



British Rowing Awards

2023 Award Criteria

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT



Anyone can nominate a person, crew, club or project for an award. Click on the award name for further info, the awards criteria, and details of how to nominate. You have until midnight on Monday, 13 November 2023 to get your nominations in, so don't delay!

- [Volunteer of the Year](#)
- [Rising Star Volunteer of the Year](#)
- [Affiliated Club of the Year](#)
- [Rowing Project of the Year](#)
- [Junior or School Crew of the Year](#)
- [University Crew of the Year](#)
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- [Lifetime Achievement Award](#)
- [British Rowing Medal of Merit](#)

Two additional awards are decided by British Rowing's Junior Rowing and Rowing Safety Committees. These are The Beryl Crockford Award for outstanding contribution to junior rowing, and the National Safety Award, respectively.

The panel awarding the British Rowing Medal of Merit may take the decision for any exceptional nominations to be put forward for the Medal of Honour. It is awarded for Outstanding Service to Rowing and is not presented lightly. Former recipients include Sir Steve Redgrave, John Garton, Mike Sweeney, Bill Mitchell, Eric Halliday and Jurgen Grobler.

Not sure which category your nominee fits best in? Drop us an email at awards@britishrowing.org and we'll work it out together.

Click to Nominate Now



Volunteer of the Year

This award is for volunteers of every kind who have contributed significantly to the sport, for the benefit of the wider rowing community, during October 2022 to September 2023.

The criteria for this award are intentionally broad, to include as wide a potential group of nominees as possible.

- As guidance, we anticipate that nominees will be individuals who have contributed significant time and effort to a community club, school or university, or another organisation or project connected to rowing, or to their Regional Rowing Council, or to a local or national competition, during October 2022 to September 2023.
- Nominees could be a visible leader, but equally they can also be an unsung hero. They may have delivered a project or an outcome, or have been exceptionally dedicated in a behind-the-scenes role. They will have been a positive influence on their rowing peers, and should demonstrate a strong alignment with the core values of their club and of British Rowing.
- Nominees should be unpaid volunteers who are current members of British Rowing.
- Regional winners for this category from all ten British Rowing Regions will be selected by our Regional Chairs. These winners will form a shortlist, from which a national winner will be selected by our Awards Panel. All Regional winners will be invited to join us at the British Rowing Awards, where the National Volunteer of the Year winner will be announced.
- To nominate, please fill in the form via the button above, letting us know who you're nominating and why. To help our Regional Chairs and Awards Panel assess all nominations please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.

Rising Star Volunteer of the Year

This award is for exceptional young volunteers that have contributed significantly to the sport, for the benefit of the rowing community, during October 2022 to September 2023. Nominees should be 25 or under by 13 November 2023 (although nominees that fall slightly outside of this age group may be accepted at British Rowing's discretion.)

- These young people could have been involved at a club, school or university, or another organisation or project connected to rowing, including local and national competitions.



- Although they may currently be rowing or coxing, the Rising Star award is mainly for individuals that have helped others in a rowing context through their actions. The award is both for their existing contribution, and the future potential that you see in them.
- This award is for unpaid volunteers only who are current members of British Rowing.
- Regional winners for this category from all ten British Rowing Regions will be selected by our Regional Chairs. These winners will form a shortlist, from which a national winner will be selected by our Awards Panel. All Regional winners will be invited to join us at the British Rowing Awards, where the National Rising Star of the Year winner will be announced.
- To nominate, please fill in the form via the button above, letting us know who you're nominating and why. To help our Regional Chairs and Awards Panel assess all nominations please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.

Affiliated Club of the Year

This award is an open category for clubs that are currently affiliated to British Rowing. The criteria for this award are intentionally broad, to include as wide a potential group of clubs as possible.

The British Rowing Affiliated Club of the Year will be forward-thinking and well-run, with a thriving membership base of any size.

- We particularly encourage nominations from clubs that reflect the British Rowing value of being 'Open to all', and can cite examples in their nomination of how they demonstrate this through their club activities, through links to their local community, or through other means.
- Anyone can nominate an affiliated club for this award, and a club can nominate itself.
- From the list of nominated clubs, a shortlist of five will be chosen by our Awards Panel, with one club selected and announced as Club of the Year.
- To help our Awards Panel assess all nominations please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.



