



AFL BARWON

RECOGNITION & AWARDS PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GOVERNANCE

[Governance Responsibilities](#)

[Nomination & Selection Processes](#)

[Naming & Renaming of Awards Process](#)

NUMBER 1 TICKET HOLDERS

[Bellarine Football Netball League & Geelong Football Netball League](#)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

[AFL Barwon Life Membership](#)

[AFL Barwon Service Awards](#)

[BFNL & GFNL Life Membership](#)

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

[Rising Star Awards](#)

[Coaches Team of the Year Awards](#)

[Coaches Player of the Year Awards](#)

[Most Valuable Player Awards](#)

COMMUNITY AWARDS

[Coach of the Year Awards](#)

[Administrator of the Year Awards](#)

[Ian McTaggart Club of the Year Award](#)

[Football Umpiring Awards](#)

[Netball Umpiring Awards](#)

[Personality of the Year](#)

[Inclusive Club of the Year](#)

[Trainer of the Year Award](#)

[Mental Health & Wellbeing Club of the Year](#)

[Social Media / Communications Club of the Year](#)

[Mark and Goal of the Year Awards](#)

NOMINATION DETAILS

[Award Nomination Form](#)

[Award Renaming Application Form](#)

GOVERNANCE

Governance Responsibilities

1. The AFL Barwon History and Awards Sub-Committee (H&ASC) are responsible for the coordination of the annual Award nomination process.
2. The AFL Barwon Board & CEO responsible for reviewing and deliberating the Sub-Committee recommendations.
3. The AFL Barwon Board are then responsible for endorsing all category nominations and Award recipients

Nomination & Selection Processes

Our process is outlined in the diagram below.



Nomination process commences

- As part of the H&ASC meeting schedule, the Awards Program is to be included as an Agenda item in the Committee's first annual Meeting of the Year. This inclusion ensures that all Committee members are familiar with the information and process (in case that there is a change of Committee members).
- Minutes of Meetings are taken by a nominated staff member, usually the Chair of the History & Awards Sub Committee.
- In June of each year the nomination forms for all Award categories are reviewed and distributed by the H&ASC members for deliberation.

Nominations assessed against criteria

- At the July/August scheduled meetings of the year, the H&ASC reviews the nominations and supporting documentation to ensure that nominees meet the category criteria.
- The H&ASC Committee considers each nomination against the criteria and identifies their preferred nominee.
- Should the H&ASC not be able to narrow down to a single preferred nominee, then a short list can be developed for consideration in the next stage of the process.

H&ASC recommendations to the AFL Barwon Board

- A report is presented to the AFL Barwon Board including the list of nominees and the selection criteria; plus any rationale.
- During the next AFL Barwon Board meeting (or another meeting depending on time available), the AFL Barwon Board will review the final recommendation (from the H&ASC), consider and endorse.
- The AFL Barwon Board may elect not to support the H&ASC recommendation based on information that they are privy to.
- The AFL Barwon Board's decision will be communicated via email to the H&ASC ahead of their next scheduled meeting.

Naming & Renaming of Awards Process

The AFL Barwon region has a rich history and tradition of recognising excellence and contributions to our community through various awards. To ensure these awards reflect the outstanding individuals and their legacies, a formal process for renaming awards has been established.

The awards eligible for naming and renaming will be determined by the History & Awards Sub Committee on an annual basis.

Application Process

Submission of Application:

- Interested parties must submit a detailed application on the form
- The application should include comprehensive information about the individual proposed to be honoured with the renaming of an award.
- Specific examples and evidence of the individual's contributions, achievements, and impact on the AFL Barwon community must be provided.

Review by the History & Awards Sub-Committee:

- Once submitted, the application will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.
- The H&ASC will assess the merits of the application, considering the individual's legacy, contributions to the sport, and influence within the community.
- The H&ASC may at their discretion request further information from the nominee pertaining to the application, to ensure every application is reviewed impartially.

Approval Process:

- If the application meets the required criteria and is approved by the H&ASC, the renaming of the award will be presented to AFL Barwon Board for approval.
- The AFL Barwon Board's decision will be communicated to the applicant, and appropriate steps will be taken to implement the name change.
- The recipient of the award renaming will be advised (If applicable) if successful to ensure that there is complete transparency including right of refusal.

This process ensures that all award names in the AFL Barwon region honour those who have made significant, lasting contributions to our community, preserving their legacies for future generations.

NUMBER 1 TICKET HOLDERS

Bellarine Football Netball League & Geelong Football Netball League

The Number 1 Ticket Holder is a prestigious honour that is bestowed upon an individual who exemplifies outstanding support, dedication, and passion for their respective league.

This role is often reserved for a person of high standing within the community, someone who has made significant contributions to their league or has a strong connection to their club.

