**Wits Sports Awards Criteria**

1. This sports award criteria shall be used in conjunction with the rules and regulations outlined in the Constitution of the WSC.
2. **The Wits Sports Awards Committee (WSAC) shall be constituted as follows:**
   1. The Chairperson who shall be the Vice-Chairperson of the WSC
   2. The Chairperson of the WSC
   3. Three members of the WSC nominated by the WSC
   4. The Head: Wits Sport
   5. The Chief Electoral Officer to the WSC
   6. One manager of Wits Sport elected by the Head: Wits Sport
3. **The WSAC has the following powers:**
   1. To review all nominations and remove such nominations that do not fit the award criteria
   2. To recommend to the WSC the addition of any awards
   3. To recommend to the WSC the finalists/winners of all special awards
   4. To recommend the approve of all colour awards
   5. To recommend to the WSC the nominations/finalists/winners of any other awards
4. **The WSC has the power to:**
   1. Recommend nominations to the WSAC
   2. Approve recommendations from the WSAC.
   3. Overrule any decisions made by the WSAC with regards to recipients of colour awards, nominees for special awards, and any other awards or nominees of other awards with a two thirds (2/3) majority of the WSC.
5. **The WSC has the following duties:**
   1. To submit all relevant documentation on time to the WSAC pertaining to nomination of awards.
   2. To vote on the winners of special awards
6. **The WSAC has the following duties:**
   1. To call for nominations for awards in line with the procedures outlined by the WSC Constitution
   2. To arrange and run the voting procedures for awards outlined in the WSC Constitution.
   3. To ensure that all nominations for all awards meet the stipulated criteria.
7. **Nomination procedures:**
   1. Written nominations to be received by the closing date as annually determined.
   2. Nominations can be submitted by members of the WSC, Sports Officers, Sports Admin staff, Wits students and staff, Wits sport club members, and any person directly/ officially affiliated to/associated with Wits.
8. **Wits colours**
   1. Full colours can be awarded to a student if he/she is a registered student and/or if he/she is a registered club member of a Wits University Sports Club and if he/she achieved one or more of the following:
      1. **Full Blue Summa Cum Laude:**
         1. Placed at an Olympic Games or senior World Championship as part of a senior national team. (Highest level of participation in the athletes respective sport code.)
      2. **Full Blue Cum Laude:**
         1. Senior national colours. (Highest level of participation in the athletes respective sport code. E.g. Olympic Games or senior World Championship.)
      3. **Full Blue:**
         1. Junior national colours
         2. Won a senior national title
         3. Represented a national team (World Student Games, Common Wealth games, European Championship, World Age Group Championship, etc.)
         4. Breaks a national record
      4. **Half Blue:**
         1. Wins an USSA title
         2. Represented a senior provincial A team
         3. Represented a senior provincial B team for two consecutive years
         4. Represented a junior provincial A team for two consecutive years
         5. Represented a junior B team for three consecutive years
         6. Selected for USSA A team
         7. Placed at a national junior championship
         8. Placed second or third at a national senior championship
         9. Placed at a senior provincial tournament
         10. Placed at a junior provincial tournament for two consecutive years
         11. Any athlete that does not meet the above criteria but has displayed exceptional performance in the opinion of the Sports Awards Committee for three consecutive years or more.
   2. An athlete must have competed at an A level tournament or a B level tournament to receive an award. For example a player competing in an A team in a B level tournament will be considered as part of the B team. Another example is a player in an A team competing in a C level tournament will not be eligible for an award.
   3. For traditional martial arts, Full Blue shall only be awarded for competing in the rank of 3rd kyu/gup or higher. For Full Blue Cum Laude and above the athlete must have competed in the rank of 1st Dan or higher. For Half-Blue senior shall mean a rank of 3rd kyu/gup or higher and junior shall be all belt levels below 3rd kyu/gup.
   4. For Mountain an award of Full Blue or higher will only be awarded if the athlete is competing in a grade of 24 or higher.
   5. For gymnastics the following restrictions will apply: for an award of Full Blue and up the athlete must have competed in a level 10 or higher Artistic or Rhythmic event. For the award of Half Blue an athlete must have competed in Women’s Artistic level 6+, Men’s Artistic level 4+, Rhythmic level 5+, Trampoline elite division, or Tumbling elite division.
   6. Colours can also be awarded to the following persons:
