



# Recognising Volunteers in Sailing & Boating

*The RYA Volunteer Awards, recognise the outstanding contributions made by volunteers throughout the UK.*

The RYA Volunteer Awards are divided into four categories: RYA Awards (National and Regional), Francis Elkin, Honor Preston Award, Family Award and the RYA Community Awards (Lifetime, Outstanding and Young Volunteer).

## **1. RYA Award - National**

Presented to outstanding individuals for their commitment and services to boating and the RYA at a national level.

## **2. RYA Award - Regional**

Presented to outstanding individuals for their commitment and services to boating and the RYA at a regional level.

## **3. RYA Family Award**

Presented to a family group deserving of recognition for the impact they have made both individually and collectively.

## **4. Francis Elkin Award**

Presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution in time, effort and personal endeavour to enable people with disabilities to become involved in sailing.

## **5. Honor Preston Award**

Presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution in time, effort, and personal endeavour to increase the inclusivity of boating, in particular, although not limited to, female participation.

### **RYA Community Award Categories**

Presented to outstanding individuals for their exceptional commitment and services to boating at club or grassroots level. Individuals must be nominated by their affiliated club, centre or organisation to receive an Award in one of three categories. Affiliates may only make one nomination in each category.

## **5. Lifetime Commitment**

Someone who has shown exceptional commitment and dedication to their club or organisation for at least 15 years.

## **6. Outstanding Contribution**

Someone who has volunteered for fewer than 15 years but who has nonetheless made a significant contribution. This could be a single or 'one-off' contribution.

## **7. Young Volunteer**

Someone aged 19 - 25 on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 who has demonstrated a regular commitment and/or inspirational contribution which is over-and-above their own participation or achievement within the sport.

### **Nomination Criteria**

1. Nominations must be from an RYA affiliated club, centre, group, association or region rather than an individual. Nominations will not be accepted from close family members. Nominations for National and Regional awards should be nominated by, or at the very least, be supported by, the Regional or National body they represent.
2. A club, centre, organisation or association can make up to **three nominations**, but only one award will be successful in each of the three Community Award categories in any given year. Each individual can only be nominated for an award in **one** category in any given year.

3. A person who is presented with an RYA Award will not normally receive a Community Award in subsequent years. It is, however, possible for Community Award winners to subsequently receive an RYA Award, or for individuals who receive a Youth Award to then be awarded an Outstanding / Lifetime Community Award or an RYA Award.
4. Joint Awards may be made where it is not possible to distinguish between the contribution of two individuals and where each individual is considered worthy in their own right.
5. If the person being nominated for an Award also has a 'paid role' or is 'employed' to undertake similar duties, they must also have given the equivalent service in a voluntary capacity. i.e. given significant time *in addition* to their paid work or employment. The nomination should make a clear distinction between their paid and voluntary efforts.
6. It will not be possible for a Young Volunteer Award and a Regional Youth Award to be awarded in the same year.
7. Posthumous awards will not normally be made.
8. Successful nominations will need to show clearly how the individual has 'put something back' into the sport, and that this effort/contribution is above and beyond normal participation in activities.
9. Nominations will only be accepted on the RYA Volunteer Awards nomination form or online form.
10. Letters of support are required but limited to 2 per nomination. These should be one page A4 (approx 500 words) in length, should be typed and uploaded with the online form, and must be from someone other than the person completing the nomination form.
11. Nominations should reach the RYA by 5pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

### **Confidentiality**

All nominations will be treated in the strictest confidence. The RYA suggests that you **do not** inform the nominee that you are putting them forward for an Award to avoid raising expectations which may not be met.

### **RYA Awards Panel**

The Awards Panel will consider each of the nominations and their decision will be final.

The RYA will endeavour to inform you and your nominee by August 2021 if the nomination is successful.

If the nomination is unsuccessful the RYA will endeavour to inform you by August 2021. The RYA will not inform the nominee if the nomination is unsuccessful.

### **Presentation of Awards**

Successful nominees and their guest will be invited to receive their Awards at a special lunch and presentation ceremony in November 2021 in London. (date t.b.c.)

### **Conditions of Entry**

- All material submitted as part of any nomination and the copyright thereof shall become the property of the RYA. No nomination will be returned.
- The RYA may change the category of award from the one selected by the nominator.
- Only nominations received by 5pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 will be considered for the RYA Volunteer Awards 2021.

- Submission of a nomination form to the RYA is deemed as acceptance of these conditions and agreement to be bound by them.
- The RYA reserves the right to change these conditions at any time by posting changes on the RYA website.