Criteria for Nomination

- Service to the League over an extensive period of time, and/or
- Service to the affiliated Club over an extensive period of time, and/or,
- A person who provides significant material support to the Club/League and/or who has very high standing or profile in the community which would bring interest and prestige.

Nomination Process

The selection of the Number 1 ticket holder for each League/Sport will be determined by the History & Awards Sub Committee on an annual basis. The below process must be followed:

Submission of Application:

- Interested parties must submit a detailed application on the form link found [here](#)
- The application should include comprehensive information about the individual proposed.
- Specific examples and evidence of the individual's contributions, achievements, and impact on the AFL Barwon community must be provided.

Review by the History & Awards Sub-Committee:

- Once submitted, the application will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.
- The H&ASC will assess the merits of the application, considering the individual's legacy, contributions to the sport, and influence within the community.
- The H&ASC may at their discretion request further information from the nominee pertaining to the application, to ensure every application is reviewed impartially.

NUMBER 1 TICKET HOLDERS

Approval Process:

- If the application meets the required criteria and receives approval from the H&ASC, the renaming of the award will be presented to AFL Barwon Board for their approval.
- The AFL Barwon Board's decision will be communicated to the applicant, and relevant League Board.
- The recipient of the Number 1 ticket holder will be advised if successful, to ensure that there is complete transparency including right of refusal.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

- Each Number 1 Ticket Holder will be presented to a 'Football' and 'Netball' person at the AFL Barwon community awards each year.
- Number 1 Ticket Holders will be in place for 12 months from the date of the Community Awards and receive the following entitlements:
 - Official Number One Seasons Pass (and a guest pass) of the League
 - Invitations for the Number 1 Ticket Holder and a guest to attend all official AFL Barwon and League events through the season.
 - Grand Final official 'tossers' of the coin prior to the commencement of the League Football/Netball matches.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

AFL Barwon Life Membership

AFL Barwon may at its discretion annually elect as AFL Barwon Life Members any person/s who has/have rendered outstanding service to the Board.

Criteria for Nomination

The criteria for nomination for AFL Barwon Life Membership are that the nominee must have:

- served as an AFL Barwon Boarder with a minimum 10 years' service or
- given outstanding service to AFL Barwon for a minimum total period of 15 years or
- acted as Chairperson of the Independent Tribunal serving for 10 continuous years or
- held a role appointed or ratified by the Board
- and offered the service voluntarily

Nomination Process

Nominations for AFL Barwon Life Membership will be determined by the History & Awards Sub Committee on an annual basis. The below process must be followed:

Submission of Application:

- Nominations for AFL Barwon Life Membership must be submitted on the application form that can be found [here](#).
- The application should include comprehensive information about the individual proposed and outline the criteria met to be eligible for the service award.

Review by the History & Awards Sub-Committee:

- Once submitted, the application will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.
- The H&ASC will assess the merits of the application, considering the criteria to be eligible for a Life Membership.
- The H&ASC may at their discretion request further information from the nominee pertaining to the application, to ensure every application is reviewed impartially.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

Approval Process:

- If the application meets the required criteria and receives approval from the H&ASC, the award will be presented to AFL Barwon Board for their approval.
- The AFL Barwon Board's decision will be communicated to the applicant.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

AFL Barwon Service Awards

AFL Barwon may at its discretion annually award AFL Barwon Service Awards to any person/s who has/have rendered outstanding service.

Criteria for Nomination

The criteria for nomination for AFL Barwon Service Awards are that the nominee must have:

- acted as a Club personnel with 15 years or more continuous service with their Club or
- provided 10 years continuous service to AFL Barwon or
- provided service where a remuneration was provided from AFL Barwon or
- provided 10 years continuous service in non-chairperson positions (ie: Tribunal Member) or
- been a player with 300 games at senior level for football or netball at an affiliated AFL Barwon Club.

Nomination Process

Nominations for AFL Barwon Service Awards will be determined by the History & Awards Sub Committee on an annual basis. The below process must be followed:

Submission of Application:

- Nominations for AFL Barwon Service Awards must be submitted on the application form that can be found [here](#).
- The application should include comprehensive information about the individual proposed and outline the criteria met to be eligible for the service award.

Review by the History & Awards Sub-Committee:

- Once submitted, the application will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.
- The H&ASC will assess the merits of the application, considering the criteria to be eligible for a Service Award.
- The H&ASC may at their discretion request further information from the nominee pertaining to the application, to ensure every application is reviewed impartially.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

Approval Process:

- If the application meets the required criteria and receives approval from the H&ASC, the award will be presented to AFL Barwon Board for their approval.
- The AFL Barwon Board's decision will be communicated to the applicant or applicants affiliated club.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

Bellarine FNL & GFNL Life Membership

The Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL may annually elect Life Members to the respective leagues.

