

THE POWER OF HER

2027 Recognition Awards

Eligibility Guidelines



Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Now in their third year, The Power of Her Recognition Awards continue to celebrate the outstanding individuals and organisations who are empowering women and girls in sport across South Australia.

The Malinauskas Labor Government is proud to be delivering programs and initiatives to drive gender equality in sport and recreation, which remove barriers, build stronger pathways and create inclusive environments where women and girls remain involved throughout their lives.

In 2027, our Government remains committed to making sure women and girls have every opportunity to participate, lead and succeed.

Across our state, there are individuals and organisations helping build participation, creating leadership opportunities and ensuring women and girls are represented at every level of sport.

The Power of Her Recognition Awards are about celebrating these powerful contributions and achievements and recognising the positive impact they are having in our communities.

I am delighted to invite nominations for the 2027 Power of Her Recognition Awards.

If you know someone making a difference in this space, I encourage you to consider nominating them. Their work deserves to be recognised, and their story can inspire future progress across South Australian sport.

Hon Rhiannon Pearce MP

Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing



THE POWER OF HER

In 2023, *The Power of Her* Women in Leadership Symposium saw more than 1,000 people come together to advance gender equality and open doors for future generations.

Building on that momentum and the legacy of the FIFA Women's World Cup, the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing has continued to invest and deliver *The Power of Her* initiatives that remove barriers, create pathways and provide opportunities for women and girls to participate, lead and thrive.

Recognising the importance of gender equality in sport and everywhere, these awards recognise South Australia's inclusive sporting landscape that empower girls and women to thrive in whichever sport they pursue and in every aspect of their lives.

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing invites nominations that amplify the stories of those who are driving gender equality, supporting and empowering women and girls and making a lasting contribution through sport and recreation.

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Many individuals, clubs and organisations are rightly giving women and girls the opportunity to pursue their sporting dreams and using the power of sport to drive change. We acknowledge and thank them for work they are doing.

Annually from 2025, these awards will recognise and celebrate the exceptional achievements of leaders in women's sport and gender equality across the sector.

The awards will be presented in early 2027.

IMPORTANT DATES



Nominations open	Monday 26 October 2026
Nominations close	Sunday 29 November 2026, 11:59pm
Nominations assessed	December 2026 – January 2027
Winners notified	February 2027
Event RSVP open	February 2027
Awards announced	International Women's Day event March 2027

AWARD CATEGORIES

The Power of Her – Emerging Leader

Recognises a woman/girl between the ages of 15 to 24 years in 2026 for their contribution to the advancement of women and girls in sport and beyond during 2026, through contribution to their organisation as a coach, official, administrator, volunteer or developing leader, and with the potential to make a leadership impact in the future.

The Power of Her – Storytelling Champion

Recognises an individual's or organisation's significant contribution to the visibility of women and girls in sport and physical activity through storytelling initiatives or projects during 2026.

The Power of Her – Partner Champion

Recognises an organisation which has demonstrated contribution to supporting and fostering a more equitable sponsorship landscape for women in sport during 2026.

The Power of Her – Champion Local Club Metropolitan

Recognises a local *metropolitan* club's significant contribution to the growth of sport and physical activity for women and girls through commitment to gender equality and advancement during 2026.

The Power of Her – Champion Local Club Regional

Recognises a local *regional* club's significant contribution to the growth of sport and physical activity for women and girls through commitment to gender equality and advancement during 2026.

The Power of Her – Outstanding Organisation

Recognises an organisation's significant impact in removing barriers for women and girls to participate in sport during 2026 and high level of influence and reach of their achievements.

The Power of Her – Champion of Change

Recognises an individual (female or male) using sport as an avenue for championing gender equality during 2026 through their outstanding contribution to their organisation.

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER EMERGING LEADER

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA woman/girl between the ages of 15 to 24 years in 2026 involved in a SA based State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association, or Club.

NOMINATIONS BY:

- SA incorporated sporting or recreation club affiliated with a SA State Sporting or Recreation Organisation.
- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Outstanding contribution to their organisation as a coach, official, administrator, volunteer or developing leader in sport and physical activity and the advancement and development of young girls in their sport.
- Demonstrated potential to make a leadership impact in the future.

NOMINATE HERE

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER STORYTELLING CHAMPION

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.
- Non-government, incorporated not-for-profit organisations based in South Australia.
- SA based business/organisation with a registered ABN who proudly sponsor women's sport.
- A female/male aged over 18 involved in the media or in an SA based State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.

