

Take the time to say 'Thank you' - Nominate for the 2013 Aquaforce Awards!

This summer marks the first anniversary of London 2012 and as we continue to celebrate the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, take a moment to stop and think about the volunteers within your aquatic community.

It is no secret that volunteers are the lifeblood of our aquatic clubs, whether it is the volunteer who enthusiastically manages the front desk, the volunteer coach who tirelessly runs training sessions or the workforce co-ordinator who ensures club volunteers feel supported; no volunteer contribution should go unnoticed!

In 2013 take the time to stop and say '**thank you**' to that special volunteer within your club or community. The Aquaforce Awards offer you the opportunity to recognise the unsung heroes, the people who dedicate countless hours to making our sport happen.

Nominations will open on the **1st June**, marking the commencement of National Volunteering Week. Everyone and anyone can nominate an ASA volunteer for an award. Nominations will close on the **15th July**.

The 2013 awards will be given in seven different categories, please visit www.swimming.org/asa/volunteering on the 1st June to download the category nomination forms:

1. **Club Volunteer of the Year**
2. **Outstanding Contribution by a Young Volunteer**
3. **Outstanding Contribution to Swimming in the Community**
4. **Outstanding County/Regional Contribution**
5. **Services to Officials Development**
6. **Volunteer Teacher/Coach of the Year**

Regional winners will be shortlisted for the National Aquaforce Awards. National winners will be announced at the ASA Council Dinner in October.

2013 will also see the introduction of a brand new club award:

7. **Celebrating Excellence in Club Volunteering**

A National Winner only will be selected for the Club Award. Representatives from the winning club will be invited to attend the Council Dinner to receive this prestigious award. For the first time in 2013, 'Celebrating Excellence in Club Volunteering' will offer the opportunity for club's to self nominate.



For all nominations:

- The nominated group/individual must be a member of the ASA and belong to an ASA club which is swim21 accredited or working towards.
- The individual must still be acting in the role for which he/she is being nominated for and individuals who receive payment in return for their services will not be eligible.
- All nominated volunteers will receive a limited edition Aquaforce Volunteers Pin Badge on the provision that an address is provided.
- Regional and National Winners will be selected only from the information provided in the nomination form, we therefore would encourage nominators to provide as much detail as possible.

For all enquiries, please contact aquaforceawards@swimming.org



Category Eligibility & Selection Criteria

Club Volunteer of the Year

This award recognises ASA volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution within their club.

This award will be presented to an individual who best demonstrates the following:

- A commitment of their personal time which has resulted in a positive impact on the club
- Examples of inspiring and motivating others
- The ability to be a role model and highly respected by their peers
- Has made a significant contribution to supporting other club members
- A willingness to share their experience and knowledge

Eligibility

- *Must be aged 26 years and over*
- *Individual nominations only*
- *Can perform any volunteering role as long as criteria is met*

Outstanding Contribution by a Young Volunteer

This award recognises ASA volunteers who have already made a difference within the world of aquatics.

This award will be presented to an individual who best demonstrates the following:

- A commitment of their personal time to volunteering which has resulted in a positive impact on the club
- Examples of inspiring and motivating others
- A role model and highly respected by their peers
- Has made a significant contribution to supporting other club members

Eligibility

- *Must be aged 25 years and under*
- *Individual nominations only*
- *Can perform any volunteering role as long as the criteria is met*

Outstanding Volunteer Contribution to Swimming in the Community

This award recognises an individual or group of volunteers who have gone above and beyond to raise the profile of volunteering within aquatics, encouraging the widest possible participation.

This award will be presented to an individual/group who best demonstrates the following:

- Had a positive impact on participation levels within aquatics
- A commitment to providing accessible opportunities to a wide cross section of the community



- Innovative ideas to combat the barriers of participation
- Gone above and beyond to cause positive change
- Additional credit will be given for nominees who actively engage underrepresented groups within their local community

Eligibility

- *'Widest possible participation' could include: school, college, volunteering centres, youth groups etc.*
- *Individual/group must be members of the ASA and an affiliated club which is swim21 accredited or working towards*

Outstanding County / Regional Contribution

This award recognises ASA volunteers that have made an outstanding contribution to aquatics within their ASA region or county.

This award will be presented to an individual who best demonstrates the following:

- A commitment of their personal time to volunteering which has resulted in a positive impact on the county/regional aquatic community
- A commitment to supporting the personal development of the wider aquatic workforce
- A willingness to share their experience and knowledge
- A highly respected role model within the region/county

Eligibility

- *Individual nominations only*

Services to Officials' Development

This award recognises ASA volunteers who have had a significant impact on the development of officials within any of the aquatic disciplines, at a club, county or regional level.

This award will be presented to an individual who best demonstrates the following:

- A long term contribution to supporting the development of officiating
- Contribution to increased/sustained participation of officials
- Supports the development of young officials
- A respected role model who demonstrates the values of officiating
- A willingness to share their experience and knowledge

Eligibility:

- *Individual nominations only*
- *All nominees must hold the relevant ASA/British Swimming officiating qualifications*

Volunteer Teacher / Coach of the Year

This award recognises the outstanding contribution of a volunteer teacher or coach within their aquatic discipline.



This award will be presented to an individual who best demonstrates the following:

- A commitment of their personal time to teaching or coaching which has led to a positive impact on the club
- Has had a significant impact on an individual or group of swimmers within the club
- Is committed to developing each individual athlete/swimmer to reach their full potential
- Makes a commitment to their personal development as a teacher/coach, always looks to implement new training techniques and commits to maintaining their professional development with ASA qualifications and CPDs

Eligibility

- *Individual nominations only*
- *All nominees must hold the appropriate ASA UKCC Teaching or Coaching qualifications*
- *Nominee must not receive payment for their services*

Celebrating Excellence in Club Volunteering

This special recognition award highlights the achievements of a club who provide an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all club volunteers, demonstrating a clear workforce structure and offering development opportunities to ensure the sustainability of an effective volunteer workforce.

This award will be presented to a club who best demonstrates the following:

- A clear recruitment, development and retention plan for volunteers
- A proactive approach to recruiting and retaining young volunteers
- A clear volunteer recognition plan
- An enjoyable and rewarding experience for club volunteers
- A commitment to personal development for volunteers
- A significant contribution to increased/sustained participation of volunteers

Eligibility

- *Clubs are invited to self nominate*
- *Nominated clubs should have a workforce/volunteer co-ordinator in post*
- *The nominated club must be swim21 accredited or working towards*
- *Only a National Winner will be selected. Representatives from the winning club will be invited to attend the Aquaforce Awards Ceremony on the club's behalf.*