Criteria for Nomination

The criteria for nomination for Geelong FNL or Bellarine FNL Life Membership are that the nominee must have:

- held the position of Football Club President, Secretary or Treasurer with 10 years accumulated service in any of the three roles. This would also include service for a continuous period in a combination of any of the three positions or
- provided 15 years continuous service directly for either league or
- held the position of chairperson of Netball section of a Club serving for 10 continuous years
- and offered the service voluntarily

Nomination Process

Nominations for Life Membership or AFL Barwon Service Awards must be forwarded to the RGM no later than 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting on the [appropriate nomination form](#).

Financial Members or Affiliate Clubs may nominate persons for Life Membership on a nomination form and in the manner approved by the Board. Life Memberships for Club individuals for the Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL must be on a club letterhead.

- The person nominated does not have to be a member of the Association.
- Each nomination form must be signed by the nominator and be seconded.
- Both the nominator and the seconder must be financial Members of the Association at the time of the nomination.
- Details of the service of the nominee must be supplied on the nomination form with any appropriate support documents
- The relevant League Board or Board will accept nominations and determine those nominees who meet the published criteria for the Award of Life Membership to be awarded Life Membership of the Association for recommendation to the Annual General Meeting

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of the specific League in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

Rising Star Award - Football

The Rising Star Award celebrates the exceptional talent and promise of young Footballers within the Bellarine & Geelong Football Netball Leagues. The aim of this award is to recognise our future champions and to promote their achievements.

This prestigious accolade is awarded to a standout player who is under 21 years of age as of January 1 of each calendar year.

Criteria for Nomination

- These players must be under 21 years of age as of the 1st of January of that calendar year.
- They must have played no more than 10 Senior Football games prior to the commencement of the current season.
- All nominations must be accompanied by text describing the achievements of the nominated players and the reason they have been nominated, along with a photo.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Football Operations department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

Rising Star Award - Netball

The Rising Star Award celebrates the exceptional talent and promise of young netballers within the Bellarine & Geelong Football Netball Leagues. The aim of this award is to recognise our future champions and to promote their achievements.

This prestigious accolade is awarded to a standout player who is under 21 years of age as of January 1 of each calendar year.

Criteria for Nomination

- These players must be under 21 years of age as of the 1st of January of that calendar year.
- They must have played no more than 10 A Grade netball games prior to the commencement of the current season.
- All nominations must be accompanied by text describing the achievements of the nominated players and the reason they have been nominated, along with a photo.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Netball Operations department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

Coaches Team of the Year - Football

The AFL Barwon Coaches Team of the Year for Football Award recognises the outstanding efforts and achievements of players that has displayed exceptional performance, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the season. Selected by the Senior Football coaches from across the league, this prestigious award highlights the best individuals in their position in their respective league.

Criteria for Nominations

- Each Club's Senior coach(es) are to submit the nominations for this award based off the top 40 players from Coaches Player of the Year Award.
- Coaches are required to select selecting 7 forwards, 9 midfielders and 7 defenders.
- There can only one entry submitted per club.
- Senior Coaches are able to nominate players from their own club.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Football Operations department. The coaches votes are tallied with the highest voted players in their positions, selected in the team.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

Coaches Team of the Year - Netball

The AFL Barwon Coaches Team of the Year for Netball Award recognises the outstanding efforts and achievements of players that has displayed exceptional performance, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the season. Selected by the A-Grade coaches from across the league, this prestigious award highlights the best individuals in their position in their respective league.

Criteria for Nominations

- Each Club's A-Grade coach(es) are to submit the nominations for this award, selecting 3 goalers, 3 mid court players, and 3 defenders.
- There can only one entry submitted per club.
- A-Grade Coaches are unable to nominate players from their own club.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Netball Operations department. The coaches votes are tallied with the highest voted players in their positions, selected in the team.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

Coaches Player of the Year

The Coaches Player of the Year is an award voted by each Senior coach on a 5,4,3,2,1 basis after each home and away game, acknowledging outstanding effort by an individual player in a season.

There are individual awards for the Bellarine FNL Seniors and A-Grade, Geelong FNL Seniors & A-Grade, and the Division 1 Senior Female Football competitions.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

These awards will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Most Valuable Player

The Most Valuable Player is an annual award chosen by the players, in order to crown the MVP in the Geelong Football Netball League.

Selection Process

The voting procedure for the award is each player who played in the Senior Geelong FNL Competition each year awards ONE vote to the player they believe is the best in the league.

