

<b>POLICY</b>	<b>Governance</b>
TITLE:	Annual Awards Policy
AREA:	Governance
RESPONSIBILITY:	Sports Services and Events Coordinator
DRAFTED BY:	Chief Operating Officer / CEO
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APPROVED BY:	Paddle Australia
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## 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this Policy is to outline the criteria for each of the Paddle Australia (PA) Annual Awards and the process for nominations.
- 1.2. Unless otherwise specified, only financial members of Paddle Australia will be eligible to receive Awards. The Honours and Awards Panel or PA President may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this requirement. Nominees that are in good standing with PA and their State Paddle Association (SPA) will be eligible to receive Awards.

## 2. ANNUAL AWARDS

### 2.1 PADDLER OF THE YEAR

The Paddler of the Year Awards are presented to any paddler, in their respective age group, competing at any level or undertaking significant paddling expeditions during the nomination period.

Nominations for the following awards may be made by each PA Discipline Technical Committee, State Paddle Association or Individual Member:

- 2.1 (a) Paddler of the Year – Olympic**
- 2.1 (b) Paddle of the Year – Non-Olympic**
- 2.1 (c) Junior Paddler of the Year – Olympic**
- 2.1 (d) Junior Paddler of the Year – Non-Olympic**
- 2.1 (e) Paracanoeist of the Year**
- 2.1 (f) Master Paddler of the Year**

*Note: Olympic means the disciplines of Canoe Sprint, Paracanoe and Canoe Slalom. Non-Olympic means any paddle sports under the auspices of Paddle Australia, not represented at the Olympics, including Canoe Sprint and Canoe Slalom non-Olympic events.*

### 2.2 COACH, TEAM AND TECHNICAL OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Nominations for the following awards may be made by any PA Discipline Technical Committee or State Paddle Association.

#### **2.2 (a) Coach of the Year**

This award is presented to any coach, either paid or unpaid, whose athlete(s) as individuals, as a team or as a team of individual competitors, achieve outstanding results whilst competing at the highest level in competition at open or junior level during the nomination period.

#### **2.2 (b) Team of the Year**

This award is presented to any paddlers, competing in open or junior competition as a boat combination or competing as a team of paddlers competing in the same event or class at any level during the nomination period, who achieve outstanding results.

#### **2.2 (c) Technical Official of the Year**

This award is presented to an individual who has achieved outstanding service by officiating at an international and/or national and/or state level. The recipient is someone who gives up their time to assist paddling competitions.

## 2.3 STATE PADDLE ASSOCIATION NATIONAL AWARDS

Nominations for the following awards shall be submitted by each State Paddle Association (SPA) and will be the winner(s) of the relevant award presented by the SPA. At least 14 days prior to the date of the Annual Awards, each SPA shall confirm to PA the details of their nominations in each of the following categories.

### **2.3 (a) Volunteer of the Year**

Volunteer of the Year Award is presented to an individual who has committed their time to volunteer for the paddling community during the nomination period. This individual is not required to have any particular role within any Paddle Organisation but rather to have demonstrated a tireless commitment to the sport, as evidenced through voluntary work at the Club and/or State Paddle Association level. Nominees must be a registered member of an affiliated Club of Paddle Australia.

### **2.3 (b) Club Coach of the Year**

Club Coach of the Year Award is presented to any Club coach (other than a national, state or institute coach), either paid or unpaid, whose athlete or athletes, whether as individuals, as a team or as a team of individual participants, achieve outstanding outcomes during the nomination period. Outcomes need not be limited to competition results but can include outcomes in areas such as participation or inclusion. Nominations must be endorsed by an affiliated Club of Paddle Australia. Varying the requirement in clause 1.2 above, the Nominee must be a financial member of a Club and/or hold a PA Coaching Qualification.

### **2.3 (c) Instructor/Guide of the Year**

Instructor/Guide of the Year Award is presented to an individual who has provided outstanding service to paddling in instructing or guiding at any level during the nomination period. The recipient is someone who follows the PA Safety Guidelines, who demonstrates professionalism through their actions and who fosters a greater engagement with paddling. Nominees must have current Paddle Australia qualifications.

## 2.4 THE OLEGAS TRUCHANAS AWARD

Nominations for the Olegas Truchanas Award may be made by any Discipline Technical Committee, State Paddle Association or Individual Member of PA.

This award is presented to any paddler/s whose paddling activity best exemplifies the spirit of Olegas Truchanas. Olegas was a pioneering wilderness expedition paddler who shared his passion for the natural environment through photography, with his images of South-West Tasmania instrumental in early campaigns to save these rivers for future generations. This award can only be made to any individual/s once.

## 2.5 SERVICES TO PADDLING, EXCELLENCE AND AWARD OF MERIT

Nominations for the following awards can be made by the PA Board, any PA Discipline Technical Committee, or State Paddle Association.

### **2.5 (a) Services to Paddling**

This award recognises the efforts of non-professional sports administration personnel, officials, referees, instructors, guides, coaches or other volunteers who are active in the fields of administrative support, finance, sports training and education, project or team management and Association or club development, over a minimum of 10 years at state and/or national level.

## 2.5 (b) Excellence Award

The Excellence Award is awarded for services to paddling in either administration or sporting endeavour over a “significant” period of time (surpassing the Award of Merit).

The Excellence Award is awarded once only, generally on retirement from competition or after a long period of administrative service.

## 2.5 (c) Award of Merit

An Award of Merit is awarded for an “outstanding” achievement in paddling in either administration or sporting endeavour in the year of the Award, where the individual does not qualify for other Awards. In any one year, a number of merit awards may be presented. For example, winning a World Championship, or organising/coordinating a major Paddle Australia event.

## 2.6 PRESIDENT’S AWARD

This award is decided and presented at the discretion of the serving Paddle Australia President, who will notify the CEO of any recipient independently of the Honours and Awards Panel.

## 2.7 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership of the Association shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of clause 5.4 of the Paddle Australia [Constitution](#).

## 3. NOMINATIONS

- 3.1. The nomination period will normally be for twelve months from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> September. Exceptions may be approved by the PA Board when the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games or ICF World Championship occurs within a few days of the cut-off date.
- 3.2. Except for the Awards under clause 2.3, 2.6 and 2.7, nominations will be called for by the CEO of Paddle Australia by 1<sup>st</sup> September each year. Nominations for Awards under clause 2.3 will be called for by the State Paddle Associations at a time and in such a way as they determine.
- 3.3. Other than as provided for in clause 2.3, the closing date for nominations will be 35 days before the date of the Paddle Australia AGM each year. The closing date for nominations will be confirmed when nominations are called for.
- 3.4. Individuals shortlisted for an Award will be contacted to confirm that they are willing to be both shortlisted and to receive an Award.
- 3.5. Nominations should be made using the Nomination Form provided by Paddle Australia. Where insufficient detail is provided, the Honours and Awards Panel may determine not to consider a nomination.
- 3.6. The Board of Paddle Australia may make a nomination(s) where, in its reasonable opinion, it considers that an omission has been made due to the non-nomination of an individual or team. Such a nomination(s) shall be made within 5 days of the close of nominations detailed in clause 3.3 above.
- 3.7. The Honours and Awards Panel (HAP) will determine the shortlist and winner of each Award in accordance with the [HAP Terms of Reference](#).