

SPORTS & RECOGNITION AWARDS NOMINATION GUIDELINES

CANOE RACING NEW ZEALAND

2026

INTRODUCTION

The Canoe Racing New Zealand Sports & Recognition Awards aim to recognise annual and long-term excellence in performance, coaching, service and contribution to the sport.

This is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate of the outstanding achievements and the valuable contributions made by Canoe Racing NZ club members, both domestically and internationally, on an annual basis.

There are two sections to the Annual Awards.
(i)The Sports Awards
(ii)The Member Recognition Awards

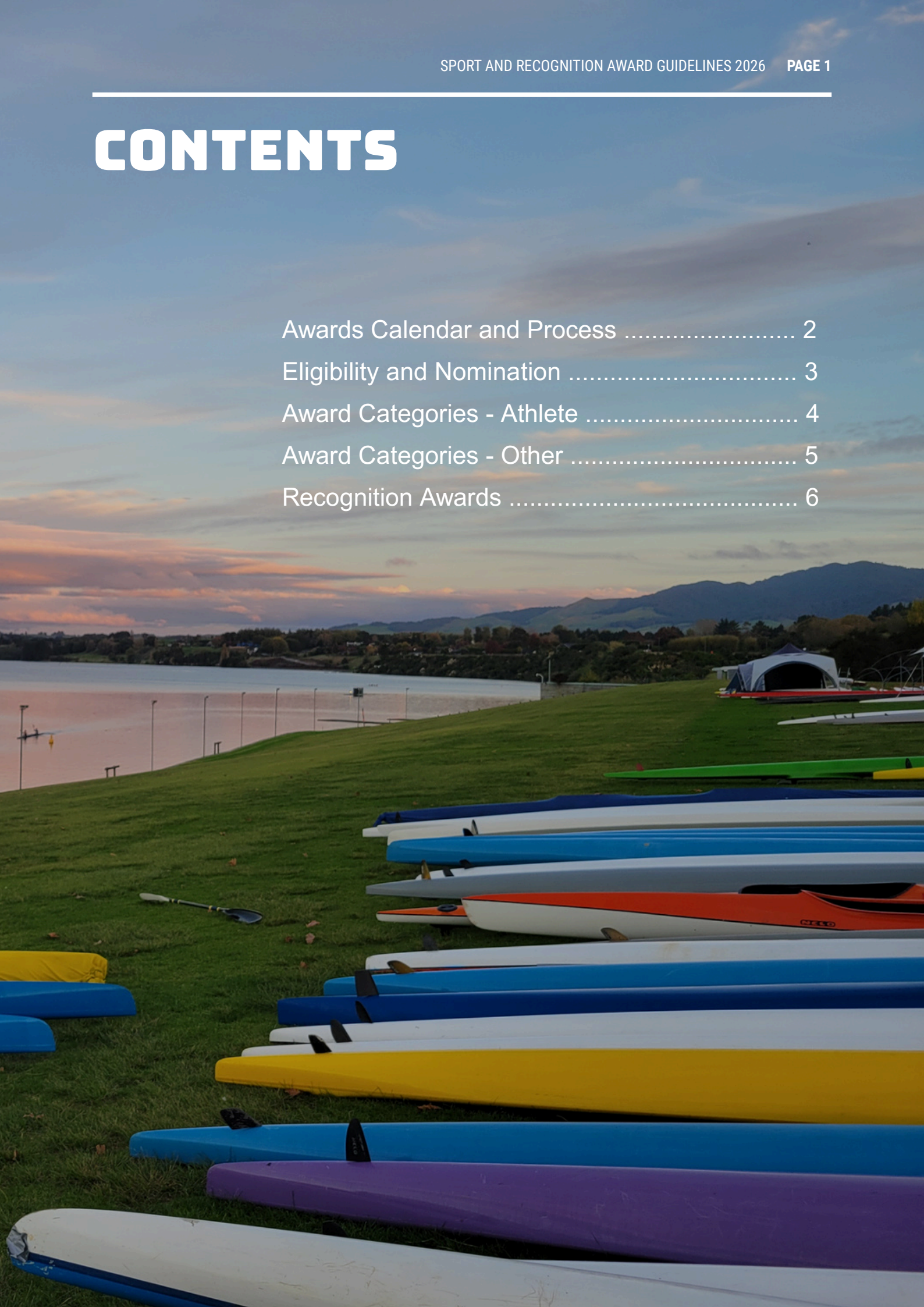
This document contains all the nomination guidelines and procedures for the annual Canoe Racing New Zealand Sports and Recognition Awards. Please read this carefully before submitting a Nomination.

How to Recommend Changes to the Guidelines
Canoe Racing NZ will review the guidelines on a two-yearly basis. Please send your comments, concerns, and suggestions to info@canoeracing.org.nz

For full guidelines including Award Panel procedures, please contact Canoe Racing NZ.

