

RAF SPORT AWARDS

24 October 2025

RAF Club, London





WELCOME

Welcome to the RAF Sport Awards 2025, held in the RAF Club for the first time this year. Every year in RAF Sport is a remarkable one and this year is no exception. We are delighted that you are able to join us at this celebration of the achievements and efforts of our brilliant people, on and off the fields of play (whatever they look like), directly and indirectly, delivering genuine 'Opportunity for All' in the Service and, increasingly, across the Whole Force and beyond, through sport.



Across our huge range of 56 Sports Associations, from Archery to Volleyball and all points in-between, in our newer sporting activities and in our Challenging Pursuits, and at unit level, we believe all can benefit from participation and achieve success at each and every level of competition in myriad ways. The nominees you will hear about today are at the pinnacle of their sports, who, to a person, won't believe that they are worthy of recognition (which says a lot about them) and they are still giving by their inspiration, energy and by their 'making time for sport' to make them 'Fit for Service' and 'Fit for Life', as our Vision states.

Of course, they couldn't do what they do without the support of their families, friends and line managers, so we are really grateful for those of you who can be with us here today but also, please, accept our thanks for those who could not – they are all the unsung heroes of RAF Sport. And for those who can't make it, as you read this, tell them about the live stream on BFBS this afternoon, which they can tune into to share our individual and collective celebrations. Thank you and enjoy!

Air Commodore R Fogden RAFR
Director RAF Sport

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 1130** Guest Arrival
- 1230** Lunch
- 1330** Awards Ceremony
- 1335** Director RAF Sport Opening Address
- 1525** AOC 22Gp Closing Address
- 1530** AOC 22Gp Departs, followed by guests



SPORTSMAN

Nominees

This award recognises a sportsman who has achieved excellence in his performance, participated at the highest levels or had an outstanding achievement in his chosen sport.



AS1 Sam Murray - Cycling & Triathlon

AS1 Sam Murray has balanced a demanding operational role with elite-level sporting performance across cycling and triathlon. In 2025 he won the Inter-Service Time Trial, ending the Royal Navy's four-year dominance by just eight seconds, a result that also secured the RAF overall team victory. His success was achieved while managing the pressures of high-readiness global mobility duties, demonstrating exceptional commitment.



Sgt Steven Reid - Angling

Sgt Steven Reid has been the cornerstone of RAF Coarse Angling for more than a decade, combining individual success with leadership and administration. As Team Captain, he has guided the RAF to consistent Inter-Service titles, managing selection, logistics, and training while competing at the highest level himself. His tactical knowledge and calm authority have made him a respected figure across the sport.



Cpl Kenneth Macleod - Motorsports

Cpl Kenneth Macleod represents the RAF Motorcycle Road Racing Team with distinction, balancing operational duties with elite sporting performance. Competing in the British Military Inter-Services Championships, he has been the most consistent rider across the 2024–25 season. His results included multiple podiums and strong finishes against Army and Navy rivals, ensuring the RAF remained competitive in one of the most demanding Service sports.

SPORTSWOMAN

Nominees

This award recognises a sportswoman who has achieved excellence in her performance, participated at the highest levels or had an outstanding achievement in her chosen sport.



Flt Lt Harriet Haywood - Triathlon

Flt Lt Harriet Haywood has enjoyed an outstanding year in RAF Triathlon, excelling across domestic, Service, and international competition. Balancing operational duties with elite training, she has become one of the RAF's most accomplished endurance athletes. Harriet is valued not only for her results but also for her influence within the Association, mentoring new athletes, sharing training practices, and supporting team cohesion.



Sgt Eleanor Spinks - Archery

Sgt Eleanor Spinks has risen rapidly in RAF Archery, combining natural ability with commitment and discipline. Since first picking up a bow in 2021 she has progressed to national standard, earning recognition at Service and civilian level. Her dedication has already produced significant results, confirming her as one of the RAF's most promising athletes.



Cpl Sarah Toms - Cycling

Cpl Sarah Toms has excelled across multiple cycling disciplines, balancing operational duties with consistent competitive success. She has represented the RAF and UK Armed Forces in road, time trial, and track cycling, earning results that highlight her versatility and commitment. Her influence extends into team culture, mentoring new cyclists and providing guidance on race preparation and recovery.

SPORTS COACH / OFFICIAL

Nominees

This award recognises someone who has gone above and beyond in the delivery of sport either through the organising of events, managing activities, or coaching.