The leading vote-getter receives the award which is presented at the League's Presentation Awards event.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the relevant League's Presentation Awards event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Coach of the Year Awards

Peter Burke Award - Senior Football Coach of the Year

Peter Burke, a revered figure in the AFL Barwon community, has dedicated countless years to the sport, exemplifying outstanding leadership and coaching prowess at Bell Park Sport & Recreation Club. He coached the GFNL Interleague team for a number of years, showcasing his expertise and commitment on a broader stage. His approach to player development and innovative strategies has significantly elevated team performance and morale. Peter's passion for the game and unwavering support for his players have made him a beloved and influential coach. The Peter Burke Award for Senior Football Coach of the Year honours his legacy and the remarkable impact he has had on the sport.

Criteria for Nomination

- Demonstrated exceptional leadership and coaching skills.
- Significant contribution to team performance and development.
- Positive impact on players and club culture.
- Innovative coaching strategies and techniques.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Joy Grubb Senior Netball Coach of the Year

Joy Grubb, an inspirational netball coach whose dedication to coaching spanned decades. Joy's professional approach, effective communication and commitment to continuous learning showcased her passion for the sport. Her impact is evident through numerous accolades, including BDNA Coach of the Century, the Australian Sports Medal 2000, the Victorian Sports Regional Award for Sports Leadership 2004, culminating in her induction into the Netball Victoria Hall of Fame 2007. The Joy Grubb Award for Senior Netball Coach of the Year honours her legacy and long standing mark she has made on netball.

The Senior Netball Coach of the Year Award is a prestigious accolade recognising outstanding leadership, dedication, and success in coaching within the senior netball community. This award celebrates a coach who has demonstrated exceptional ability to inspire and develop players, implement effective strategies, and foster a positive team culture.

Criteria for Nomination

- Demonstrated leadership and coaching excellence in senior netball.
- Significant contribution to team performance and success.
- Development of players' skills and game strategies.
- Positive influence on the team's culture and morale.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Coach of the Year Awards

Rookie Me Female Football Coach of the Year

This award celebrates outstanding leadership, dedication, and excellence in coaching within the female football community. This prestigious accolade honours a coach who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to developing players, fostering a positive team culture, and contributing to the growth of female football in the region.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Football team in AFL Barwon Junior or Senior Female Competitions.
- Shown excellence as a female in coaching female football teams.
- Significant contribution to the growth and success of female football.
- Encouragement of female participation and development in football.
- Positive role model for female athletes.
- Has a valid AFL coaching accreditation

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Inclusive Coach of the Year

The AFL Barwon Inclusive Coach of the Year Award recognizes exceptional dedication and leadership in fostering an inclusive and supportive environment within the football community. This award celebrates a coach who goes above and beyond to ensure that players of all abilities feel valued, respected, and empowered. By promoting diversity and inclusion, the recipient not only enhances the sporting experience for their team but also contributes to a more united and compassionate community

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Football or Netball team in any of the AFL Barwon All Abilities Competitions.
- Excellence in coaching inclusive teams.
- Promoting participation and development of players of all abilities.
- Creating an inclusive and supportive team environment.
- Contribution to the growth of inclusive sports.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Coach of the Year Awards

Rookie Me Youth Football Coach of the Year

The Youth Football Coach of the Year Award celebrates the exceptional dedication, skill, and leadership of our region's youth football coaches. This prestigious accolade recognises a coach who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to developing young athletes, creating a positive team environment, and promoting the values of sportsmanship and community involvement.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Football team in the Under 14, Under 16, Under 18 or Under 19 AFL Barwon competitions.
- Excellence in coaching youth football teams.
- Strong focus on player development and skill improvement.
- Positive influence on young players' sportsmanship and teamwork.
- Engagement with parents and community in supporting youth football.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Youth Netball Coach of the Year

This award celebrates excellence in coaching and recognises an outstanding individual who has made a significant impact on youth netball. This award acknowledges a coach who demonstrates exceptional leadership, dedication, and a commitment to developing young athletes both on and off the court.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Netball team in the 15&Under, 17&Under or 19&Under midweek or Saturday AFL Barwon competitions.
- Outstanding coaching of youth netball teams.
- Focus on player development and skill enhancement.
- Promotion of sportsmanship and teamwork among young players.
- Contribution to the growth of youth netball in the club and community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Coach of the Year Awards

Junior Football Coach of the Year

The Junior Football Coach of the Year Award recognises the exceptional dedication, leadership, and positive influence of a junior football coach within the AFL Barwon region. This prestigious award celebrates the vital role coaches play in the development of young athletes, fostering not only their sporting skills but also their personal growth and teamwork.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Football team in the Under 9, Under 10 or Under 12 AFL Barwon competitions.
- Outstanding coaching of junior Football teams.
- Development of players' skills and game understanding.
- Promotion of fair play and respect among young athletes.
- Contribution to the growth of junior Football within the club and community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Junior Netball Coach of the Year

