – i.e. National Championships, National Competitions, School National Competitions
International Competition (recognised by the governing sporting body)	Team or Athlete competing in an international competition – i.e. Olympics, Commonwealth Games, World Championships
Masters Athlete	The age defined by their respective SSA - i.e. Athletics Victoria defines a Masters Athlete as an Athlete who is over 30 years of age on the 31 December of the current year

Eligibility Criteria – All Nominations

All nominees for the Victorian Sport Awards will be required to fulfil the following eligibility criteria.

All nomination forms will have a tick box to select that the nominee meets the following eligibility criteria.

- A. To be considered as a Victorian (must “tick” requirement one, plus either requirement two or three):

(1) Product of Victorian Sports System	Contribution or Participation in the Victorian sports system for a minimum of seven years (three years for juniors)
(2) Resident in the state of Victoria	Identify their primary residence as a location geographically based in Victoria
(3) Born in the state of Victoria	

- B. All contributions/achievements must have been achieved in the current calendar year of January to December 2021 (except for the Outstanding Contribution to Sport and Volunteer of the Year Awards).
- C. All nominees must meet the expectations of the Victorian Community Sport Code of Conduct.

Every person: spectator, player, club member, official, participant, administrator, coach, parent or member of the community involved with the sport, should work to ensure:

- inclusion of every person regardless of their age, gender or sexual orientation
- inclusion of every person regardless of their race, culture or religion
- opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in the sport and develop to their full potential
- respect is shown towards others, the club and the broader community
- a safe and inclusive environment for all
- elimination of violent and abusive behaviour
- protection from sexual harassment or intimidation.

This code applies to community sport, training and club sanctioned activities.

Note: Eligibility requirements highlighted in yellow must be verified by the relevant SSA.

Coach of the Year

Context

Victorian coaches who have achieved outstanding coaching performance/s with Victorian athlete/s or teams during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be an accredited Coach under the recognised National or State Sporting body
- Coach Victorian athlete(s) or a team competing at a state, national and/or international level competition
- Nominations are open to both paid and unpaid coaches

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance of the athlete/team coached by the nominee
2.	Level of competition – state, national and/or international
3.	Contribution to the wider coaching community within their sport (i.e. mentoring)

Community Coach of the Year

Context

Victorian sporting coaches who have made a significant contribution to their club and/or association/district. This award recognises the exceptional contribution made by a Victorian community sporting coach during 2021, either on or off the sporting field, with a focus on improving community sport through encouraging participation, fairness, integrity and making sport more welcoming, safe and inclusive.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be an accredited Coach under the recognised National or State Sporting body
- Coach Victorian athletes(s) or a team competing at club and/or association/district level
- Nominations are open to both paid and unpaid coaches

Selection Criteria

1.	Coach at a club and/or association/district level
2.	Demonstrated achievement to make their team/club welcoming, safe and inclusive
3.	A role model for their athletes – setting a positive example
4.	Demonstrated commitment to continuous training and learning

Official of the Year

Context

Victorian officials who have demonstrated excellence in their role as an official of their chosen sport during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be an accredited Official under the recognised National or State Sporting body
- Officiate at state, national, international level
- Nominations are open to paid and unpaid officials

Selection Criteria

1.	Level of competition officiated – state, national and/or international
2.	Demonstrated commitment to continuous training and learning
3.	Contribution to the wider officiating community within their sport (i.e. mentoring)

Community Official of the Year

Context

Victorian sporting officials (umpires/referees/judges) who have made a significant contribution to their club, and/or association/district in 2021, with a particular focus on improving community sport through fairness, integrity and ensuring sport is more welcoming and inclusive.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be an accredited Official under the recognised National or State Sporting body
- Officiate at club and/or association/district level
- Nominations are open to paid and unpaid officials

Selection Criteria

1.	Officiated at a club and/or association/district level
2.	Demonstrated commitment to continuous training and learning
3.	Contribution to the wider officiating community within their sport (i.e. mentoring)
4.	Demonstrated focus on improving community sport through fairness, integrity and making sport more welcoming and inclusive

Sports Administrator of the Year – Eunice Gill Award

Context

Victorian sports administrators who have demonstrated an outstanding level of achievement during the 2021 year at the State Sporting Association, Regional Sports Assembly or National Sporting Organisation (Victorian based). The recipient's contribution will have provided benefit to, or had a positive impact upon, an individual sport or the industry as a whole, and their standards of excellence will have distinguished them from peers.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be employed (in a paid position) at a State Sporting Association, Regional Sports Assembly, National Sporting Organisation (Victorian based), Associations, Leagues, Regional Academies of Sport or in a Professional Sporting Team.

