

2020 -2021 SLST Awards of Excellence

Attention: Clubs, Presidents, Secretaries, Club Office Bearers and all interested Members

Actioned by: Interested members/clubs wishing to nominate for the 2020-21 SLST Awards of Excellence

Date: 18th March 2021

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Summary	This circular contains information about the 2020/21 Awards of Excellence for nominees and selection panels. The circular provides links to the online nomination form.
Strategic Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Value members by providing them with recognition, direction and support to enable them and build capacity• Develop a culture where innovation thrives and is shared
Key Strategies from the SLST 2020 Strategic Plan	2.1 Provide members with a board range of opportunities and pathways within the SLS organisation 2.5 Encourage and promote recognition of volunteers efforts to the wider community and external stakeholders 9.1 Recognise our members for innovative achievements 9.2 Provide our members with opportunities to connect with each other and share innovative ideas
Action	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clubs to nominate eligible members in each of the recognition award categories2. Nominations close, 5.00 pm, Monday 14th June 2021

The purpose of these awards is to recognise and reward members who have made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving activities.

The Awards will be presented at the Awards of Excellence dinner, to be held on the 14th August 2021 at Burnie Central Townhouse Hotel.

Please note only the SLST online nomination forms will be accepted.

<https://slst.wufoo.com/forms/q15447px1os7v3b/>

Any submissions made after these dates will not be accepted.

Application closing dates:

State No later than 14th June 2021

SLSA: No later than 27th August 2021

Section 1 – General Conditions

General notes

- All nominees must be SLSA financial members (or affiliated organisations). Nominations should focus on activities during the 2020/21 Surf Life Saving season, from 1st July 2020 – 30th June 2021.
- Where ages are mentioned, this refers to the members age as at 30 September in the 2020/21 season.
- Winners may be called upon to act as ambassadors of Surf Life Saving, both within the organisation and to external audiences.
- SLST will accept one award nominee from each Club/VMR, per category to ensure the process is streamlined and transparent.
- If you require further support, enquiries should be directed to; Karyn Blakey, Executive Support Officer, SLST – 0417 333 504 or kblakey@slst.asn.au

Guidelines for submission

- Clubs/VMR's are required to complete and submit an [online nomination form](#) by 14th June 2021. No nominations will be accepted via email or post.
- Clubs/VMR's must follow the Nomination Process for the relevant award (found in Section 3 of the circular).
- Nominations are to include a digital profile image of the nominee (for the individual awards) or logo (for 'Club of the Year' and 'Community Education Program of the Year') via the online nomination form. Please ensure all nominee photographs are from the shoulders up.
- Clubs /VMR's are submit their completed nominations by the closing date. State will be submitted online to SLSA as finalists for consideration for the national award.

Selection Process

All finalists for the state awards will go through a selection panel which will involve a review of applications.

Finalists for the 'Surf Lifesaver of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year and Club of the Year will be required to participate in a face to face interview.

Club of the Year nominees will participate in a face to face interview and should prepare a presentation for the selection panel, details of which will be available following the close of nominations. The selection panel will determine a winner from both a review of the application and the interview/presentation.

Interviews will be held either face to face or via video link on the weekend of the 26th and 27th June 2021, times and venue to be confirmed.

Members who are required to travel to attend their interview will be supported by either of these two options:

- Subject to demand, SLST will provide a bus to transport nominees to the venue and return,

with designated collections points along the highway; or

- SLST will provide a fuel subsidy to nominees who wish to car pool and travel with other nominees.

Section 2 – Summary of Awards

Surf Lifesaver of the Year

An active patrolling member who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services.

Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year

An active patrolling member under the age of 21 who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services.

Lifeguard of the Year

An Australian Lifeguard Service Lifeguard who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of lifeguard services.

Volunteer of the Year*

An impressive member who has made a difference through their volunteering efforts.

Club of the Year

An outstanding SLS-affiliated club that is committed to improving the experience of its members, providing a safer environment for the community, and improving club operations.

Athlete of the Year**

An athlete aged 15 or older who has achieved sporting excellence in Open Aged Competition.

Youth Athlete of the Year**

An athlete aged between 15-18 who has achieved sporting excellence in Youth and/or Open Aged Competition.

Team of the Year(SLST award category only)**

An athlete team who has achieved sporting excellence in Youth and/or Open Aged Competition.

