

Good Sports Awards

TIPS FOR WRITING A STANDOUT NOMINATION



Each year, we receive amazing nominations from clubs entering the Good Sports Awards. We love reading about the pride people have for their clubs and the passion they have for their communities.

There's always a few that really stand out though. They're the ones that tell us a story. They're the ones that tell us about the impact they have in reducing harms from alcohol and other drugs, the way they make their clubs healthier and safer, and what makes their club so special.

Writing a spectacular nomination doesn't have to be a daunting process. You just need a game-plan, which is why we've written some pointers for you.

TIPS FOR SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATION

- 1. Check your eligibility:** Take the time to check that your nomination meets the eligibility criteria. You can find eligibility criteria here: [Eligibility overview](#)
- 2. Log in to the [Good Sports portal](#).** If you don't have a log in, or you aren't sure if you have one, click through to the [sign up page](#). If your club is already in the system, you'll be able to link your account here. Once logged in, click through to the Awards page in the portal and you'll find the 'Nominate' button that will take you to the nomination form.
- 3. Start with the important stuff:** Tell us why your nomination deserves to win!
 - What activities and actions has your club done that makes you stand out?
 - How do you go above and beyond for your members?
 - What impact has your club had on your community?
- 4. Use real life examples:** Demonstrate why your nomination deserves to win with proof. We want to know the back stories and the impact these actions have had.
 - Is your club creating positive change within your community, including reducing harm from alcohol and other drugs? (For example, organising dry events, running or hiring a club bus to reduce drink driving, removing alcohol sponsorship from juniors' jerseys?)
 - Have you run any interesting programs or events?
 - Is there extra effort going in to run your club?
 - Do you have any evidence to include?
- 5. Fill out all the relevant fields within the form.** Make sure to include as much detail as possible while sticking to the word limits.
- 6. Add 'Supporting documents'** (if you're uploading multiple documents, please add them into a compressed zip folder* before uploading).
 - You can include images, videos, photos or references to strengthen your application. These may be used in the media if your club is a finalist or winner of a Good Sports Award.
 - You may like to include letters of support from your league/association, state sporting organisation, local council's sport and rec officer, or even your local Member of Parliament just to name a few! The more the better!
 - Feel free to include a quote or testimonial which may also be used if your club is a finalist or winner of a Good Sports award.
- 7. Fill out and sign the 'Agreement and Statement'.**
- 8. Click 'Send'** to submit your form.

*To create a compressed zip folder:

1. Create a folder and add photos/files to include in submission
2. Right click folder and scroll down to 'send to'
3. Select 'compressed zip folder'
4. Attach 'compressed zip folder' to nomination.



Now that you have the basics covered, here are specific suggestions on what to include for each question – below you can find an outline of each of the questions with some tips of what to add into your answer.

GENERIC QUESTIONS

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
How does your club make a positive impact on members and the wider local community? (200 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you were telling a friend about your club, what would you say makes your club work well?
Why did your club join Good Sports? (150 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What inspired your club to join the Good Sports program?• What did you identify could be improved at your club?
What benefits or changes to your club have you seen since joining Good Sports? (200 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How has being part of the Good Sports program influenced your club?• Can you describe any specific situations where the program helped address or prevent issues related to alcohol and/or drug use?• How has your club's culture around alcohol use changed since becoming involved in the Good Sports program?• If you've got evidence, include it in your supporting documents!
If your club wins, what will you spend the prize money on? (100 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does your club need new uniforms or help to upgrade facilities?• Tell us how this prize money might benefit your club!

CLUB OF THE YEAR

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
<p>How does your club go above and beyond in demonstrating its commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and healthy culture for its members, families and community?</p> <p>(300 words max)</p>	<p>To be eligible for this category your club must have reached Gold Accreditation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What alcohol and/or other drug practices and policies has your club introduced or strengthened through being involved in the GS program?• Why does your club deserve to be recognised as the Good Sports Club of the Year?• What safe transport initiatives does your club have in place for the safety of its members?• How does your club consider the safety and wellbeing of junior members in respect to exposure to alcohol sale and consumption in the club?• How does your club demonstrate leadership around safe alcohol practices and cultures through the broader club membership and community?

CLUB VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Question	When writing your answer, think about the following:
<p>Tell us about your champion volunteer and how they are a positive impact on your community/club.</p> <p>(500 words max)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why does this person stand out?• What are their roles, service, milestones and achievements at your club?• What role has the nominee had in reducing risk of alcohol and/or other drug harm in your club or community?• How does their involvement make your club better?• How have they impacted your club, your members and the club community?• What makes them invaluable to the club?• How do other members talk about them?• What are their silent achievements that nobody else knows about?• Why should they be this year's Good Sports Volunteer of the Year?
<p>Which one of the Good Sports values do you think shines brightest in your nominee? (Inclusive, Vibrant, Passionate, Connected)</p> <p>(200 words max)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which value do you think they are the most aligned with? We want to know about the moments that make this person shine and make your club proud.• Tell a story or give an example of how your nominee shows this value.

SAFE TRANSPORT AWARD

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
<p>Describe the safe transport strategies your club has implemented. What impact have these strategies had on your club and members?</p> <p>(300 words max)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell us about any risks your club had previously identified regarding alcohol and transport (e.g. members driving home after celebrations) and the strategies you put in place to reduce risk of harm.• If your members participated in the development of your safe transport strategies, tell us about this experience. Do your members now use these strategies?• How did you ensure your members were aware of your safe transport strategies?• How did your club overcome any challenges that you faced when developing (or implementing) your safe transport practices? Tell us how you overcame these.

COMMUNITY CLUB AWARD

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
How has your club positively impacted the wider community through its leadership? (300 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does your club stand out as a community leader?• Please share an example/story where your club went above and beyond to support your community.• Describe any initiatives/activities your club has undertaken, such as providing support during natural disasters, actively supporting and including diverse communities, educating others on Good Sports practices (e.g. alcohol management, smoking prevention, increasing awareness of mental health support, positive mental health, safe transport), hosting educational community events/forums.

MENTAL HEALTH EXCELLENCE AWARD

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
How does your club raise awareness about mental health and encourage your members to seek help if they need it? (300 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How have you created a safe space where your members feel supported to talk about and deal with mental health and/or alcohol and drug issues, if they arise?• Can you describe how your club has reduced stigma around mental illness and alcohol and other drug use?• Did your club experience any challenges when you started talking about mental health or alcohol and drug issues?• How did your club overcome these challenges?

JUNIOR CLUB OF THE YEAR

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
How does your club foster a culture that considers its junior members and families? (300 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does your club promote a safe, alcohol and drug-free environment for young people, both during games and at club events?• How does your club reduce exposure of junior members to people consuming alcohol and alcohol-related behaviours?• What specific initiatives or programs does your club have in place to educate and/or support its junior members to make healthy lifestyle choices?• How do you encourage your members to lead by example when it comes to alcohol?• If your club needed to make changes, how did it overcome any challenges that were faced?

NEW CLUB OF THE YEAR

Question	When writing your answers, think about the following:
What changes has your club made since joining the Good Sports program? How is the Good Sports program going to make a difference at your club? (300 words max)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be eligible for this award your club must have joined Good Sports in the past 12 months and reached a minimum of 'Accredited'.• What alcohol and other drug issues have you identified that the Good Sports program can support you with?• How have you engaged your members in any change you have implemented to date?



Ready? Let's go!

Visit goodsports.com.au/awards to start your nomination today. Best of luck!