



Award Criteria

Outstanding contribution to Aquatics

Description:

The 'Outstanding Contribution Award' stands as a prestigious honour presented to an individual or club that have displayed remarkable commitment to Welsh Aquatics. This award is not just a means to recognise, but also a platform to celebrate their outstanding accomplishments, which have had a profoundly positive impact on our aquatic community and serve as an inspiration for future generations to continue the advancement of our sport.

Criteria:

- Must be an affiliated Swim Wales member.
- Evidence that the above requirements have been fulfilled within the last 12 months.
- Must be able to demonstrate examples of good practice, the beneficiaries and impact.
- Align with our vision, mission and values.

Young performance athlete

Description:

This category is open to athletes up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023), who have performed with distinction on the national and/or international junior stage during 2023, while also exhibiting outstanding 'winning behaviours' in training and competition.

Criteria:

- This category is open to swimmers up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023).
- Be Wales country of representation.
- Be selected to the Swim Wales National Squad Programme.



Performance Athlete

Description:

This category is open to athletes who have performed with distinction on the international senior stage during 2023, while also exhibiting inspirational behaviours to the next generation.

Criteria:

- This category is open all athletes
- Be Wales country of representation
- Be selected to the Swim Wales National Squad Programme

Young Para Athlete

Description:

This category is open to para-athletes up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023) who have performed with distinction on the international stage during 2023, while also exhibiting inspirational behaviours to the next generation.

Criteria:

- This category is open to swimmers up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023).
- This category is open para-athletes who hold either a current World Para Swimming (WSP) classification, British Para Swimming classification (S1-S13 inclusive) or INAS-FID / VIRTUS Classification (S14).
- Be Wales country of representation
- Be selected to the Swim Wales National Squad Programme



Para Athlete

Description:

This category is open to para-athletes who have performed with distinction on the international stage during 2023, while also exhibiting inspirational behaviours to the next generation.

Criteria:

- This category is open para-athletes who hold either a current World Para Swimming (WSP) classification, British Para Swimming classification (S1-S13 inclusive) or INAS-FID / VIRTUS Classification (S14).
- Be Wales country of representation
- Be selected to the Swim Wales National Squad Programme

Performance Coach

Description:

This category recognises a coach that has made an outstanding contribution and commitment to the development of performance athletes and para-athletes during 2023, both within their home programme and the National Programme.

Criteria:

- Be a Swim Wales member
- Be based at a Swim Wales affiliated club and/or programme

Performance Club of the Year

Description:

This category recognises a club that has made an outstanding contribution and commitment to the development of performance athletes and para-athletes during 2023.

Criteria:

- Be a Swim Wales affiliated club



Young Aquatic Athlete

Description:

This award is to recognise a young aquatic athlete, at any level in any aquatic sport, up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023), who has developed their skills, exhibits outstanding 'winning behaviours' in training and competition and an active role model.

Criteria:

- This category is open to swimmers up to the age of 18 years (as of 31st December 2023).
- Must have an active Swim Wales membership.

Aquatic Athlete

Description:

This award is to recognise an aquatic athlete, at any level in any aquatic sport, who has developed their skills, exhibits outstanding 'winning behaviours' in training and competition and is an active role model.

Criteria:

- Must have an active Swim Wales membership

Aquatic Coach

Description:

This category recognises a coach who has made an outstanding contribution and commitment to the aquatic pathway in Wales, in any aquatic sport, through collaboration and the development of athletes and para-athletes during 2023.

Criteria:

- Be a Swim Wales member
- Be based at a Swim Wales affiliated club and/or programme



Community Impact

Description:

This award recognises an individual, club, operator or programme that has brought the community together through aquatic activity. The winner will have inspired positive change and introduced an initiative that has improved the lives of the community contributing to greater social, mental and physical wellbeing.

Criteria:

- Must be able to demonstrate good governance
- Must demonstrate examples of high quality inclusive practice
- Demonstrate examples of good practice, the beneficiaries and impact

Health Impact

Description:

This award recognises an individual, club, operator or programme that has made significant improvements to health outcomes through aquatic activity. The winner will demonstrate health partnerships and initiatives that have inspired positive change to those with long term health conditions or impairments and measure the impact the programme has made to physical, social and emotional wellbeing.

Criteria:

- Must be able to demonstrate good governance
- Must demonstrate examples of high quality inclusive practice
- Demonstrate examples of good practice, the beneficiaries and impact

Aquatic Club of the Year

Description:

This award recognises a club that exhibits exemplary behaviour which creates a safe, enjoyable and progressive environment enabling its members to thrive. Clubs must demonstrate inclusive, innovative or sustainable development (e.g., club succession planning or growing the club pathway) as well as commitment to athlete and volunteer development and training.



Criteria:

- Evidence that the above requirements have been fulfilled within the last 12 months.
- Must be a Swim Wales affiliated club.

Inclusion Impact

Description:

This award celebrates the accomplishments of an individual, club, operator, or program that has achieved substantial progress in fostering inclusivity within Aquatics. The recipient should be able to showcase their efforts in engaging with diverse communities, eliminating barriers, whether perceived or real, and highlighting the positive impact they've had on individuals or communities.

