



GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING THE bankmecu GIPPSTAR AWARDS

The bankmecu Gippstar Awards have been running since 1961 with some alteration to procedure and its participating sponsors.

The bankmecu Gippstar Awards panel is a sub-committee of the Gippsland Sports Academy and therefore bound by the Academy's Constitution and Statement of Purposes.

Timing:

1. The bankmecu Gippstar Awards will be conducted according to the financial year, commencing in July and concluding the following June, with the annual awards night to be held in August.

Naming:

2. The awards are to be known as the bankmecu Junior Gippstar Awards, for athletes under 18 years of age, and the bankmecu Gippstar Awards, for those over 18 years of age.
3. The Awards are sponsored by major sponsor bankmecu and also funded by Baw Baw Shire, Latrobe City, Wellington Shire, South Gippsland, East Gippsland, WIN TV and GippsTAFE and administered by the Gippsland Sports Academy. The Memorandum of Understanding outlines the responsibilities of each party.

Aim of the Awards

4. The bankmecu Awards are designed to seek out and recognize sporting achievements of Gippslanders. The Awards are open to male and female athletes, coaches, administrators and officials amateur or professional.
5. The panel will take into account that whilst excellence is a prime factor in making the award, emphasis should also be placed on encouragement.

Panel Members

6. Panel members will apply to the Board of Management of the Gippsland Sports Academy to be appointed to the bankmecu Gippstar Panel, based on their experience in sport and/or media. New members can be recommended to the board by the current members of the panel. The Board's decision is final.
7. Sponsors of the Awards are entitled to have one person on the panel representing their organisation.
8. The Panel shall consist of no less than 7 members.
9. The Panel will keep records of nominees and monthly winners, and add further details to the profiles of monthly award winners, and consider this in the annual award decision.
10. The Chairman shall be recommended by the Panel members to the Board of Management of the Gippsland Sports Academy for final appointment and may represent a sponsor of the bankmecu Gippstar Awards.
11. The Panel members will review the guidelines annually and amend as necessary. The Panel will seek approval from the Gippsland Sports Academy Board of Management prior to implementing any changes.
12. The Panel members will create a Mission Statement for the Awards to define its purpose, by the end of 2007.

13. As a sub-committee of the Gippsland Sports Academy, the panel is empowered to judge the monthly and annual winners, and make announcements about these awards.

Eligibility

14. To be eligible for the bankmecu Junior Award, the athlete must be under 18 by December 31st of that year.
15. The bankmecu Junior Gippstar Award winner is also eligible to receive the bankmecu Senior Gippstar Award, at the discretion of the panel. An example of this would be a 17 year old who competed in an adult age competition.
16. The Award can be shared by more than one recipient if the Panel considers performances to be equal. If the Panel considers the required standard of nominations has not been reached in any month, an Award shall not be made.
17. An Awardee must have been a resident of Gippsland for not less than 6 month prior to the month for which the Award is being considered. Gippsland, for this purpose, shall be the area generally accepted as the geographic boundaries of the region. Nominees must live in one of the six shires: Bass Coast, Baw Baw, East Gippsland, Latrobe City, South Gippsland and Wellington Shires.

Nominations and Voting

18. Whilst the monthly award can be shared, it is understood that only in exceptional circumstances should the bankmecu annual Award be shared.
19. The Awardee shall be notified by letter of his or her selection as a monthly winner, and shall be invited to attend the presentation evening to be held annually, at a venue decided upon by the Panel.
20. Members of the public or the Panel may nominate a candidate who will be assessed by the Panel and given a numerical rating out of ten. The highest score would be allocated for achieving an Olympic gold medal or World Championship Title, with scores decreasing through international, national, state and local level achievements.
21. The monthly winner shall be the person with the highest score, following the total of the panel's ratings and averaging of scores. In the event of a tie, the Panel will endeavour to split those involved on a performance basis, but if after discussion a tie still exists, then dual Awards will be given. The Panel will take into account all nominations regardless of the month nominated or the month the performance takes place.
22. The monthly award winners are assessed by the Panel to select the annual award winner based on performance.
23. A monthly award winner shall be eligible for only one monthly award during the year.
24. Monthly and yearly winners shall be decided on the Panel's scores and the Chairman shall have the casting vote if necessary.
25. The Panel may decide to award a Team of the Year, Club of the Year, Gippsland Champion award, or Special Achiever Award at the annual awards night.