Wg Cdr Chris McIntyre - Basketball

Chris McIntyre, Head Coach of the RAF and UK Armed Forces Basketball Teams, has transformed Service basketball through tactical expertise, empathy, and resilience. A former RAF and UKAF starter, his credibility allows him to demand the highest standards while building trust across both men's and women's squads. He has delivered historic results while caring deeply for those he leads, making him an exemplary coach and a deserving nominee for recognition.



FS Scott Hill - Triathlon

FS Scott Hill has transformed the Association with vision, organisation, and relentless commitment. His contribution goes beyond results. He invests in athletes as individuals, giving them the tools to thrive on and off the course. Training sessions are purposeful, with feedback aimed at refining both physical and mental preparation. He has nurtured emerging talent while sustaining a supportive culture that encourages retention and progression.



Sgt Scott Glanville - Target Rifle

Sgt Scott Glanville has reshaped RAF Target Rifle during five years as Captain, combining leadership, administration, and competitive success. He revitalised introductory events, drew in new members, and created an environment that is competitive yet welcoming. His approach has broadened participation across ranks and sustained growth in the Association.

SPORTS TEAM

Nominees

This award recognises individual teams who have either had outstanding success over the past year or had sustained achievement over several years.



RAF Rugby League Men's XIII

The RAF Rugby League Men's XIII delivered an historic season in 2024–25, combining discipline, resilience, and skill to secure Inter-Service victory for the first time in over a decade. Their campaign was built on preparation, unity, and a commitment to playing expansive rugby that reflected both Service ethos and technical excellence. Beyond results, the squad inspired wider engagement with RAF Rugby League.



RAF Women's Basketball Team

The RAF Women's Basketball Team continued their dominance in 2025, securing a third consecutive Inter-Service title and confirming their place as the most successful RAF basketball side of the era. Their achievement reflects tactical clarity, resilience under pressure, and unity across a squad balancing elite competition with Service commitments.



RAF Men's Senior Cricket Team

The RAF Men's Senior Cricket Team delivered a landmark season in 2025, achieving a historic Inter-Service double by winning both red- and white-ball formats for the first time in two decades. Their campaign reflected tactical discipline, individual excellence, and collective resilience, setting a new benchmark for RAF cricket. The team's achievements have reinvigorated RAF cricket, inspiring wider participation across stations and attracting attention from the civilian game.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR

Nominees

This award recognises someone who has gone above and beyond in the delivery of sport at an administration level.



Sqn Ldr Joel Sweeney - Boxing

Sqn Ldr Joel Sweeney has transformed RAF Boxing during his tenure as Secretary of the Association, combining innovation with governance reform. He introduced a coherent media strategy that increased visibility, boosted engagement, and supported recruitment. He also expanded grassroots opportunities and created a structured talent pathway from novice to elite, ensuring the Association delivers both participation and performance. Joel's leadership extended beyond the ring, organising a Three Peaks Challenge for boxers and officials to raise money for charity. He has balanced innovation with tradition, delivering modernisation while preserving boxing's ethos of resilience and discipline.



Cpl Daniel McKay - Fencing

Cpl Daniel McKay has been pivotal in raising the standard and visibility of RAF Fencing, combining credibility as an official with leadership as a competitor. Initially appointed Head Referee, he quickly earned recognition on the civilian circuit, leading to invitations to referee major British Fencing events such as the Veterans International Cup. He has since been selected by UKAF to oversee refereeing across Service competitions. Alongside his officiating and administrative responsibilities, Daniel has also served as RAF Fencing Captain, combining technical expertise with leadership. His ability to fulfil multiple roles has been critical in sustaining the Association's momentum. He has also earned recognition from within the sport, receiving the John Warburn Trophy for promoting RAF Fencing externally.

CIVILIAN VOLUNTEER AWARD

Recipients

These awards recognise civilian volunteers who have dedicated their time to the delivery of RAF Sport from outside the service.



Mr David Smith - Rugby Union

David Smith has served RAF Rugby for 57 years as player, team manager, administrator, archivist, and advocate for welfare support. He began in 1968 as an apprentice at RAF Halton, captaining the 2nd XV, then represented multiple station sides across the UK, the Near and Far East, and RAF Germany, often taking committee roles and representing RAF Rugby at several levels.

On retirement in 2007 he became Honorary Secretary to the RAF Rugby Union Presidents' and Vice Presidents' Association. The organisation was in the doldrums; within a year he produced the first of his bi-annual newsletters, which re-kindled interest and engagement.



Mr Cameron Hazeldine - Ice Hockey

Cam Hazeldine has rebuilt the RAF Stars regional ice hockey team into a successful and welcoming club. As captain, head coach, and manager he has taken responsibility for training, fixtures, and administration, turning the Stars into a thriving side whose sessions at Telford Ice Rink are oversubscribed and praised for quality, pace, and enjoyment.