Criteria:

- Evidence that the above requirements have been fulfilled within the last 12 months.
- Must be able to demonstrate good governance.
- Must demonstrate examples of high-quality inclusive practice.
- Demonstrate examples of good practice, the beneficiaries and impact.
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Aquatic Technical Official

Description:

This award is intended to reward a Technical Official, of any discipline, who has made a significant, positive contribution to aquatics in Wales, particularly to club licensed, regional and national events. They must also have demonstrated a commitment to their own personal development through the official's pathway. They may have also made other significant contributions and impact as part of their volunteering.

Criteria:

- Must have an active Swim Wales membership.
- Must not be paid for voluntary services.
- Must hold a recognised technical official qualification or certification relevant to their role and activity.



Young Aquatic Volunteer

Description:

This award is to recognise a young person who has made a significant, positive contribution to aquatics in Wales. As well as showing devotion to personal development, nominees must have demonstrated commitment to the development and promotion of aquatics in Wales. They may have also made other significant contributions. Nominees may come from a range of positions including, but not limited to, club committee or welfare positions, lifeguard, coach or teacher.

Criteria:

- Must be under 21 years old.
- Must have an active Swim Wales membership.
- Must not be paid for voluntary services.

Aquatic Volunteer

Description:

This award is to recognise an individual who has made a significant, positive contribution to aquatics in Wales. As well as showing devotion to personal development, nominees must have demonstrated commitment to the development and promotion of aquatics in Wales. They may have also made other significant contributions. Nominees may come from a range of positions including, but not limited to, club committee or welfare positions, lifeguard, coach or teacher.

Criteria:

- Must have an active Swim Wales membership.
- Must not be paid for voluntary services.

Aquatic Teacher

Description:

This award recognises a teacher who provides quality lessons week in week out. They are motivated to improve their learners' standards and go the extra mile to ensure they deliver the best quality learning experience for their pupils.



Criteria:

- Must be a Swim England (or formerly ASA) qualified swim teacher who has continued to seek ongoing personal/professional development.
- Must be delivering lessons in one or more of the frameworks in Learn to Swim Wales (Bubbles, Splash, Wave, Nofio Ysgol, Skills or Adult).
- Must be delivering a fun and dynamic approach to teaching swimming.
- All achievements must have been accomplished in the last 12 months.

Swim School

Description:

Swim Schools nominated in this category should exemplify providing an excellent service to all of their members, ensuring the development of their learners, swimmers and staff by continually striving to achieve high standards.

Criteria:

- Current Learn to Swim Accreditation.
- Less than 600 current participants.
- Must be delivering lessons in one or more of the frameworks in Learn to Swim Wales (Bubbles, Splash, Wave, Nofio Ysgol, Skills or Adult).
- The Swim School must be offering/rewarding participants with Learn to Swim Wales Awards.
- Show evidence of innovative ways of delivering Learn to Swim sessions.
- Demonstrate how they support an inclusive learning environment.
- Show evidence of continual professional development of swim school employees.

Learn to Swim Wales Provider

Description:

Providers nominated in this category should exemplify providing an excellent service to all of their members, ensuring the development of their learners, swimmers and staff by continually striving to achieve high standards.



Criteria:

- Current Learn to Swim Accreditation.
- More than 600 current participants.
- Must be delivering lessons in one or more of the frameworks in Learn to Swim Wales (Bubbles, Splash, Wave, Nofio Ysgol, Skills or Adult).
- The Swim School must be offering/rewarding participants with Learn to Swim Wales Awards.
- Show evidence of innovative ways of delivering Learn to Swim sessions.
- Demonstrate how they support an inclusive learning environment.
- Show evidence of continual professional development of swim school employees.

School Swimming and Water Safety Impact

Description:

The School Swimming and Water Safety Impact Award celebrates exceptional individuals, schools, lesson providers, club or organisations, who have made a positive impact on school swimming and water safety. This award recognises those who are truly passionate about promoting water safety and improving school swimming programmes, and who have demonstrated significant achievements in this area. Winners will be commended for their outstanding commitment to ensuring that all children have the skills and knowledge they need to stay safe in, on and around water by supporting or delivering fun, engaging and innovative school swimming.

Criteria:

- Must be utilising the Nofio Ysgol Framework.
- Must be able to demonstrate examples of delivering high quality and inclusive school swimming and water safety lessons.
- Show evidence of innovative ways of delivering school swimming and water safety lessons.
- Must be able to evidence a significant positive impact on school swimming delivery or attainment in the previous year.
- Must have supported with the reporting of School Swimming and Water Safety Data Collection requirements



Sustainability Initiative

Description:

This award acknowledges the success of an initiative or project that has provided lasting environmental and long terms benefits to an aquatic facility (leisure centre, pool or outdoor facility) or the aquatic community itself. The recipient should demonstrate the implemented changes and their sustainability, highlighting how these alterations contribute to long-term environmental and sustainable benefits including but not limited to - energy reduction, energy efficiency, CO2 reduction, energy cost saving and/or innovation - and detail the partners/schemes/funds that have been instrumental in achieving this success.

Criteria:

- Evidence that the above requirements have been fulfilled within the last 12 months.
- Evidence that the changes will have a positive impact.

Aquatic Educator

Description:

This award acknowledges an Educator for their extraordinary efforts in going beyond the regular requirements of their role, with the main focus being on the learners' welfare and development. They should also have demonstrated a positive learning environment . This Educator should have the potential to serve as an inspiration to future teachers, coaches, volunteers and educators.

Criteria:

- Must have a current Swim England Educator License.
- Must have an active Swim Wales membership.
- Demonstrate examples of delivering and assessing high quality courses and CPD's across Wales.