

Section: PROGRAM
Topic: Athlete of the Year
Effective Date: December 1996
Revised Date: April 2019

4000-17

This award will be presented annually to Special Olympics Saskatchewan's most outstanding athletes.

NOMINATIONS

Each Special Olympics accredited district/community is encouraged to nominate athletes who they feel are worthy of receiving this prestigious award. Nominations are accepted from any SOS member in good standing including: the executive committee, coaches, volunteers, athletes, Board of Directors, Sport Advisory Committee, and the provincial office by the annual deadline date. All nominations must be accompanied by a Nomination Form (attached), a minimum of one (1) letter of reference and maximum of two (2), and either a digital photo OR a passport sized photo.

*NOTE: Any additional forms/letters of support **will not** be considered by the Selection Committee when reviewing the nominations.*

The Special Olympics Saskatchewan Awards committee will carefully review the nominations and select the winners.

AWARD CRITERIA

Nominations will be judged on the strength of their submission by the criteria described in the following:

- I. **PARTICIPATION**
 - The nominee must be a registered athlete and involved in Special Olympics Saskatchewan sport programs throughout the program year.
- II. **ATHLETIC AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT**
 - The nominee must be successful in their sport, doing their best to achieve their athletic goal.
 - The nominee must demonstrate improvement in athletic skill, as well as in personal growth and development.
- III. **SPORTSMANSHIP**
 - The nominee must exemplify the true spirit of Special Olympics.
 - The nominee must display sportsmanship and be considerate of fellow athletes, coaches and officials
 - The nominee must consistently act as a role model for other athletes.

AWARD RECOGNITION

- This award will be presented to the successful recipients at the SOS Provincial Awards Banquet held annually.
- The recipients will receive an Athlete of the Year plaque.
- The recipients' names will be added to the Special Olympics Saskatchewan Recognition plaque.
- The recipient and nominees may be highlighted and publicly recognized by Special Olympics Saskatchewan for their achievement(s). This may include such things as; postings on social media sites, newspaper/journal articles, community newsletters, etc.
- The athlete(s) will be further considered for the National Athlete of the Year award.