Selection Criteria

1.	Outstanding achievement in the development and delivery of projects/initiatives to enable <i>more Victorians to enjoy the benefits of sport</i>
2.	The impact of their contribution/initiative to the individual sport
3.	The extent to which the individual has delivered beyond expectations

Volunteer of the Year

Context

This award recognises the exceptional contribution made by a volunteer to the Victorian sport and active recreation community in 2021.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be recognised by the club, State or National Sporting body
- Not be paid for their volunteering activities (Note: reimbursement of expenses does not constitute payment)

Selection Criteria

1.	Position held within the club/association/state sporting association/regional sports assembly
2.	The impact of the work completed within their organisation
3.	The impact of the work to the broader community

Community Sporting Club of the Year

Context

This award recognises the outstanding contribution made in 2021 by a community sporting club, team or organisation who has demonstrated a strong commitment to encourage and support participation in sport and active recreation, including breaking down barriers that may be created by age, cultural diversity, ability, gender, religious belief or sexual orientation.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the club must:

- Be registered with a State Sporting Association

Selection Criteria

1.	Demonstrated achievement to make their club welcoming, safe and inclusive
2.	Demonstrated increase in participation
3.	Engagement of young people within their community
4.	Engaging women and girls as leaders as well as participants
5.	Promoting injury prevention and participant safety

Masters Athlete of the Year

Context

Victorian Masters athletes or teams who have achieved outstanding results in respect to their performances at a national and/or international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Have competed in Masters level competition in 2021 as classified by their respective sport

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – national and/or international

Team of the Year

Context

This award recognises a Victorian team who has achieved outstanding results in respect to their performances at a state, national and/or international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Must be an officially recognised state team by their State Sporting Association; or,
- A team representing Australia, comprised solely of Victorian athletes as defined in the individual award categories (Male and Female Athletes of the Year)
 - This includes a team registered and based in a Victorian Club (i.e. The Oarsome Foursome – Australian Olympic Four, Rowing 1992 and 1996 Olympics)

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – state, national and/or international

Young Team of the Year

Context

This award recognises a Victorian junior team who has achieved outstanding results with respect to their performances at a national, international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Must be an officially recognised state team by their State Sporting Association; or,
- A team representing Australia, comprised solely of Victorian athletes as defined in the individual award categories (Male and Female Athletes of the Year)
 - This includes a team registered and based in a Victorian Club (i.e. The Oarsome Foursome – Australian Olympic Four, Rowing 1992 and 1996 Olympics)
- Be a team with all members 21 years of age or under as at 31 December 2021

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – national and/or international

Young Athlete of the Year

Context

This award recognises Victorian junior athletes who have achieved outstanding results in respect to performance/s at a national and/or international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Have competed in national and/or international level competition
- Be 21 years of age or under as at 31 December 2021

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – national and/or international

Male Athlete of the Year – Frank Wilkes Award

Context

This award recognises a Victorian individual male athlete who has achieved outstanding results in respect to performance/s at a national, international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Have competed in national and/or international level competition
- Identify as a male/man

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – national and/or international

Female Athlete of the Year – Kitty McEwan Award

Context

This award recognises a Victorian individual female athlete who has achieved outstanding results in respect to performance/s at a national, international level during the 2021 year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Have competed in national and/or international level competition
- Identify as a female/woman

Selection Criteria

1.	Results and performance
2.	Level of competition – national and/or international

Local Government Initiative of the Year

Context

This award recognises a Local Government Authority who has made a significant contribution to sport in 2021 through the development of a participation program or facility.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be a *Local Government Authority* within the state of Victoria

The initiatives be related to (but not limited to):

- Research
- Participation recruitment and retention programs
- Facility re-development, development or design
- Sport competitions and/or events

Selection Criteria

1.	The impact of the initiative to the Local Government Authority's community
2.	The impact to participation within the Local Government Authority
3.	Innovative approaches to the initiative

Active Recreation Initiative of the Year

Context

This award recognises the work of individuals, clubs, teams, groups or organisations (including SSAs) who have succeeded in enabling more people to participate in active recreation. This could be through a single initiative, event or longer-term initiative (i.e. program, project or campaign) implemented within the past 2-3 years which has provided significant benefit to Victorian sport during 2021.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be a community and/or active recreation club/group or individual within Victoria, or
- Be a State Sporting Association, Regional Sports Assembly or Vicsport Associate Member