Coach of the Year

An accredited coach who has made a significant contribution to athlete performance at a state, national and/or international level, to the development of athletes in SLS activities outside of surf sports, and to the educational development of other coaches in SLS.

Official of the Year

An accredited surf sports official who has made a significant contribution to both officiating at a state, national and/or international level, and to the educational development of other officials in SLS.

Trainer of the Year

An endorsed Trainer who is passionate about building the skills of others, consistently delivers a positive learning experience, and who encourages other members to engage in the delivery of training.

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Assessor of the Year

An endorsed Assessor who is passionate about building the skills of others, consistently delivers a positive and supportive assessment experience, and who encourages other members to engage in training or assessment.

Community Education Program of the Year

A SLS-delivered activity or program which has significantly contributed to the organisation's mission of saving lives, creating great Australians and building better communities.

Innovation Award***

A well-researched concept, piece of equipment, program or event which is/has been implemented to improve any facet of Surf Life Saving.

*Applications that focus on significant achievements in one particular area may not be considered if this area is also covered by other awards (e.g. Lifesaver, Coach, Official, Trainer and Assessor of the Year).

**A youth aged competitor (i.e. aged 15 to 18 years as at 30 September in a season) may be nominated for both the Athlete of the Year and Youth Athlete of the Year. However, only results achieved in Open Age Events and Open Age Team representation are considered for Athlete of the Year Award.

*** The innovation may have been developed in conjunction with an external body/sponsor, but must be owned by a member or group of members of an affiliated SLS club.

Section 3 – Nomination Process

Volunteer and Program/Innovation Awards

- Surf Lifesaver of the Year
- Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Lifeguard of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Official of the Year
- Assessor of the Year
- Trainer of the Year
- Community Education Program of the Year
- Innovation Award

How to nominate for the above awards

Complete the [ONLINE NOMINATION](#) and answer the three questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words).

1. Tell us about the member/individual or program/innovation being nominated.
2. What has been achieved?
3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

For Surf Lifesaver and Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year awards, nominations require patrol hours to be uploaded for the 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 season (extracted from SurfGuard).

When showcasing member, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- What relevant positions, roles or responsibilities do they hold?
- Have they done something in response to an identified need or problem?
- Have they done something new or different to achieve results?
- Have they inspired others to think or to do things differently?
- Have they had to overcome any challenges to make a difference or achieve success?
- Do they model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?

When showcasing the achievements of member, programs or innovations, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- What was the motivation or research which drove the program/innovation?
- What were the aims and objectives?
- What did it look like (location, duration, resources required etc.)?
- How was it evaluated to ensure it achieved its aims and objectives?
- Were there any challenges which needed to be overcome to achieve success?
- You may wish to attach photographs, include links to any promotional material created or media coverage received.



Club of the Year Award (open to VMR's as well)

To nominate for the Club of the Year award

Complete the [ONLINE NOMINATION](#) attaching your club's strategic and/or operational plan, and answer the five questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words).

1. Tell us about the club.
2. What has been achieved?
3. Why and how it has made a difference, and to whom?
4. What are your plans for future development and continuous improvement?
5. What is the ONE lesson that your club can teach and share with all other SLS clubs both here in Australia and internationally?

When showcasing club achievements, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- How does your club support the SLS 2025 Strategic Plan?
- What new initiatives, programs or events did your club implement last season that furthered your strategic objectives? How did you identify the need for this?
- How does your club deliver a range of sustainability and improvement measures across areas of governance, leadership, development, community engagement (or community support initiatives), and delivery of lifesaving services?
- What, if any, challenges did the club had to overcome to achieve success?
- How does your club management team model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?
- You may wish to attach any photographs, reference letters or media coverage to your nomination.

Note:

If your club has been a successful Club of the Year at a Branch, State or National level in the past five (5) Year's, please note this on your nomination.

Sport Awards

- Athlete of the Year
- Youth Athlete of the Year

How to nominate for the above awards

Complete the [ONLINE NOMINATION](#) and answer the questions listed below (with each answer no more than 400 words).

1. How have they achieved sporting excellence? What were their results at major competitions (e.g. state, national, international)? For athlete awards, have they been part of a representative team and if so, how did they contribute to the success of that team?
2. How are they a positive role model, a good sportsman and/or an ambassador for Surf Life Saving? How do they contribute to broader lifesaving activities and engage with other members (including juniors).