Rowing Project of the Year

This is an open category for projects related to rowing, either indoor or outdoor, that have delivered a significant positive outcome during October 2022 to September 2023.

The winner of the British Rowing Project of the Year award may have used an innovative approach to engage their local community, or to improve the inclusivity of specific target groups, or to improve their environment on or off the water. It may have achieved a milestone linked to fundraising, wellbeing, environmental or social outcomes.

- The project can be linked to a club, school or university, or linked to a charity, or could be a standalone project. It can be the focus of a single person, or a whole team. Quite simply, if you know of a successful rowing project that is worthy of national recognition, we would like to hear about it.
- Anyone can nominate a project for this award, and projects can nominate themselves.
- From the list of nominated projects, a shortlist of five will be chosen by our Awards Panel, with one project selected and announced as Club of the Year.
- To help our Panel assess all nominations, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.

Junior or School Crew of the Year

This award is for school and junior club crews with outstanding achievements in the 2022 calendar year, or over the course of the 2022/2023 season.

- Crews can be nominated for their achievements over a successful year of racing, however, we also encourage nominations for crews with notable achievements of other kinds, e.g. crews that have faced and overcome adversity, have achieved beyond their expectations, etc.
- Any level of crew can be nominated, from beginners upwards. To qualify for this award, crews must have been based in J18 age groups or under at the time of their achievements (i.e. they can be of any junior age). They must also be, or have been, based at a British Rowing affiliated school or club.
- From the list of nominations, a shortlist of five crews will be chosen by our Awards Panel, with one crew selected and announced as School or Junior Crew of the Year.
- To help our Panel assess all nominations, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.



University Crew of the Year

This award is for university crews with outstanding achievements between October 2022 to September 2023.

- Crews can be nominated for their achievements over a successful year of racing, however, we also encourage nominations for crews with notable achievements of other kinds, e.g. crews that have faced and overcome adversity, have achieved beyond their expectations, etc.
- Any level of university crew can be nominated, from beginners upwards. To qualify for this award, crews must be, or have been, based at a British Rowing affiliated university.
- From the list of nominations, a shortlist of five university crews will be chosen by our Awards Panel, with one crew selected and announced as University Crew of the Year.
- To help our Panel assess all nominations, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.

Club Crew of the Year

This award is for adult club crews with outstanding achievements over the course of October 2022 to September 2023 (for junior club crews, please see the School or Junior Crew of the Year category).

- Club crews can be nominated for their achievements over a successful year of racing, however we also encourage nominations for crews with notable achievements of other kinds, e.g. crews that have faced and overcome adversity, have achieved beyond their expectations, etc.
- Any level of adult crew can be nominated, from beginners upwards, and any category, e.g. Coastal, Masters, adaptive, etc. To qualify for this award, crews must be, or have been, based at a British Rowing affiliated club.
- From the list of nominations, a shortlist of five club crews will be chosen by our Awards Panel, with one crew selected and announced as Club Crew of the Year.
- To help our Panel assess all nominations, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.



Coach of the Year

There are three categories of awards in the overall Coach of the Year category, based on the type of activity the coach, or coaches, are involved in. These are:

- Talent Development Coach
- Community Coach
- Coaching Team.

Talent Development Coach of the Year

This award is for coaches who have led the development of a programme in a Club, School or University which supports rowers to understand performance, and recognise success at every stage of the talent development process.

The judging panel will base their decision on the following criteria:

- Evidence of coaching which understands the need of each individual athlete
- A coach who has committed to their own development and wellbeing
- Dedication to improving the sport of rowing and the experiences of those in it
- Consistent exemplary ethical coaching behaviours
- An understanding of the impact of coaching beyond the speed of the boat
- A significant impact on athletes involved in higher level performance
- An ambitious and inspiring vision being brought to life.

Nominees should be current British Rowing members and over the age of 18. They should have a coaching qualification relevant to rowing, and recognised by British Rowing. All nominees who are coaching junior crews must have current DBS clearance with British Rowing.

