

Recognizing athletes, coaches, officials, sport builders and volunteers reaching for success in 2024. (Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)

Selection process – Nominations will be evaluated by a selection committee made up of 2 representatives from the Grande Prairie Regional Sport Connection Board and 3–4 members from the Northwest Alberta sport community.

***Female and Male Athlete of the Year***

- Recognizes one female and one male amateur athlete excelling at **provincial, national, or international competitions**.
- Contributions recognized for activities from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 (A list of awards and achievements relevant to the 2024 season should be included. Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)

***Junior Female and Male Athlete of the Year***

- Recognizes one female and one male amateur athlete excelling at **local, regional, school, club and/or Alberta Schools Athletics Association sanctioned competitions**.
- Contributions recognized for activities from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. (A list of awards and achievements relevant to the 2024 season should be included. Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)

***Team of the Year***

- Recognizes a team that excelled at a **provincial, national and/or international level**.
- Category may be awarded as a male & female at the discretion of the selection committee.
- Recognized for activities from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. (A list of awards and achievements relevant to the 2024 season should be included. Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)

***Coach of the Year***

- Recognizes an **NCCP trained coach** coaching athletes that have excelled at the **provincial, national, or international level**. A coach who has supported their athletes and created a healthy and safe environment for athletes to train and compete.
- Contributions recognized for activities from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. (A list of awards and achievements relevant to the 2024 season should be included. Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)

***Outstanding Official***

- Recognizes an official officiating at the **local, provincial, national, or international level** who has also contributed to the development of officials and the game at the local or regional level.
- Contributions over a period of time will be considered.

### ***Outstanding Junior Official***

- Recognizes a junior official that has contributed to the growth and development of the game during the 2024 year.
- Nominees must be aged 18 or younger.

### ***Developmental Coach of the Year***

- Recognizes a coach responsible for developing the competitive skills of **athletes participating at the developmental level and competing at the regional or provincial level**. A coach who has supported their athletes and created a healthy and safe environment for athletes to train and compete.
- This coach creates an environment for optimal skill development and fun and has **completed some NCCP training**.
- Category may be separated into 'Community' & 'School' at the discretion of the selection committee.
- Contributions over a period of time will be considered.
- More than 1 Developmental Coach of the Year may be recognized annually.

### ***Sport Builder***

- Recognizes a person that demonstrates outstanding commitment and longstanding service in **developing a club, organization, or sporting event** resulting in a positive impact on the sport community.
- Contributions should cover a **minimum of a 10-year period**.
- Nominations will stand for three years.
- More than one sport builder may be recognized annually.

### ***Unsung Hero***

- Recognizes achievements and outstanding contribution made by a volunteer to their community or region, or to a specific sport activity, club, team, or group. This contribution has made a positive difference in the lives of others by support and encouragement, often with self-sacrifice and without personal gain.
- Contributions over a period of time will be considered.
- This award can be presented to an individual only once in their lifetime.

### ***Spirit of Sport Award***

- Recognizes the contribution and achievements made by an inspirational **individual or group** which exemplifies sport values of fairness, excellence, inclusion, and fun benefiting their community and/or area as a whole.
- Contributions recognized for activities primarily from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. 2024 (A list of awards and achievements relevant to the 2024 season should be included. Past information may be included if the season began prior to January 1, 2024, but must establish a connection to the 2024 year and should be primarily regarding the 2024 year.)
- This award can be presented to an individual only once in their lifetime.

### ***Sport Event of the Year Award***

- Recognizes the overall success of an outstanding single-sport, multi-sport or collegiate event held in Northwest Alberta in 2024.

### ***Award of Sport Excellence (ASE)***

The Award of Sport Excellence is a prestigious honour presented to individuals who demonstrate outstanding performances in their sport. This honour recognizes athletes and coaches who excel not only in competition but also in leadership, dedication, and fair play, setting a remarkable standard for excellence in their respective fields.

- Nominees must meet the criteria for Athlete/Coach/Team of the Year award **category in addition to** competing in the eligible competitions.
- Depth of competition will be considered. Competition in eligible competitions does not guarantee athlete recognition in this category. Recognition in this category is at the discretion of the selection committee.

### **Eligible Competitions and Results**

- A podium finish, special accomplishment, and/or participant in the Olympics, Paralympics Commonwealth Games, Pan Am Games, Para Pan Am Games or world championships.
- A podium finish and/or special accomplishment National Championships or Canada Games.
- A podium finish and/or special accomplishment in a major international event sanctioned by the national sport organization.