The Junior Netball Coach of the Year Award recognises the exceptional dedication, leadership, and positive influence of a junior netball coach within the AFL Barwon region. This prestigious award celebrates the vital role coaches play in the development of young athletes, fostering not only their sporting skills but also their personal growth and teamwork.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Netball team in the 11&Under or 13&Under midweek or Saturday AFL Barwon competitions.
- Outstanding coaching of junior Netball teams.
- Focus on player development and skill enhancement.
- Promotion of sportsmanship and teamwork among young players.
- Contribution to the growth of junior Netball in the club and community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Coach of the Year Awards

Auskick Coach of the Year

The Auskick Coach of the Year Award recognises an outstanding coach who has demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and passion for developing young talent within the AFL Barwon community. This award celebrates a coach who not only imparts the fundamentals of Australian Rules Football but also fosters a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment for all Auskick participants. Their commitment to nurturing the next generation of players, encouraging sportsmanship, and creating memorable experiences embodies the true spirit of Auskick.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches an Auskick group in any of the Auskick Centres in the AFL Barwon region.
- Exceptional coaching in the Auskick program.
- Engaging and fun training sessions for young children.
- Promoting a love for football among young participants.
- Encouraging inclusivity and participation in the sport.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Net Set Go Coach of the Year

The Net Set Go Coach of the Year award celebrates exceptional coaching within the AFL Barwon community. This prestigious accolade is awarded to a coach who has demonstrated outstanding dedication, skill, and passion in nurturing young netball talent through the Net Set Go program. The recipient embodies the spirit of sportsmanship, fostering a positive, inclusive, and fun environment for all participants. Their commitment to developing the skills and confidence of our youngest players ensures a vibrant future for netball in our region.

Criteria for Nomination

- Coaches a Net Set Go group in any of the Net Set Go Centres in the AFL Barwon region.
- Exceptional coaching in the Net Set Go program.
- Creating engaging and enjoyable sessions for young participants.
- Encouraging skill development and a love for netball.
- Promoting inclusivity and participation in the sport.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Administrator of the Year Awards

John Edsall Award (Outstanding Service to Administration)

Named in honour of John Edsall, a revered and longstanding administrator in the Barwon Region, this award recognises exemplary service and dedication to the administration within the Barwon community. It celebrates individuals who, like John Edsall, have demonstrated outstanding commitment, leadership, and innovation in their administrative roles, contributing significantly to the smooth operation and growth of our sporting community. Recipients of this prestigious award embody John Edsall's legacy of selfless service and dedication to the administrative integrity of community sport.

Criteria for Nomination

- Outstanding service and dedication to club administration for an extended period of time.
- Have held official administration roles at AFL Barwon affiliated Club(s)
- Significant contribution to the efficient running of the club.
- Leadership and innovation in club management.
- Positive impact on the club's operations and success.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Leon Schram Award (Outstanding Junior Football Administration)

The Leon Schram Award, a prestigious accolade celebrates outstanding achievements in junior football administration. Named in honour of Leon Schram, known for his dedication to community football, this award recognises individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, innovation, and commitment to the development and enhancement of junior football programs. It acknowledges the vital role played by administrators in nurturing young talent and providing a positive environment within the football community. This award highlights an individual whose passion and tireless efforts elevate the standards of junior football administration across AFL Barwon.

Criteria for Nomination

- Hold an official junior football administration role in an affiliated Club.
- Exceptional administrative service for junior football.
- Effective organization and management of junior programs.
- Significant contribution to the growth and success of junior football.
- Positive engagement with parents, players, and the community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Administrator of the Year Awards

Junior Netball Administrator of the Year

The award recognises the exceptional dedication, organisational excellence, and unwavering commitment of a junior netball club administrator within the AFL Barwon community. This prestigious accolade honours an individual who has demonstrated remarkable commitment to the smooth operation and success of their junior netball club.

Criteria for Nomination

- Hold an official Junior Netball administration role in an AFL Barwon affiliated Club.
- Outstanding administrative service for junior netball.
- Efficient management and organization of junior netball activities.
- Contribution to the development and success of junior netball.
- Positive interaction with players, parents, and the community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Senior Netball Administrator of the Year

This award celebrates the outstanding dedication and tireless efforts of an administrators who ensure's the smooth and successful operation of their Senior Netball Clubs. This award acknowledges the vital role volunteers play in providing a positive and organised environment for players, coaches, and supporters alike. It honours their commitment to excellence, their passion for the sport, and their unwavering support for the netball community.

Criteria for Nomination

- Hold an official Senior Netball administration role in an AFL Barwon affiliated Club.
- Outstanding administrative service for senior Netball.
- Efficient organization and management of senior netball activities.
- Contribution to the success and development of senior netball.
- Positive influence on the club's operations and community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Administrator of the Year Awards

Senior Football Administrator of the Year

The Senior Football Club Administrator of the Year Award honors an exceptional individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to the growth and success of their football club. This prestigious accolade is awarded to an administrator who has gone above and beyond in their role, ensuring the smooth operation of the club while fostering a positive and inclusive environment for players, coaches, and supporters alike. Through their tireless efforts, innovative thinking, and unwavering passion for the game, the recipient of this award has made a significant and lasting impact on their club and the broader AFL Barwon community.