NOMINATIONS BY:

- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.
- Non-government, incorporated not-for-profit organisations. Can be self-nominated with support of governing body.
- Can be self-nominated with support of SA State Sporting/ Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Significant contribution to advancing the visibility of women and girls in sport and physical activity through storytelling initiatives or projects.
- Effective use of storytelling to advocate for women and girls in sport, celebrate achievements, and highlight key issues.
- The influence and reach of storytelling initiatives or projects.

NOMINATE HERE

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER PARTNER CHAMPION

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA based business/organisation with a registered ABN who proudly sponsor women's sport.

NOMINATIONS BY:

- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.
- Non-government, incorporated not-for-profit organisations.
- Can be self-nominated with support of SA State Sporting/Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Demonstrated contribution to fostering a more equitable landscape for women in sport.
- The degree of influence and reach of the partnership.

[NOMINATE HERE](#)

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER CHAMPION LOCAL CLUB METROPOLITAN

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA incorporated Sporting or Recreation Club based in the greater Adelaide area ([Greater Adelaide City & Regional South Australia](#)).

NOMINATIONS BY:

- Can be self-nominated with support of governing body.
- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation or Association.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Significant demonstrated contribution to the development, growth and reinforcement of women and girls' participation in sport and physical activity.
- Demonstrated commitment to gender equality and the advancement of women and girls in sport and physical activity.

NOMINATE HERE

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER CHAMPION LOCAL CLUB REGIONAL

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA incorporated Sporting or Recreation Club based in regional South Australia and affiliated in South Australia.
([Greater Adelaide City & Regional South Australia](#)).

NOMINATIONS BY:

- Can be self-nominated with support of governing body.
- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation or Association.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Significant demonstrated contribution to the development, growth and reinforcement of women and girls' participation in sport and physical activity.
- Demonstrated commitment to gender equality and the advancement of women and girls in sport and physical activity.

NOMINATE HERE

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER OUTSTANDING ORGANISATION

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.
- Non-government, incorporated not-for-profit organisations.

NOMINATIONS BY:

- Can be self-nominated with support of governing body.
- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Significant impact in removing the barriers for women and girls to participate in sport and physical activity, including but not limited to participation, leadership and representation.
- The degree of influence or reach of the organisation's achievements.
- Demonstrated commitment to gender equality, and the growth and advancement of women and girls in sport and physical activity.

NOMINATE HERE

AWARD CRITERIA

THE POWER OF HER CHAMPION OF CHANGE

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES:

- SA female/male aged over 18 involved in a SA based State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.

NOMINATIONS BY:

- SA incorporated State Sporting or Recreation Organisation, Association or Club.
- Non-government, incorporated not-for-profit organisations.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Successfully led an initiative that has made a significant impact in removing the barriers for women and girls' equality by harnessing sport as a driver for change.
- Outstanding achievement as a coach, official, administrator, volunteer or leader in their organisation and to the advancement of women and girls sport more broadly, going above and beyond their normal role description. Their efforts will leave a legacy for their sport.
- Demonstrates outstanding advocacy through sport, advancing opportunities for women and girls in the community and shining a spotlight on those who are achieving their goals and realising their ambitions.
- The degree of influence or reach of the nominee's achievements.

NOMINATE HERE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Nominations are to be made via the online nomination forms.
- A separate nomination must be submitted for each category.
- Nominations must be submitted by the relevant organisation as listed in the criteria and endorsed by the Executive Officer or delegate.
- Only the Storytelling Champion, Partner Champion, Champion Local Club (Regional and Metropolitan) and Outstanding Organisation awards can be self-nominated, but the application will need endorsement from their governing body.
- Nominations must address the criteria for the award category.
- Nominations will only be considered for achievements in 2026.
- Only information included in the nomination form will be used by the selection panel.
- Incomplete nominations will be deemed ineligible.
- Information submitted in the nomination, excluding contact details, may be used for promotional purposes.
- Nominations must be submitted by 11.59pm on Sunday 29 November 2026.
- The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing reserves the right to transfer a nomination to the most appropriate category.
- A panel comprising of sporting sector leaders will assess and judge the award winners in each category.

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CONTACT US

For further information or assistance, please contact the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing via email.

thepowerofher@sa.gov.au