



ANNUAL AWARDS

AWARDS CRITERIA & PROCESS

Awards to be Presented

The following awards are to be made at the 2008 awards function:

1. Development Club of the Year
2. LTS Instructor of the Year
3. Administrator of the Year
4. Volunteer of the Year
5. Junior Coach of the Year
6. Coach of the Year
7. Most Promising Athlete of the Year
8. Water Polo Player of the Year
9. Diver of the Year
10. Synchronised Swimmer of the Year
11. Open Water Swimmer of the Year
12. Swimmer of the Year
13. Disabled Athlete of the Year
14. Aquatics Personality of the Year
15. Best Performance of the Year
16. Journalist of the Year – Print
17. Journalist of the Year – Radio
18. Journalist of the Year – Television
19. Optional/Discretionary Awards:
 - a. Special mentions
 - b. Lifetime Achievement Awards

Award Criteria

Generic criteria:

- Nominations will only be considered when received from an Affiliated province in good standing
- Only members in good standing with the Federation can receive an award for awards 1 – 15 as listed above.
- Criteria applicable to performances/activities during the period 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008 (nomination period).

Development Club of the Year

- Registered SSA club
- Constitution in place
- Elected committee in place
- Active LTS programmes
- Active training squad
- Participation in level 1 (as a minimum)
- Increase in number of participants
- Improvement in the level of athlete performances (increase of depth)

LTS Instructor of the Year

- Registered LTS instructor
- Implements good practice in his/her school
- Strives to continuously develop as an instructor
- Consistently develops swimmers to a competitive level
- Support of SSA LTS initiatives

Administrator of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Active within a provincial or club structure as an administrator
- Provides a benchmark to other administrators
- Leads by example
- Practices good governance
- Actively supports the objectives of SSA

Volunteer of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Actively involved in a provincial and/or club structure as a volunteer
- Passion for the sport of aquatics
- Reliable and committed to the sport, providing a strong example to other volunteers
- Generous to sport, and prepared to always go the extra mile

Junior Coach of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Commitment to the national squad and the national strategy evident
- Number of junior athletes in the national squad (relative to squad size)
- International performance(s) of team/athlete(s)
- Good rapport with the young swimmers
- Strong technical skills
- Sets a positive example to young swimmers and provides not only coaching expertise, but strongly supports the holistic development of our young athletes.

Coach of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Commitment to national squad and the national strategy evident
- Number of senior athletes in the national squad (relative to squad size)
- International performance(s) of team/athlete(s)
- Strong technical skills
- Positive leadership of the athletes evident
- Good understanding and application of international trends.

Most Promising Athlete of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Under the age of 20 years on 30 April 2008
- Participation in any Aquatics discipline
- Gross improvement in proficiency over the last year/season
- Proven commitment and dedication to their sport
- National selection over the past season
- Participation at SA National Championships compulsory
- Performance at an international competition equivalent to World Championships or World Youth Championships.

Athlete of the Year (one for each of 5 disciplines)

- Registered with SSA
- Best performer of the year
- Minimum requirement that the athlete represented the country during the nomination period.
- Participation in the SA National Championships compulsory
- Swimming: Best FINA points as calculated when combining best individual points score from a single event swum at SA National Championships and the best single scoring event from a final at a major international competition.
- Open Water Swimming: Best performance at a major international competition as well as participation and performance at SA National Championships in an open water swimming event.
- Water Polo: Best performance at a major international competition as well as participation and performance at SA National Championships.
- Diving: Best performance at a major international competition as well as participation and performance at SA National Championships.
- Synchronised Swimming: Best performance at a major international competition as well as participation and performance at SA National Championships.
- (Major international competition defined as World Championships, World Youth/Junior Championships, Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games, etc)

Disabled Athlete of the Year

- Registered with SSA
- Best performer of the year
- Minimum requirement that the athlete represented the country during the nomination period.
- International performances benchmarked against world record standards in the appropriate category.

Aquatics Personality of the Year

- Public voting process to select winner
- Voting based on three finalists
- Finalists selected according to:
 - Positive impact on the aquatics sport in the eyes of the public
 - Good role model for all athletes
 - Positive media coverage and national interest

Best Performance of the Year

- Performance could be an individual event or a team result in any of the aquatics disciplines.
- Based on the best performance/result for the Federation during the nomination period.
- Must be as a minimum an international performance, and measured against world standards.

Journalist of the Year (3 categories)

- Consistent positive contribution during the year to the Aquatics sports, through provision of media exposure to the sport in the relevant medium.

Optional/Discretionary Awards:

Special mentions:

- These awards are given out where a criteria above was not entirely met, but the panel decides that the athlete/individual/ performance needs to be acknowledged due to their commitment to the sport and effort or performance during the nomination period.

Lifetime Achievement Awards:

- An individual who has given as a minimum 25 years of service to the Aquatics sport
- Has given his/her commitment and effort at a national, provincial or club level
- The service given by the individual has supported the growth and development of Aquatics positively, making a strong impact on the sport
- The individual has displayed good leadership traits and has provided a positive role model to other individuals involved in the sport.

Process for Nominations & Awards

Only Affiliated Provinces or Members of the SSA Executive may submit nominations.

Nominations will be requested for the following awards:

- Development Club of the Year
- LTS Instructor of the Year
- Administrator of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Junior Coach of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Most Promising Athlete of the Year
- Athlete of the Year (one for each of 5 disciplines)
- Disabled Athlete of the Year
- Aquatics Personality of the Year
- Best Performance of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Awards

Nominations will be requested in conjunction with the criteria and must be submitted on a specific form by the published deadline, and will require appropriate and relevant motivations.

Nominations made must be motivated on the basis of the criteria outlined above on a point by point basis. Additional items to support the motivation may be included.

The Awards Panel will consider all nominations in the context of the criteria, and will have authority to decide on the recipients of the various awards.

The Panel will have the authority to make *Special Mention Awards* at its discretion.

The Aquatics Personality of the Year is an award to be made by the public of South Africa. This will be done as follows:

- Affiliated members will make nominations
- The Awards Panel will decide on a short-list of 3 candidates
- An sms and website poll campaign and will be utilized to determine the winner of this award.

All Awards will be kept confidential until the Awards function, where winners will be announced.