CONTENTS

Awards Calendar and Process 2
Eligibility and Nomination 3
Award Categories - Athlete 4
Award Categories - Other 5
Recognition Awards 6



2026 AWARDS CALENDAR

Qualifying period: 1 January to 13 December 2026

Nominations close: 13 December 2026

Shortlisted finalists to be published and advised by 23 December 2026

The 2026 Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday 23 January 2027 in Rotorua following the day's racing at the Tikitapu 2 Sprint Regatta.

PROCESS

Any person that meets the eligibility criteria may be entered for consideration.

Upon receipt by the due date, Canoe Racing NZ reviews each nomination to ensure eligibility requirements are met and identifies any concerns, inconsistencies or missing information before being forwarded to the Awards Panel.

The Awards Panel will consist of up to six individuals from the sport recommended by the Honours and Awards sub Committee and will serve for a 2 year term. Each member will vote on nominees using a points system.
Up to 3 nominees will be shortlisted as finalists for each award, with the winner announced at the Awards Ceremony.

ELIGIBILITY & NOMINATION

Who can be nominated?

Each nominee must be:

- A New Zealand citizen or landed immigrant;
- A current member of a CRNZ Member Club;
- Not in breach (or under investigation for any breach) of any part of the Sport Anti-Doping Act, the Canoe Racing NZ Anti-Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code;
- In good standing with their Club or Canoe Racing NZ including not in breach of the Canoe Racing NZ Constitution, Regulations or any other policies, procedures, decisions or directions.

Previous recipients can be nominated, even if they have been nominated or received an award in previous years. A nominee may be nominated in more than one category.

Who can nominate?

Any person or CRNZ Club can nominate for the Canoe Racing NZ's Sports and Recognition Awards. A club nomination must be endorsed by 2 club officers.

How to nominate?

Nominate via the online **Nomination Form**

SPORTS AWARDS

Nominees for the following awards should have displayed throughout the year an outstanding level of achievement in the sport. Consideration will be given to domestic and international achievement. Attributes should also include having shown great attitude, motivation, and determination in the sport.

Female Canoe Sprint Athlete of the Year

Male Canoe Sprint Athlete of the Year

Marathon Athlete of the Year

Ocean Ski Athlete of the Year

Junior (18&U) Athlete of the Year

Athletes must have competed, either domestically or internationally, in the 18&U category during the period in which the nomination applies. This can include Junior Athletes competing in Sprint, Marathon and/or Ocean Surf Ski. This athlete exemplifies the spirit and future of the sport in Canoe Racing NZ.

23&U Athlete of the Year

Athletes must have competed, either domestically or internationally, in the 23&U category during the period in which the nomination applies. This can include 23&U Athletes competing in Sprint, Marathon and/or Ocean Surf Ski. This athlete exemplifies the spirit and future of the sport in Canoe Racing NZ.

Masters Athlete of the Year

Athletes must have competed, either domestically or internationally, in a Masters age category during the period in which the nomination applies. This can include Masters Athletes competing in Sprint, Marathon and/or Ocean Surf Ski.

Team of the Year

The following definitions of a "Team" shall apply - K2 or K4 boats – 2 or 4 participants.

SPORTS AWARDS

Club Coach of the Year

Will have made a major contribution to their club and their paddlers through their coaching. They may be coaching at participation or performance level. They create a positive environment and are athlete centred. They are a positive role model for their athletes.

Official of the Year

Will have made an outstanding contribution to the sport through their voluntary role as an Official. They are athlete centred and positive role models.

Volunteer of the Year

Will have made an outstanding contribution to the sport at club/local or national level. They are someone who exemplifies the spirit of volunteering, commitment to the development of the sport, and is a selfless proponent of the sport.

Club of the Year

A CRNZ club that has made a significant contribution to the development and growth of the sport within its local community. The club will have delivered quality participation experiences and opportunities for involvement and development across different levels of the sport. It will demonstrate strong governance supported by committed club administrators, coaches and volunteers, and create a positive and supportive environment for its members.

Spirit of Paddling

This award recognises someone who displays outstanding passion, enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and commitment to the paddling community. They inspire others, contribute positively to club and community culture, and demonstrate the values of respect, inclusiveness, participation and a love for the sport.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

Recognition Award

Will have made a significant contribution to their club, region or nationally deserving of recognition at a national level. Emphasis on contribution to development of the sport.

Outstanding Service Award

Will have made an outstanding contribution to their club, region or nationally over at least 10 years of service to the sport. Emphasis on contribution to development of the sport.

Excellence Award

Exceptional level of achievement or contribution to the sport.
For example:

- Olympic Medallist
- World Championship medallist
- Medallist at World Cup or other major international event
- Achieved world best time or world record time
- Exceptional Coach or Official at World Championship/Olympic level.
- Outstanding contribution to governance of the sport
- Outstanding contribution at international level, either in technical or other capacity

NOMINATE NOW!



Submit your nomination using the online Nomination Form

Nominations close 11.59am
Sunday 13 December