      1. Any student or non-student officially connected with WITS and who has made an exceptional contribution for at least three (3) years to the management of sport on a provincial and/or national level;
      2. Any person who, in the opinion of the Sport Awards Committee, has made an exceptional contribution for at least three (3) years to the coaching and/or management of WITS Sport;
      3. Any person who, in the opinion of the Sport Awards Committee, has made an exceptional contribution for at least three (3) years to the coaching and/or management of WITS Sport;
      4. An alumnus who is still a member of a WITS Sport Club and who has performed exceptionally well in sport after completing their studies;
      5. Any person who has made an exceptional contribution to sport research and or sport science.
   7. The above are guidelines and any person whose contribution is meritorious, in the opinion of the Sports Awards Committee, can be nominated for (and awarded) colours as long as the distinctive esteem of colours is considered
9. **Honorary Commendations:**
   1. The aim of an Honorary Commendation is to reward exceptional loyalty shown to WITS Sport.
   2. The Honorary Commendations shall be as follows:
      1. **Coaches:**
         1. An appointed coach involved with a WITS Sports Club.
         2. Five (5) consecutive years of service to WITS Sport.
         3. The above years of service to be measured by performance.
         4. Loyalty and behaviour should over the entire period be to WITS’s advantage.
      2. **Administrators:**
         1. Five (5) consecutive years of service to WITS Sport.
         2. Must comply to the administrative criteria as determined by WITS Sport
         3. Three (3) consecutive years of service as a WITS representative at provincial level – service to be to the advantage of WITS Sport
         4. Two (2) consecutive years of service as a WITS representative at national level – service to be to the advantage of WITS Sport
         5. One (1) year uninterrupted service as a WITS representative at international level – service to be to the advantage of WITS Sport.
      3. **Sponsors:**
         1. Substantial sponsors of Wits Sport
      4. **Alumni sportsmen and sportswomen:**
         1. Alumni sports men and women who achieve on national and/or international level after completion of their studies.
      5. **Media Award:**
         1. A journalist who has gone above and beyond to promote Wits Sport and Wits University through his/her sustained contributions to the various media platforms.
      6. **Postgraduate students:**
         1. Students that have showed loyalty to Wits and Wits Sport by completing their undergraduate, honours, masters, and doctorate at Wits University all the while competing for a wits sports team.
   3. Honorary Commendations shall be bestowed upon by the Sports Awards Committee.
10. **Sportsman and Sportswoman of the year**
    1. The bellow awards shall be voted on by the WSC and the Sports Officers. The points tables below shall be used as a metric to illustrate each nominees achievements during the voting process.
    2. **Age category Sportsman/Sportswoman of the year award:**
       1. This award is aimed at recognizing the student-athletes who have achieved in an age category other than Senior National.
       2. An individual qualifies for nomination if he/she:
          1. Is a registered WITS student and has proof of academic participation during the current year of study.
          2. Is a “junior” because of his/her age; and/or
          3. Was awarded Junior national colours; and/or
          4. Participated in age category competition/s and/or
          5. Did not qualify for senior national colours, but only junior colours.
    3. **Sportsman/Sportswoman of the year award:**
       1. This award is aimed at recognizing the student-athletes who have achieved at a Senior National level
       2. An individual qualifies for nomination if he/she:
          1. Is a registered WITS student and has proof of academic participation during the current year of study.
          2. Was awarded Senior National colours; and/or
          3. Represented a National Team in international competition.
    4. **Club Sportsman/Sportswoman of the Year Award:**
       1. This award is aimed at recognizing the non-student athletes who have achieved at a Senior National level.
       2. An individual qualifies for nomination if he/she:
          1. Represents a WITS club
          2. Was awarded Senior National colours; and/or
          3. Represented a National Team in international competition
    5. **A combination of the following point structures will be used to determine the overall points:**
       1. LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION (Highest level of competition in which the nominee participated)
          1. Senior Competitions. If the candidate was selected and included in one of the following representative teams (participant had to participate).

