

England Athletics Volunteer Awards - nomination tips

Do

- Do make sure the nominee is eligible for the award.
- Do be specific to the individual, club or project.
- Do use real examples.
- Describe the difference between before and after the action was taken.
- Describe what sets this volunteer apart from others.
- Describe the impact their actions have on others in the club or wider community?

Don't

- Don't answer each question with the same information - the panel will look at all answers together so repetition isn't an advantage.
- Don't go over the word limit - the panel will have lots of nominations to go through.
- Don't make multiple nominations - try to get together with others and make a joint nomination. Lots of nominations for one person won't all be considered.
- Don't nominate a person or club who has received an England Athletics volunteer award in the past few years - let's give others a chance to shine.

Words you could use

Remember if you are not great at writing stuff, this year you can either submit a video or voice note instead. Just fill in the main details on the form and then add a recording of your answers to the three questions.

We are not basing any nominations on the standard of English but if you need to, try to find someone who can help you tell us about your nominated person in the best way, either by writing the form together or helping with a video.

helpful, compassionate, empathetic, caring, generous, dedicated, reliable, committed, willing, reliable, selfless, contributing, participating, eager, inspirational, humble, knowledgeable, encouraging, instrumental, effective

Examples of good nominations

Club of the Year

Eligibility:

- Is currently affiliated with England Athletics.
- Have gained or are actively working towards 7/7 for Club Standards

Nomination questions:

1. Tell us what makes the club great (think more broadly than just performances).
2. How is the club welcoming to its members and what has been done to ensure members have a great experience?
3. What are the club's key achievements over the last 12 months?

What you should include

We want to celebrate major achievements and focus on clubs that have strived to improve over the last 12 months:

- Showcasing strong club governance.
- Demonstrating what they are doing to improve member experience
- Showing the club is inclusive in its approach.

The role clubs are playing around:

- Athlete development.
- Creating a first-class training environment.

Consider:

- How the club are going above and beyond to provide a great member experience.
- Good practices around sustainability.
- The things that make the club unique.
- Why your members think your club is special!

Unsung Hero of the Year

Eligibility:

- Is a member of an England Athletics affiliated club
OR Holds an up-to-date officiating or coaching licence at any level.
- Has been in a volunteering role for a minimum of 12 months.
- Any voluntary role can be considered.
These roles could include a club committee member, a team or volunteer manager and/or a hard-working unsung volunteer at your club, a coach, an official, a Run Leader, etc.

Nomination questions:

1. What personal attributes does the volunteer bring to the sport?
2. What has been this volunteer's major achievements over the last 12 months and how has this positively benefitted the club? (Please provide examples)
3. What makes them an inspirational official or coach? (Please include information about how they have supported other officials, coaches, volunteers and athletes - please give examples)
4. Tell us why this volunteer is exceptional and why they deserve to be recognised?

What you should include

We want to celebrate the volunteers that make our sport happen

- The achievements of these volunteers over the last 12 months
- The impact they have had on the club
- What makes them a special volunteer.
- Include practical examples of what they've done.

Unsung Project of the Year

Eligibility:

Can be an England Athletics affiliated club, RunTogether Group or an affiliated or associated partner (for example County Association/Regional Council).

Nomination questions:

1. What have you been doing to support the community?
2. How have the local running/athletics community got behind it?
3. Tell us about the importance/impact of what you have been doing in the local community. (Please provide examples)

What you should include

Through this category we want to celebrate all the good things that athletics and running does for the community.

- Celebrate the link to the community that running and athletics club have.
- Showcase a range of projects that have supported the community.
- Explain the before and after difference.
- Describe the community groups involved.

Services to Athletics and Running

Eligibility:

Member of an affiliated club and must have been volunteering within athletics and running for a minimum of 15 years.

Nomination questions:

1. Please tell us the story of the individual, including how long they've been involved in the sport, the roles undertaken and how they've dedicated their time to athletics and running?
2. What have they achieved and what makes them a worthy winner?
3. What difference have they made to the club/county/region?

What you should include

This award is an opportunity to thank some truly remarkable volunteers who have committed a large part of their lives to athletics and running.

- How long have they been involved in the sport?
- What have been their greatest achievements and impact?
- What roles have they had?
- How have they improved the sport locally or beyond?
- What are their personal characteristics?
- What special skills do they have and how have they used them?