

Donegal Sports Star Awards 2024

August 2024



RE DONEGAL SPORTS STAR AWARDS 2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Principal & Staff

The Donegal Sport Star Awards will be celebrating their 49th anniversary at our Gala function which will be held in the ***Mount Errigal Hotel on Friday 31st January 2025***. The Awards have been a huge success in Donegal since their establishment in 1976 and act as an annual reminder and celebration of the sporting levels being achieved by our elite sports people in Donegal.

The organising Committee places a high level of importance on the work being done in Donegal's schools to develop sport and provide sporting opportunities not only for the pupils but the teachers alike. For the past few years, in acknowledging and recognising the tremendous efforts of schools, regardless of size, the Committee added a new category of ***Small Schools (<100 pupils)*** or ***Medium to Large Schools (100+ pupils)*** to choose from. Due to the success of the initiative and the level of interest, it has been decided to include this additional category again this year.

Each winning school at Primary and Post Primary level will also be presented with a specially commissioned ***"Best Sports School Award"*** to proudly display inside your school, in recognition of the sporting excellence contained within.

The Committee of ***Donegal Sports Star Awards 2024*** therefore invites your school to submit nominations under any or all four categories (*Best Sports School, Individual Awards for Best Sports Boy, Best Sports Girl and Best Sports Teacher*) before ***Friday 25th October 2024*** which is the last date for receipt of nominations.

Please note that all nominations should be made via email to info@donegalsportsstarawards.ie

Donegal Sports Star Awards Committee

Donegal Sports Star Awards 2024

Guidelines for the Selection of Categories (Primary and Post Primary Schools)



The following are the awards to be considered for the schools categories:

CATEGORY 1: BEST SPORTS SCHOOL AWARD

There will be three awards, two for primary schools (enrolment of no more than 100 pupils and enrolment of over 100) and one for post primary schools.

The school awards will only be considered in relation to the school year 2023/24

- The school award will reflect a holistic approach to the provision of sport including achievements and excellence, levels of participation, inclusion and a genuine commitment to the provision of a *sport for all* ethos within the school.

In submitting nominations;

- Entries for schools category should reflect a genuine demonstration of commitment to school sport both within the school and through the links to the wider sports community.
- Entries should also reflect any additional sports schemes or programmes which the school is involved in which support participation of all abilities in sport.
- Any additional training opportunities which teachers may have availed of during the school year 2023/24.
- Any school /club links which the school may be involved in order to develop and promote sport and physical activity.
- Any after school sports programmes which you may be involved in.

CATEGORY 2 & 3: INDIVIDUAL AWARDS – BEST SPORTS BOY AND GIRL

Individual Awards will only be considered in relation to achievements while representing primary or post primary school in relevant sports disciplines.

When considering individual nominations the committee will award merits as follows:

- Local, County, Provincial, National achievement(s)
- International achievement(s) – representing country
- Have represented their school with distinction in accredited inter-school competition(s) in their selected sport(s)
- Have demonstrated high levels of leadership, dedication and sportsmanship whilst participating in school sporting activities
- Have shown good school spirit - a general willingness to participate in and support school sporting activities
- Have demonstrated appropriate behaviour at all times both on and off the sporting field
- Have been considered a good school member with respect to general co-operation.

CATEGORY 4: BEST SPORTS TEACHER:

In submitting nominations entries should reflect:

- A genuine demonstration to the provision of an *inclusive sport for all* ethos within a school setting (PE/ Sports)
- Any additional PE/sports schemes co-ordinated by the nominee to increase participation in sport amongst low participation groups within the school.
- The contribution of the nominee to the provision of leadership, fair play in sport and dedication while managing school sporting activities.
- The contribution of the nominee towards the pursuit of achievements and excellence by the school.

When submitting individual nominations in either of the categories 1-4, please enclose a photograph of the nominee(s). Please note all applications should be accompanied by photos and video clips if available. The closing date is **FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024.**