## **NOMINATION GUIDELINES**

The selection committee makes their decisions from the information received in the nomination packages. Ensuring you submit a quality nomination package only helps your nominee.

- Be sure to understand the category criteria you're submitting your nomination for. (The selection committee reserves the right to move nominations to another category if they feel it's a better fit.)
- Selection is based on the information contained in the nomination form. External information will not be considered.
- Past winners are eligible for re-nomination only in the categories with accomplishments recognized in the 2024 calendar year.
- Depth of competition is considered.

## **GENERAL CRITERIA**

- Nominee must be a resident of Northwest Alberta during the time noted in the award criteria. (Region includes Fox Creek to Slave Lake and the BC and NWT borders.)
- Nominee is in good standing with their local, provincial, and national sports associations.
- Nominee is seen as an exemplary role model reflecting passion, spirit, dedication, determination, fair play, and other favourable qualities for the sport and its participants.
- All nominations in the high performance categories must include at least 1 letter of support the provincial governing body, club, coach or teacher/principal. High Performance categories include:
  - Coach of the Year
  - Athlete of the Year
  - Junior Athlete of the Year
  - Team of the Year

# NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Please let us know who is submitting the nomination form and how we can contact you if we have additional questions.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Community of residence:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please name MD, City, County, Town or Hamlet where you reside. This is for statistical data only.

**Relationship to Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Coach, player, parent, teammate, friend, fan, etc.)

# NOMINEE INFORMATION

- Nominee is aware of this nomination, confirms the accuracy of the information presented in this package, and consents to the use of their photo/video for recognition.
- Nominee is NOT aware of this nomination.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Community of residence:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please name MD, City, County, Town or Hamlet where the nominee resides.

# AWARD CATEGORY FOR NOMINATION

What award would you like to nominate the individual/team/event for? See the nomination guidelines for descriptions of each category. The selection committee has the right to move a nominee to another category.

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|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male Athlete of the Year          | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior official                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsung Hero       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female Athlete of the Year        | <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Official            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Builder     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Male Athlete of the Year   | <input type="checkbox"/> Developmental Coach of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Event of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Female Athlete of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Spirit of Sport Award           | <input type="checkbox"/> Team of the Year  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coach of the Year                 |  |  |

## SPORT NOMINATED FOR

Please indicate the sport/s the nominee is involved in. (Not the specific club, league or team.)

## AFFILIATIONS

Please tell us which teams, clubs and leagues the nominee belongs to.

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR NOMINATION

## REASONS FOR NOMINATION

Please tell us, in point form why the nominee deserve the award and how do they meet the criteria.

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## NOMINEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Include accomplishments from the calendar year. You may also include 2023 achievements if the season began prior to January 1, 2024.

List in point form:

- Name of the event
- Dates and location of the event
- Results, personal bests, and any awards received
- Accomplishments are not limited to competitions. Consider including:
- Contributions to the team or community
- Achievements in sport development

For categories like Outstanding Official, Unsung Hero, and Sport Builder, summarize their body of work in relation to their sport.

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## BIO FOR NOMINEE

Tell us about the nominee in relation to their sport in 100 words or less to be included in the evenings' production.

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT

A **minimum of 1 letter of support is required for the high-performance categories** (Athlete of the Year, Junior Athlete of the Year, Coach of the Year and Team of the Year) from the **provincial governing body, club, coach or teacher/principal**. Letters of support help build a better nomination and are recommended for all categories.

Letters should not exceed 1 page.

If you do not have them at the moment they can be submitted by End of Day February 3, 2025 via email to [info@gpsportconnect.ca](mailto:info@gpsportconnect.ca)

Maximum 5 Letters of support.

## NOMINEE PHOTOS

We require a minimum of 4 high quality photos of the nominee. Send them to [info@gpsportconnect.ca](mailto:info@gpsportconnect.ca) in a timely manner. Please ensure that at least one of the photos is only the nominee or can easily be cropped for the nomination announcement and website.

Accepted Formats: .png & .jpg Do not send .heic photos.

**Please ensure you have permission to share the photos and the individual in the photos knows they will be used on social media.**

## NOMINATION COMPLETION CHECKLIST

- Nomination form completed
- 1 letter of support is required for high performance categories and encouraged for all categories.
- High Quality Photos

**Nominees will receive recognition during the 2025 Northwest AB Sport Excellence Awards event on April 11, 2025. Nominations can be completed online at <https://www.gpsportconnect.ca/events/sea> or send completed nominations to [info@gpsportconnect.ca](mailto:info@gpsportconnect.ca) by **January 31, 2025****

**NOMINATOR SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:**