

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING THE GIPPSTAR AWARDS

The Gippstar Awards have been running since 1960 with some alteration to procedure and its participating sponsors.

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

Naming:

2. The awards are known as the Gippstar Awards.
3. The Awards receive annual funding from the Baw Baw Shire, Bass Coast, Latrobe City, Wellington Shire, South Gippsland, and East Gippsland, WIN TV and Federation Training and from time to time a major sponsor maybe given the naming rights to the Awards. Funding is administered by the Gippsland Sports Academy. The Memorandum of Understanding outlines the responsibilities of each party.

Aim of the Awards

4. The Awards are designed to seek out and recognize sporting achievements of Gippsland 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 can apply to the Board of Management of the Gippsland Sports Academy to be appointed by the 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 5 appointed members, not including the sponsor of the Awards.
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 appointed by the Board of Management of the Gippsland Sports Academy and may represent a sponsor of the 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 Mission Statement as defined by the Gippstar Panel Members is :
“The Gippstar Awards will acknowledge talented Gippsland athletes who have achieved outstanding performances in their chosen sports”
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.

Gippstar Awards Criteria:

14 Monthly Gippstar Awards:

- 14.a Open to all athletes over the age of 10. There is a junior Gippstar Award for those under 18 years of age.
- 14.b To be eligible for the Junior Award, the athlete must be a minimum of 10 Years of age and 18 or under by 30th June of the current Gippstar year which runs July 1st to June 30th .
- 14.c No athlete can be awarded both Gippstar Awards for that month
- 14.d Athletes may only be nominated for one sport per nomination. If athletes achieve success in more than one sport, separate nominations may be submitted.
- 14.e A monthly award winner shall be eligible for only one monthly award during the year.
- 14.f Awardees or their immediate family must have been listed on a Gippsland electoral role for a minimum of two years. They must have also resided in Gippsland for not less than a total of 6 months 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.
- 14.g If the awardee attends a University outside of Gippsland they must return to their family home in Gippsland between the gazetted university semesters and have retained their membership of their sporting Club and/or their Association in their chosen sport.
- 14.h The Award can be shared by more than one recipient if the Panel considers performances to be equal. It is understood that only in exceptional circumstances will the annual Award be shared
- 14.ihf the Panel considers the required standard of nominations has not been reached in any month, an Award shall not be made.
- 14.j 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.
- 14.k To be eligible the nominated sport must be aligned with a National Sporting Organisation (NSO), State Sporting Association (SSA), or be an accepted Olympic or Commonwealth Games Sport. See link below for NSO and SSA directories:

https://www.sportaus.gov.au/australian_sports_directory

<http://sport.vic.gov.au/our-work/industry-development/find-sporting-organisations/state-sporting-associations>

The following four Gippsstar Annual awards are made each year solely at the discretion of the Gippsstar Panel

15. Gippsland Champion Award:

To receive this award the awardee must have:

- 15.a Supporting evidence that they have a strong family association with Gippsland.
- 15.b Commenced their sporting career with a Gippsland Club and/or Association in the sport that they are seeking to be recognized as a "Gippsland Champion".
- 15.c Been permanently residing outside of the Gippsland region at the time of their nomination.

16. Special Achiever Award:

The Panel may consider awarding four Annual Special Achiever Awards given that to receive this award the nominator must show the nominee must have:

- 16.a Supporting evidence that they are a resident of Gippsland.
- 16.b Provided outstanding service to sport over a significant period of years.
- 16.c Been actively engaged as a committee member, coach, umpire, official or volunteer with their Gippsland based Club and/or Association for no less than ten years.
- 16.d Carried out their duties over and above the normal expectations of their position held in their Association and/or Club.

17. Team of the Year

The following criterion outlines what is required:

- 17.a. The team must be from a region of Gippsland or represent Gippsland
- 17.b. The minimum number of athletes in the team is two.
- 17.c. The award is given on the performance of the team over the year in which the nomination is submitted.

18. Club of the Year

The following criterion outlines what is required:

- 18.a. The Club must be from a region of Gippsland
- 18.b. Its principal activity is that of administering a recognized sport.

Nominations and Voting

20. Members of the public or the Panel may nominate a candidate for a monthly Gippstar Award who will be assessed by each Panel member independently using a Gippstar Award voting template. Each Panel member will then forward a copy of their completed template to the GSA Office who will average the total points of each Panel member to decide the winner of both Senior & Junior Gippstar Awards.
21. The monthly winners shall be the person with the highest number of points in both awards. In the event of a tie, the Panel will endeavor to split those involved on a performance basis, but if after discussion a tie still exists, then dual Awards will be given.
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. Annual winners shall be decided by the Panel with the Chairman having the casting vote if necessary.
25. On receipt of a Monthly Award Winner Congratulatory letter the awardee shall send a jpg photo to the Gippstar Awards at gippstar@sportsgippsland.org.au to be used for media release and for the Gippsland Sports Academy website on their Gippstar page. In the Awards mentioned in 14 and 15 above it would be preferable for an action shot relevant to their particular sport.
26. Monthly and Annual award voting requires a minimum of 5 voting panel members to be valid
27. The panel member's decision is final and there is no opportunity for review.