You can nominate yourself for this award, or nominate a coach you want to recognise. The recipient of this award is chosen by a British Rowing coaching panel, and will be included on the shortlist for the overall award of British Rowing Coach of the Year. To help the panel decide the winner, it will help if your nomination is no longer than 2500 characters. Nominations should reference the award criteria as closely as possible.

Community Coach of the Year

This award is for coaches who have made the most significant impact on their local community by providing opportunities to become involved in the sport of rowing.



The judging panel will base their decision the following criteria:

- Evidence that the coach has inspired inclusivity in the sport
- Use of creative coaching to engage people in the sport
- Evidence of coaching which understand the needs of the local community and each individual participant
- A coach who has committed to their own development and wellbeing
- Dedicated to improving the sport of rowing and the experiences of those in it
- Consistently shows exemplary ethical coaching behaviours
- Demonstrated a commitment to making rowing an accessible and inclusive sport.

Nominees should be current British Rowing members and over the age of 18. They should have a coaching qualification relevant to rowing, and recognised by British Rowing. All nominees who are coaching junior crews must have current DBS clearance with British Rowing.

You can nominate yourself for this award, or nominate a coach you want to recognise. The recipient of this award is chosen by a British Rowing coaching panel, and will be included on the shortlist for the overall award of British Rowing Coach of the Year. To help the panel decide the winner, it will help if your nomination is no longer than 2500 characters. Nominations should reference the award criteria as closely as possible.

Coaching Team of the Year

This award is for a team of coaches who have made the most significant impact on their local community, or the performance of the athletes they coach. This award is open to coaching teams, and may include a maximum of one salaried coach.

The judging panel will base their decision on the following criteria:

- Coaches who work collaboratively to engage with the wider rowing community
- Evidence of coaching which understands the needs of the local community and each individual participant
- Coaches who have committed to their own development and wellbeing
- Dedicated to improving the sport of rowing and the experiences of those in it
- Consistently show exemplary ethical coaching behaviours
- Demonstrated a commitment to making rowing an accessible and inclusive sport.



Nominees should be current British Rowing members and over the age of 18. They should have a coaching qualification relevant to rowing, and recognised by British Rowing. All nominees who are coaching junior crews must have current DBS clearance with British Rowing.

You can nominate yourself for this award, or nominate the coaching you want to recognise. The recipient of this award is chosen by a British Rowing coaching panel, and will be included on the shortlist for the overall award of British Rowing Coach of the Year. To help the panel decide the winner, it will help if your nomination is no longer than 2500 characters. Nominations should reference the award criteria as closely as possible.

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is for volunteers of every kind, to recognise a lifetime of achievement and dedication to the sport of rowing.

The criteria for this award are intentionally broad, to include as wide a potential group of nominees as possible.

- As a guide, nominees for this award may be individuals that have helped to grow the sport significantly, or contributed many years' service to a club, school or university, or a Regional Rowing Council, or to a local or national competition.
- They may be individuals who stand out in the rowing community for their exceptional dedication and commitment, but equally they could be unsung heroes who have put in many years of work behind the scenes.
- They will have been a positive influence on their rowing peers, and should demonstrate a strong alignment with the core values of their club and of British Rowing. All nominees in this category should be current members of British Rowing.
- A Regional winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award is chosen for each British Rowing Region by our Regional Chairs, and from this shortlist a national winner will be selected by our Awards Panel.
- To help our Regional Chairs and Awards Panel assess all nominations for Lifetime Achievement Awards, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.



British Rowing Medal of Merit

The British Rowing Medal of Merit recognises those who have made an exceptional contribution to rowing in their club, region or at a national level.

- As guidance, we anticipate that nominees will be individuals or organisations who have contributed significant time and effort to rowing.
- Nominees could be a visible leader, but equally they can also be an unsung hero or have been exceptionally dedicated behind-the-scenes who have provided an outstanding contribution to the sport.
- The British Rowing Medal of Merit is awarded for outstanding service to rowing and is not presented lightly.
- To nominate, please fill in the form via the button above, letting us know who you're nominating and why. To help our panel, please ensure your supporting text is no more than 2500 characters.