



Volunteers are the driving force of everything that we do, and our sport would simply not exist without them. The Annual Awards is a small gesture to say a massive thank you to all the volunteers for the dedicated time and effort they put in, to foster a welcoming and enthusiastic volleyball community.

Please follow this [link](#) to submit nominations for the Annual Awards 2024!

Categories

Coach of the Year for Adults

Coach of the Year for Children and Young People

Young Coach of the Year

Referee of the Year

Young Referee of the Year

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Contribution to Volleyball

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Unsung Hero

Peter Wardale Memorial Award

General Criteria

We are looking for someone who:

- Is **innovative** and has gone above and beyond to help people develop across various aspects in volleyball within their team/club/community.
- Has worked towards creating a culture where people feel like they **belong**.
- Has shown **commitment** and a desire to **upskill** themselves and gained **respect** in the community.

Note: Nominees for Coach, Referee, and Club awards must be **registered with Volleyball England**.

Coach of the Year for Adults

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of someone who mainly coaches adults and has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Involves caregivers, and other volunteers to create a *positive environment*.
- Encourages *fair play* and *sportsmanship*.
- Demonstrates patience and creativity in their coaching methods to *motivate* and *fit the needs* of the participants.
- Helped people *take part more regularly*, or helped them to start or stay, in sport and physical activity despite various fitness levels, and through multiple time constraints.
- Fosters a strong *sense of friendship and community* within adult athletes.

Coach of the Year for Children and Young People

This award recognises the outstanding contribution of someone who coaches children and young people and has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Involves caregivers, and other volunteers to create a *positive environment*.
- Encourages *fair play* and *sportsmanship*.
- Demonstrates patience and creativity in their coaching methods to *motivate* and *fit the needs* of the participants.
- Prioritises *safety, enjoyment*, and *overall growth and well-being* of young people alongside sports coaching.
- Positively influences *attitudes and behaviours* in young people, while *imparting life skills* learnt through sport.

Young Coach of the Year

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a young coach under the age of 25 who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Involves caregivers, and other volunteers to create a *positive environment*.
- Encourages *fair play* and *sportsmanship*.
- Demonstrates patience and creativity in their coaching methods to *motivate* and *fit the needs* of the participants.
- Is *25 years of age or under* (as of 10th March 2024, nomination closing date).
- Has *strong ethics* and is a great *ambassador* for other young coaches and Volleyball England.

Referee of the Year

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a referee who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Has demonstrated availability, reliability, and competency in their role as a referee.
- Is willing to give back to the sport and has made a significant commitment to refereeing while motivating others to referee or develop their skills.
- Demonstrates a strong ethic and fairness and is a great ambassador for young referees and Volleyball England.

Young Referee of the Year

This award recognises the outstanding contribution of a young referee under the age of 25 who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Has demonstrated availability, reliability, and competency in their role as a referee.
- Is willing to give back to the sport and has made a significant commitment to refereeing while motivating others to referee or develop their skills.
- Demonstrates a strong ethic and fairness and is a great ambassador for young referees and Volleyball England.
- Is 25 years of age or under (as of 10th March 2024, nomination closing date).

Volunteer of the Year

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a volunteer who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Is passionate about volleyball and inspired others to get/ be more involved.
- Dedicates considerable time and effort to positively impact their club/ community/ event in any voluntary capacity within volleyball.
- Shows integrity and good sportsmanship in all interactions within the wider volleyball community.

Young Volunteer of the Year

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a volunteer under the age of 25 who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Is passionate about volleyball and inspired others to get/ be more involved.
- Dedicates considerable time and effort to positively impact their club/ community/ event in any voluntary capacity within volleyball.
- Shows integrity and good sportsmanship in all interactions within the wider volleyball community.
- Is 25 years of age or under (as of 10th March 2024, nomination closing date).

HEVO of the Year

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a HEVO or a Senior HEVO who has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Created a welcoming, enjoyable, and inclusive environment for players to keep coming back for the sessions.
- Developed links between the university and community volleyball.
- Set high personal standards of professional and administrative behavior, thus inspiring peers.

Universal Services Club of the Year



This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a club that has had a significant positive impact in the last 12 months. We are looking for a club which:

- Is inclusive and can adapt to member needs.
- Has demonstrated successful partnerships with local and community organizations.
- Has strong governance, a commitment to sustainability, and a diverse committee.
- Grown in terms of impact on the community by getting more people involved and retaining old members.

Contribution to Volleyball

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a volunteer who has had a significant impact in the volleyball community for a long period of time. We are looking for someone who:

- Has shown outstanding dedication and commitment over a period of at least 20 years.
- Been involved in volleyball in various roles or at different levels.
- Devoted considerable time and effort in the recruitment or support of other volunteers.

Serena Morten Inclusion Award

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a volunteer who has actively created an inclusive environment in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Has empowered and inspired people from diverse communities.
- Has provided practical help and support in enhancing and promoting positive wellbeing.
- Has dedicatedly and enthusiastically advocated and developed safeguarding and/or enabled inclusion in a club/community/ region/ county.

Unsung Hero

This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a volunteer who has had a notable impact on other people in the last 12 months. We are looking for someone who:

- Has created a *positive, respectful, and cheerful* environment for the volleyball community.
- Has created a lasting impact, by *inspiring others* through their actions.
- Has been *supporting* and *encouraging* others without actively seeking the spotlight.
- Has been a *role- model* for people and gone above and beyond to ensure people feel *supported* and cared for.

Peter Wardale Memorial Award

The Peter Wardale Memorial Award is the highest accolade which can be given to a volunteer. The recipient of this Award is selected by the Board and is awarded to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of volleyball. It is not awarded every year.