Criteria for Nomination

- Hold an official Senior Football administration role in an AFL Barwon affiliated Club.
- Exceptional administrative service for Senior Football.
- Effective management and organization of senior football activities.
- Significant contribution to the success and growth of senior football.
- Positive impact on the club's operations and community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Ian McTaggart Club of the Year Award

Ian McTaggart's journey in local football began in the 1980's with the Ocean Grove Football & Netball Club, where his passion for the game and commitment to the community became evident. Over the decades he has held numerous roles and earned life membership with Ocean Grove Football Netball Club and the Bellarine Football Netball League. Ian's influence extended beyond club level, serving on the Football Geelong Board from 2000 to 2012. Following this he became a foundational member of the AFL Barwon Board in 2013, dedicating nine years to strengthening football and netball in the region.

This award recognises and celebrates exemplary clubs who can show strong connection to community, who have strong values and who have success on both the field and courts.

Criteria for Nomination

Clubs will be assessed against these measures detailed below.

- Demonstrate that your club has had a positive impact in the community
- Demonstrate that respectful conversations are valued both within the club and with external stakeholders eg. AFL Barwon, sponsors.
- Provide exceptional administration execution and always meet deadlines in a timely manner.
- Have positive and respectful relationships with AFL Barwon staff and Boarders.
- A completed Child Safe policy has been implemented or can demonstrate you are on track to deliver this by the end of the season.
- Support AFL Barwon preferred suppliers and partners.
- No attendance at a tribunal or investigations where the player was found guilty.
- Success in both Football and Netball in Senior and Junior competitions,
- Involved in diverse and non traditional participation offerings.
- There is no outstanding debt with AFL Barwon

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Football Umpire of the Year

The AFL Barwon Football Umpire of the Year award is the pinnacle of recognition for an umpire within our community. This prestigious award is bestowed upon an individual who not only demonstrates exceptional skill and knowledge of the game but also embodies the highest standards of integrity, fairness, and dedication. The recipient is someone who consistently delivers outstanding performances, upholds the spirit of the sport, and serves as a role model for fellow umpires. This award celebrates an umpire who exemplifies excellence in their role, contributing significantly to the quality and professionalism of our games.

Criteria for Nomination

Consistent Performance:

- Demonstrates consistent, high-quality umpiring throughout the season.
- Makes accurate decisions, enforces rules effectively, and manages games well.

Knowledge and Application of Rules:

- Displays a deep understanding of football rules.
- Applies rules consistently and fairly during matches.

Communication Skills:

- Communicates clearly with players, coaches, and fellow officials.
- Handles disputes and interactions professionally.

Adaptability:

- Adapts to different game situations, teams, and playing styles.
- Remains composed under pressure.

Contribution to the Sport:

- Mentors and supports other umpires.
- Attends training sessions and coaching.
- Contributes positively to the Football community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Football Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Best First Year Football Umpire

This award celebrates an umpire who has shown exceptional promise and resilience in their inaugural season of panel umpiring. This award recognises the unique challenges faced by a first-year umpire and highlights their ability to adapt, grow, and excel in a demanding role. The recipient of this award has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning, a passion for the game, and a willingness to embrace the responsibilities that come with officiating at a high level.

Criteria for Nomination

Consistency and Improvement:

- Demonstrates consistent umpiring performance throughout the season.
- Shows eagerness to learn and improve.
- Accepts constructive feedback positively.

Game Control and Demeanour

- Maintains professionalism on and off the field.
- Exhibits proper mechanics and timing during games.
- Handles interactions with players, coaches, and fellow officials effectively.

Knowledge of Rules

- Displays a solid understanding of football rules.
- Applies rules consistently during matches.

Appearance and Hustle

- Presents a neat appearance (uniform, equipment).
- Demonstrates hustle and enthusiasm during games.

Relationships and Communication

- Builds positive relationships with crew members and others.
- Communicates effectively with players and coaches.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Football Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Rising Star Umpire - Football

This Award celebrates an emerging umpire who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to their craft. It recognises an umpire who has shown a strong commitment to enhancing their skills and has consistently risen to the challenges presented to them. Their passion for the game, willingness to learn, and ability to perform under pressure make them a standout in the netball community. This award not only highlights their achievements but also encourages their continued growth and development within the sport.

