



# AAWA Awards Policy

Original Version Approved: N/A

Current Version Approved: June 2025

Date of Next Review: June 2028

Policy Type: Event

Policy #  
02-01

## Purpose

This policy outlines the process for nominating, selecting, and awarding individuals and teams for the following annual AAWA awards:

- Outstanding Athlete of the Year – Senior, U23, Junior, U19, U17 and U15 Male and Female
- Outstanding Club Coach of the Year
- Outstanding School Coach of the Year
- Outstanding Club Team of the Year
- Outstanding School Team of the Year
- Outstanding Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Contributor of the Year
- Outstanding Senior Club of the Year
- Outstanding Junior Club of the Year
- Outstanding Male Coach of the Year
- Outstanding Female Coach of the Year

These awards are intended to recognize excellence, commitment, and impactful contributions to wrestling in Alberta.

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## 1. Eligibility Criteria

### Outstanding Club Coach / School Coach / Male Coach/ Female Coach of the Year

- Must be actively coaching within Alberta during the award year.
- Demonstrated leadership, mentorship, and holistic impact on athletes.
- Emphasis is placed on athlete development, sportsmanship, and contribution beyond competition results.

### **Outstanding Club Team / School Team/ Senior Club/ Junior Club of the Year**

- Must be a recognized team affiliated with a registered club or school in Alberta.
- Exemplifies excellence in performance, team culture, and contribution to the growth and reputation of the club/school.
- Consideration includes competition success, athlete development, and broader community impact.

### **Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**

- Must be an active volunteer in the Alberta wrestling community during the award year.
- Demonstrates exceptional dedication, reliability, and a positive impact on athletes, coaches, and club operations.
- Acts selflessly and consistently goes above and beyond expectations.

### **Outstanding Contributor of the Year**

- Open to any individual with a record of long-term or high-impact service to wrestling in Alberta.
- Contribution may be in coaching, administration, event organization, advocacy, or community building.
- Demonstrates passion, leadership, and a lasting positive influence on the sport and its culture.

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## **2. Nomination Process**

- Nominations must be submitted through the official AAWA nomination form by a posted deadline (End of January).
- Any AAWA member may submit a nomination.
- Each nomination must include:
  - Nominee's name and role
  - Award category
  - Description of accomplishments and contributions (500 words or less)
  - Optional letters of support (maximum 2)

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## **3. Selection Process**

- A Selection Committee will be appointed by the AAWA Board of Directors and may include Board members, past award winners, and community representatives.
- The committee will review nominations based on criteria alignment, impact, and supporting materials.

- Conflicts of interest must be declared and will result in recusal from voting on specific nominees.
- Final decisions will be reached by consensus or majority vote.

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#### **4. Timeline**

- December: Nominations open
- January: Nominations close
- February: Selection Committee review
- March: Winners announced at the AAWA Annual Banquet or designated event

Exact dates to be confirmed annually by the AAWA Board.

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#### **5. Outstanding Wrestler of the Year Awards (U17, U19, Junior, U23, Senior – Male & Female)**

##### **Purpose**

To recognize Alberta's top-performing wrestlers in each age and gender category based on consistent excellence in competition over the course of the year.

##### **Divisions**

Awards will be presented to the top Male and Female wrestler in each of the following age divisions: U17, U19, Junior, U23 and Senior

##### **Selection Criteria**

- Recipients are determined by a point-based ranking system that tracks results from key qualifying tournaments throughout the season.
- Each tournament is scaled and ranked by level of difficulty (e.g., local, provincial, national, international), with higher-level events offering more points.
- Points are awarded based on placement and participation in each designated tournament.
- The athlete with the highest cumulative points total at the end of the competition year will be named Outstanding Wrestler for their division.

## **Tiebreakers**

In the event of a tie in point totals, the following criteria will be used in order:

1. Head-to-head results (if applicable)
2. Higher placement in the most difficult tournament attended
3. Number of first-place finishes
4. Discretionary vote by the AAWA Board

## **Discretionary Review**

- While the award is primarily determined by the point system, discretionary exceptions may be raised to the AAWA Board in exceptional cases (e.g., injuries, international representation, eligibility disputes).
- Any proposal to overturn a point-based outcome must include strong, documented reasoning and will require a majority vote by the Board to take effect.
- Board members must recuse themselves from any discussions or influencing of cases where athletes are members of the directors club.

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## **6. Award Presentation**

- Winners will be honoured with a commemorative plaque and recognition at the AAWA Annual Banquet.
- AAWA will promote award recipients through social media, newsletters, and website features.

# Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association

## Yearly Awards Nomination Form

Deadline for Submission: January 31, 2026

Submit to: [technical@aawa.ca](mailto:technical@aawa.ca) with subject line 'AAWA Award Nomination – [Award Category, Nominee Name]'

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### Nominee Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Role/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Club/School Affiliation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Award Category (select one):

- Outstanding Club Coach of the Year
- Outstanding School Coach of the Year
- Outstanding Club Team of the Year
- Outstanding School Team of the Year
- Outstanding Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Contributor of the Year
- Outstanding Senior Club of the Year
- Outstanding Junior Club of the Year
- Outstanding Male Coach of the Year
- Outstanding Female Coach of the Year

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## Nominator Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nomination Statement

In 500 words or less, explain why this nominee deserves the award. Be specific about their achievements, impact, character, and contributions to the Alberta wrestling community.

You may attach your statement as a separate document if preferred.

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## **Optional Supporting Materials**

You may submit up to two letters of support. These may come from athletes, parents, colleagues, or community members who can speak to the nominee's impact.

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### **Declaration**

By submitting this form, I affirm that the information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_