Only the highest level of competition is taken into consideration:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Competition** | **Points** |
| Olympic Games/Senior World Championships | 15 |
| Commonwealth Games | 12 |
| Three (or more) Nations Championships | 10 |
| Student World Championships/Games | 8 |
| Africa Championships/Test Series | 6 |
| Senior National A Team / Tournament | 5 |
| Senior National B Team / Regional | 4 |
| USSA Team/CUCSA | 3 |
| Senior Provincial A Team | 2 |

* + - 1. Junior/Age Group Competitions. If the candidate was included in one of the following representative teams only the highest level of competition is taken into consideration:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Competition** | **Points** |
| Junior World Championships/Divisions of | 8 |
| eg. Du/Triathlon, Aquatics, etc |
| Junior International Participation/ | 7 |
| Invitational International Participation |
| Junior Africa Championships | 6 |
| Regional Team/Junior National A Team / Junior Championships | 4 |
| Junior National B Team | 3 |
| Senior Provincial Team | 2 |
| Junior Provincial Team/USSA Gauteng | 1 |

* + 1. Achievements:
       1. “Related” sports codes (eg. Action Netball, 7’s Rugby, Indoor Hockey): Candidate is awarded 50% + 1 of the achievement points. Points are only awarded for the highest achievement per candidate.
       2. Olympic Games/World Championships/World Cup:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| Winner(s) – Gold Medal(s) | 20 | 18 |
| Runner(s) Up – Silver Medal(s) | 18 | 16 |
| Third Place(s) – Bronze Medal(s) | 16 | 15 |
| Semi–finals – 4th or 5th Place | 15 | 14 |
| Quarter Finals – 6th, 7th or 8th Place | 14 | 13 |
| 9th – 12th Place | 13 | 12 |

* + - 1. Commonwealth Games/Student World Championships/Junior World Championships/Tri-nations Rugby:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| Winner(s) – Gold Medal(s) | 15 | 14 |
| Runner(s) Up – Silver Medal(s) | 13 | 12 |
| Third Place(s) – Bronze Medal(s) | 11 | 10 |
| Semi–finals – 4th or 5th Place | 10 | 9 |
| Quarter Finals – 6th, 7th or 8th Place | 9 | 8 |
| 9th – 16th Place | 7 | 6 |

* + - 1. Africa Championships/Three or more Nations Championships/Test Series:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| Winner(s) – Gold Medal(s) | 10 | 9 |
| Runner(s) Up – Silver Medal(s) | 9 | 8 |
| Third Place(s) – Bronze Medal(s) | 8 | 7 |
| Semi–finals – 4th or 5th Place | 7 | 6 |
| Quarter Finals – 6th, 7th or 8th Place | 6 | 5 |
| 9th – 16th Place | 5 | 4 |

* + - 1. SA Junior and Senior Championships / CUCSA / Regional:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| Winner(s) – Gold Medal(s) | 7 | 6 |
| Runner(s) Up – Silver Medal(s) | 6 | 5 |
| Third Place(s) – Bronze Medal(s) | 5 | 4 |

* + - 1. USSA Championships:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| Winner(s) – Gold Medal(s) | 5 | 4 |
| Runner(s) Up – Silver Medal(s) | 4 | 3 |
| Third Place(s) – Bronze Medal(s) | 3 | 2 |

* + - 1. Bonus points.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Achievement** | **A** | **B** |
| World record/Best player | 10 | 8 |
| Commonwealth/FISU record/Best player | 10 | 8 |
| Africa record/Best player | 10 | 8 |
| Senior National colours in non-related sports code | 8 | 6 |
| National record/Best player | 5 | 3 |
| Provincial record/Best player | 5 | 3 |