Criteria for Nomination

- They must have umpired at least 5 games in the current season.
- Demonstrates consistent umpiring performance throughout the season.
- Shows eagerness to learn and improve and actively seeks feedback
- Maintains professionalism standards on and off the field.
- Exhibits proper mechanics and timing during games.
- Handles interactions with players, coaches, and fellow officials effectively.
- Displays a solid understanding of football rules and applies them accordingly.
- Presents a neat and professional appearance.
- Builds positive relationships with key stakeholders

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Football Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Netball Umpire of the Year

The AFL Barwon Netball Umpire of the Year award is the pinnacle of recognition for an umpire within our community. This prestigious award is bestowed upon an individual who not only demonstrates exceptional skill and knowledge of the game but also embodies the highest standards of integrity, fairness, and dedication. The recipient is someone who consistently delivers outstanding performances, upholds the spirit of the sport, and serves as a role model for fellow umpires. This award celebrates an umpire who exemplifies excellence in their role, contributing significantly to the quality and professionalism of our games

Criteria for Nomination

- Training and development – Committed to ongoing development and training.
- Professionalism – Exhibits professionalism on and off the field, showing respect to players, coaches, and fellow umpires. Also maintains a professional appearance and demeanor on and off the court.
- Consistency – Maintains a high level of performance throughout the season, regardless of the game's stakes or conditions.
- Supports the AFL Barwon Umpiring Development Program – Gives back to the AFL Barwon umpiring community.
- Good rapport with community and peers – Works well with all umpires, stakeholders and community members.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Netball Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Best First Year Netball Umpire

This award celebrates an umpire who has shown exceptional promise and resilience in their inaugural season of panel umpiring. This award recognises the unique challenges faced by a first-year umpire and highlights their ability to adapt, grow, and excel in a demanding role. The recipient of this award has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning, a passion for the game, and a willingness to embrace the responsibilities that come with officiating at a high level.

Criteria for Nomination

- They must have umpired at least 5 games during the BFNL & GFNL seasons.
- Feedback and Improvement – Actively seeks, accepts, and incorporates feedback from mentors and senior umpires.
- Commitment – Shows a strong commitment to umpiring, including attendance, punctuality, and willingness to take on challenges.
- Improvement – Shows noticeable improvement and growth throughout the season, adapting to the demands of different games.
- Teamwork and Collaboration – Works well with other umpires and officials, contributing to a positive and effective team dynamic.
- Attitude – Exhibits a positive attitude towards the role and a genuine passion for umpiring.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Netball Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Rising Star Umpire - Netball

This Award celebrates an emerging umpire who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to their craft. It recognises an umpire who has shown a strong commitment to enhancing their skills and has consistently risen to the challenges presented to them. Their passion for the game, willingness to learn, and ability to perform under pressure make them a standout in the netball community. This award not only highlights their achievements but also encourages their continued growth and development within the sport.

Criteria for Nomination

- They must have umpired at least 5 games during the BFNL & GFNL seasons.
- Development – Has taken steps towards progressing their umpiring skills, whilst identifying and improving gaps in knowledge.
- Feedback and improvement – Actively seeks, accepts, and incorporates feedback from mentors and senior umpires.
- Self-reflection – Utilises feedback and tools to reflect on umpiring performance.
- Takes on challenges – Does not shy away from new challenging opportunities that will further support umpiring development.
- Support – Actively supports and assists fellow umpires, showing a willingness to learn from more experienced colleagues.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Netball Umpire department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Personality of the Year

The AFL Barwon Personality of the Year Award celebrates an individual who has made a distinguishing impact on their community through exceptional dedication and an exemplary attitude. This award recognizes a club member whose enthusiasm, positivity, and unwavering commitment have not only inspired their peers but also elevated the spirit and unity of the entire AFL Barwon community. The recipient of this award goes above and beyond in their contributions, embodying the true essence of sportsmanship and community engagement, making them a cherished figure within their club and beyond.

Criteria for Nomination

- Significant contribution to the club or league.
- Positive influence on the club's culture and community.
- Demonstrated sportsmanship, dedication, and enthusiasm.
- Recognised and respected by peers and the community.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Inclusive Club of the Year

The AFL Barwon Inclusive Club of the Year Award celebrates a club that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to fostering an inclusive environment for all participants, regardless of age, gender, ability, or background. This award recognises the efforts of a club that goes above and beyond in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, creating a welcoming atmosphere where everyone feels valued and supported. This award honours a club that exemplifies the spirit of inclusion, creating a positive and supportive environment for all involved.