The initiatives be related (but not limited) to:

- Participation recruitment and retention programs
- Research

Selection Criteria

1.	The impact of the initiative to encourage Victorians to participate in active recreation initiatives and/or to the sport
2.	Innovative approaches to the initiative and inclusive practices
3.	The number of participants
4.	The impact to participation within the sport

Sport Initiative of the Year

Context

This award recognises the work of individuals, clubs, teams, groups or organisations (including SSAs) who have succeeded in enabling more people to participate in sport activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. This award will highlight the innovative work that sport has promoted to keep people active and connect with members during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be a State Sporting Association, Regional Sports Assembly or Vicsport Associate Member

The initiatives be related (but not limited) to:

- Participation recruitment and retention programs
- Research
- COVID survival and recovery

Selection Criteria

1.	The impact of the initiative to encourage Victorians to participate in active recreation initiatives and/or to the sport
2.	Innovative approaches to the initiative and inclusive practices
3.	The number of participants
4.	The impact to participation within the sport

Community Sporting Event of the Year

Context

This award recognises an outstanding community sporting event that has been delivered successfully and benefitted the local community in 2021.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be an organisation based in Victoria:
 - State Sporting Association
 - Regional Sport Assembly
 - Club
 - Association
 - Local Government Authority
 - National Sporting Organisation

Selection Criteria

1.	Exceptional event coordination
2.	The impact to participation in the local community as a result of the event
3.	Demonstrated achievement to make the event welcoming, safe and inclusive
4.	Positive partnerships created within the local community
5.	Positive connection to the local community

Peter Norman Inclusion Award

Context

The Peter Norman Inclusion Award recognises an individual or organisation that has made a significant contribution to safe, fair and inclusive sport. Winners of the Peter Norman Inclusion Award are nominated by Victorian Sport and determined by a specially selected Judging Panel. This award highlights those who have pushed the boundaries to prove that real, genuine change can be made through sport.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be a considered as a Victorian

Consideration will be considered to:

1.	Evidence the individual or organisation prioritises diversity and inclusion within the sports industry through internal and/or public facing programs and projects
2.	Demonstration of how the individual or organisation has supported diversity and inclusion either internally, externally or both
3.	Evidence the individual or organisation has had a positive impact on the wider sports community
4.	A consistent key message highlighting the importance of inclusion and diversity in sport either internally, externally or both
5.	Efforts to benefit the wider community through sport
6.	Displayed values of fairness and integrity

Outstanding Media Coverage of Sport

Context

This award recognises the coverage of elite and community sport to the wider public via various online, digital, broadcast and/or print media platforms in 2021. Through positive and inspiring media coverage, the sport has benefited from an improved public-facing image, increased participation, inclusivity and/or greater exposure.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Work for or on behalf of mainstream media covering sport
- Work for or on behalf of a community and/or active recreation club/group or individual within Victoria, or
- Work for or on behalf of a State Sporting Association, Regional Sports Assembly or Vicsport Associate Member
- Nominations are open to organisation and/or individuals in both paid and unpaid media positions

Selection Criteria

1.	Exceptional media coverage
2.	The impact to have altered or maintain a positive image in the community as a result of the coverage
3.	The impact to participation in the community as a result of the coverage
4.	Demonstrated achievement to showcase the sport as welcoming, safe and inclusive

Outstanding Contribution to Victorian Sport

Context

The Victorian Outstanding Contribution to Sport Award is presented to an individual or organisation in recognition of outstanding achievement in, or contribution to, sport in Victoria. Winners of the Outstanding Contribution to Sport Award are nominated by the Victorian Sport Awards Committee and selected by the Vicsport Board based on their significant role in the Victorian sport and active recreation sector.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be considered in this category, the nominee must:

- Be a considered as a Victorian (as per criteria on page 2)

Consideration will be considered to:

1.	Length of service
2.	Level and standard of achievement
3.	Number of people and organisations that this person has had an influence
4.	Impact on sport in Victoria – <i>More Victorians enjoying the benefits of sport</i>
5.	Efforts to benefit the wider community through sport
6.	Recognition and respect of peers
7.	Displayed values of fairness and integrity
8.	Demonstrated leadership