And

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Captaincy** | **Captaincy** | **Vice Captaincy** |
| Senior National | 10 | 5 |
| Junior National/Region | 8 | 4 |
| USSA/Senior Provincial | 6 | 3 |
| Junior Provincial/WITS | 4 | 2 |

Or

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grand Champion Title** | **A** |
| Senior National | 10 |
| Junior National/Region | 8 |
| USSA/Senior Provincial | 6 |
| Junior Provincial/WITS | 4 |

* + - 1. ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR: All nominees/finalists’ behaviour and attitude should be according to the WITS Student Regulations.

1. **Combination Sport and Academic:**
   1. This award is aimed at recognizing the student-athletes who have not only achieved in the sporting realm, but who have also managed to obtain a high level of academic achievement.
   2. An individual qualifies for nomination if he/she:
      1. Is a registered student at the university; and
      2. Represents a WITS sport club
   3. The winner of this award shall be decided on by the following point system:
      1. The average results from the student’s first academic year of registration until the end of the first semester in the current year are taken into consideration. The points will be awarded as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***0,5 year*** | ***1,5 year*** | ***2,5 year*** | ***3,5 years*** | ***4,5 years plus*** |
| 55 - 60% Average | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 61 - 65% Average | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 66 - 70% Average | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 71 - 75% Average | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 76 – 80% Average | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 81 – 90% Average | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 91 %+ Average | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |

* + 1. The following additional points will be cumulatively awarded if the same number of points is allocated to more than one candidate:
       1. Year of study:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year of Study** | **Bonus Points** |
| 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 |
| 4+ | 4 |

* + - 1. The highest sport achievement will be the decisive factor if candidates still have the same number of points.
      2. If candidates are still equal after the above rules have been applied, the Sport Awards Committee reserves the right to select the final candidate.
  1. Written nominations must be accompanied by the official WITS academic results of the candidate.

1. **Honorary Awards**
   1. This award is aimed at recognising a person or institution who, in the opinion of the Sport Awards Committee, has served sport for a longer period than five (5) years.
   2. The WITS Sport Awards Committee can bestow this award on anybody whom they consider to be worthy of such an award. Such an individual, administrator, manager, sport man/ sport woman or institution would enjoy world-wide media publicity. Factors such as attitude, loyalty, image, etc. will be considered before the WITS Honorary Award for Sport is bestowed uniquely.
2. **Club of the Year Award**
   1. Criteria:
      1. The performance of the Club/ Individuals within the Club
      2. USSA Application and adherence to deadlines
      3. Active committee and participation in Sports Admin and WSC Events
      4. Increase in Club Membership – relative to the previous year
      5. Club reports and number of articles submitted for Wits Blitz
      6. Number of volunteers the club produced at sanctioned events
      7. Community Engagement Involvement
      8. Fundraising relative to size of club
      9. Behaviour, loyalty and image of the club
   2. This award is voted on by the WSC and the Sports Officers.
3. **Student Sport Administrator of the Year**
   1. Criteria:
      1. Awarded to a student administrator who has contributed positively towards his/her Club for at least two years.
      2. Contributions considered as part of a student’s job due to their position on a committee will not be considered; nominees must go beyond their job description
   2. This award is voted on by the WSC and the Sports Officers.
4. **Mel Siff Sportsmanship Award**
   1. Criteria:
      1. Awarded annually to any official member of a Wits Sports Club who displays exceptional sportsmanship in representing the University at sport and may be made to any Club member irrespective of the standard that he attains in representative sport.
      2. Emphasis must be placed on a member displaying exceptional sportsmanship, meaning he/she has gone above and beyond what is expected of an athlete.
      3. An example must be given that illustrates the club member’s display of sportsmanship
   2. This award is voted on by the WSC and the Sports Officers.