Criteria for Nomination

- Commitment to Diversity - The club actively promotes and supports participation from diverse groups, ensuring that all members feel respected and included.
- Inclusive Programs - Implementation of programs and initiatives that cater to a wide range of abilities and backgrounds, making the sport accessible to everyone.
- Community Engagement - The club engages with the broader community to raise awareness and promote inclusivity, fostering positive relationships and encouraging broader participation.
- Leadership in Inclusion - Demonstrates leadership in advocating for inclusive practices within the club and the wider AFL Barwon community, setting a positive example for others to follow.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from AFL Barwon and Leisure Networks.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Trainer of the Year Award

The AFL Barwon Sports Trainer of the Year award recognizes the invaluable contribution of individuals who demonstrate exceptional dedication and expertise in ensuring the health and safety of athletes within our community. This prestigious accolade celebrates the unsung heroes behind the scenes, whose skills and commitment play a crucial role in the success and well-being of our players. Nominated by their clubs, the recipients exemplify professionalism, knowledge, and a steadfast commitment to promoting injury prevention and effective management. Their tireless efforts embody the spirit of sportsmanship and care, making a significant impact both on and off the field.

Criteria for Nomination

- Actively in the role of a trainer for any football or netball team at an AFL Barwon affiliated Club in 2024.
- Holds a valid minimum level of trainer accreditation.
- Excellence in providing training and support to athletes.
- Significant contribution to player fitness and injury prevention.
- Positive impact on player performance and recovery.
- Dedication and commitment to the role of trainer.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members of the History and Awards Sub-Committee as outlined on page 4.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Mental Health & Wellbeing Club of the Year

The AFL Barwon Mental Health & Wellbeing Club of the Year Award recognises a club that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to promoting mental health and wellbeing within its community. This award celebrates clubs that have actively engaged in initiatives, education, and support programs to foster a positive and inclusive environment for all members.

Criteria for Nomination

- Actively promote mental health initiatives and support in clubs (appointment of Player Wellbeing Officers, Wellbeing Committees)
- Participated in the Read the Play Sessions and Round in the current year
- Undertook a Tackle Your Feelings workshop and/or Ahead of the Game workshop in the current or previous two years
- Organised or took part in mental health initiatives outside the current scope of offerings

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from AFL Barwon, Read the Play and Tackle Your Feelings/Leisure Networks. The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

Social Media / Communications Club of the Year

In today's digital age, social media is a crucial tool for clubs to connect with their supporters, attract new members, and enhance their visibility both locally and beyond. This award celebrates the club that has not only embraced social media but has also used it effectively to build a vibrant online presence, foster community spirit, and contribute positively to the growth and promotion of Football & Netball in the region.

This award recognises and celebrates the ability of clubs to engage with their community through their social media channels in a fun, safe, informative and inclusive manner.

Criteria for Nomination

- Clubs will be assessed against four measures, as detailed below.
- Describe how your club has used innovative measures to connect with your community via social media.
- Explain how your club has promoted events and activities via social media.
- Demonstrate how your club has used social media to highlight the achievements of football and netball teams equally.
- Outline what measures your club has put in place to create a safe environment for users of your social media channels.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Communications department.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Mark and Goal of the Year Awards

The AFL Barwon Mark and Goal of the Year Awards celebrate the most spectacular and memorable moments from the season. These awards recognize the players who have demonstrated exceptional skill, courage, and creativity on the field. Whether it's a soaring grab or a game-changing goal, these highlights capture the very essence of Australian Rules Football and the talent within our region. Each nomination represents a moment that brought fans to their feet, showcasing the best of what our game has to offer.

Selection Process

This award will be chosen by a selection panel consisting of members from the Communications and Football operations departments. Each of the awards will be shortlisted to 5 finalists that will be posted on the AFL Barwon Instagram page for public voting.

The selected award winner will be reviewed by the History and Awards Sub-Committee.

Award Presentations and Entitlements

This award will be presented at the Annual Community Awards Presentation event in which this date will be set each year by the AFL Barwon Board.

NOMINATIONS & AWARD RENAMING

AWARD NOMINATION FORMS

To nominate an eligible person(s) for any of the awards outlined in this document, click on the award below.

NUMBER 1 TICKET HOLDER

[Bellarine Football Netball League](#)

[Geelong Football Netball League](#)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

[AFL Barwon Life Membership](#)

[AFL Barwon Service Awards](#)

[BFNL & GFNL Life Membership](#)

PRESENTATION NIGHT AWARDS

[Netball Rising Star BFNL](#)

[Netball Rising Star GFNL](#)

[Football Rookie of the Year BFNL](#)

[Football Rookie of the Year GFNL](#)

[Netball Coaches Team of the Year BFNL](#)

[Netball Coaches Team of the Year GFNL](#)

[Football Coaches Team of the Year BFNL](#)

[Football Coaches Team of the Year GFNL](#)

[Most Valuable Player](#)

COMMUNITY AWARDS

[Coach of the Year Awards](#)

[Administrator of the Year Awards](#)

[Personality of the Year](#)

[Trainer of the Year Award](#)

NOMINATIONS & AWARD RENAMING

AWARD RENAMING APPLICATION FORM

To nominate an eligible person(s) for a renaming of any awards outlined in this document, click on the application link below.

[Award Renaming Application Form](#)