He leads from the front, running most training with clear structure and purpose. Players credit him with creating a culture that blends discipline with inclusion. He mentors future captains, develops inexperienced players, and builds confidence so progress rests on firm foundations rather than short-term results.

THE RAF CENTRAL FUND UNIT AWARD

Recipient

Recognising that RAF Sport encompasses all sport across the RAF from individual endeavours to Station sports clubs and events, the RAF Central Fund Unit Award acknowledges an inspiring initiative that encourages and enables serving personnel to get physically active.



RAF Gibraltar - Op GUSTO

Op GUSTO is a monthly initiative at RAF Gibraltar promoting sport, wellbeing, and team cohesion. It engages RAF personnel, civilians, and the wider Gibraltar community through inclusive events like hikes, boat races, and charity runs. The project has boosted morale, operational effectiveness, and civil-military relations. Its success showcases how purposeful physical activity fosters resilience, unity, and pride, offering a replicable model for other units.



Initially launched with small activities like hiking and pool volleyball, Op GUSTO quickly expanded to include high-profile events such as the cardboard boat race, Spin-a-thon, and Run the Runway, which attracted 400 participants and raised £5,000 for charity.



Op GUSTO has significantly boosted morale and operational effectiveness, evidenced by RAF Gibraltar's victory in the Commander British Forces Cup. The programme has enhanced the RAF's public image in Gibraltar and created a lasting culture of pride and unity. Future expansion aims to increase participation across all services and civilian staff.

HEAD OF RAF SPORT AWARD

Recipient

The Head of RAF Sport Award is a special award that may not fit into one of the other categories, or which may be worthy of separate recognition for a contribution or achievement within the wider sphere of RAF Sport. It is within the gift of the Head of RAF Sport alone.



RAF Marham Bulls and Lightning Ladies - Rugby Union

The RAF Marham Bulls and Lightning Ladies Rugby Union teams delivered an exceptional 2025 season, achieving results and growth that underline the strength of station sport. Both teams combined commitment, professionalism, and teamwork to represent the RAF with pride while balancing the demands of operational service.



The Bulls built momentum early in the season with strong performances in civilian leagues, before turning to Inter-Station competition. Their preparation was meticulous, with training sessions structured around duty schedules and focused on fitness, set-piece work, and team cohesion. This investment paid off in decisive victories against rival stations, culminating in a title-winning campaign that showcased resilience and skill.



The Lightning Ladies mirrored this success, growing in numbers and competitiveness. They welcomed newcomers while developing experienced players, building depth across positions. Their season was highlighted by victory in the Inter-Station Championship, where they defeated established teams through tactical clarity, composure, and unity. Their success reflected not only playing strength but also a culture of inclusion and development.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recipients

These awards recognise those who have made a major contribution to RAF Sport during their employment with or in support of the RAF.



Sqn Ldr Trevor Down - Swimming

Sqn Ldr Trevor Down has served the RAF Swimming Association for more than 40 years, a record unmatched in Service sport. Since 1985 he has represented the RAF in swimming, open water, and water polo, securing multiple Inter-Service titles. His open water feats include setting the RAF Channel swim record in 1992, still unbeaten, completing seven cross-Channel relays, and becoming the first British Serviceman to swim both the Channel and Manhattan Island.



Mr Richard Dawe - Sport Aircraft

Richard Dawe has devoted more than four decades to RAF recreational flying and Service air sports, combining skill, innovation, and dedication. After 37 years in uniform, he retired as Master Aircrew in 2013 but continued to lead within RAF Sport Aircraft. His impact on both aviation and sport is profound and lasting, making him a deserving recipient for Lifetime Achievement.



Gp Capt Dawn Murty - Netball

Gp Capt Dawn Murty has been at the heart of RAF and UKAF Netball for more than 20 years. Starting as a player, she represented at the highest level before moving into coaching, management, and ultimately Chair of RAF Netball. Her leadership has been pivotal in sustaining netball as the RAF's most popular women's sport while also promoting opportunities for men, strengthening participation across the Service.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recipients



Wg Cdr Joss Wilson - Cresta

Wg Cdr Joss Wilson has been the cornerstone of RAF Cresta for nearly two decades, giving time, energy, and personal sacrifice to build structure, inclusivity, and sustainability in one of the most demanding sports. He has represented the RAF in almost every Inter-Service competition since joining, missing only one due to overseas staff college. His skill is reflected in an exceptionally low fall rate on the St Moritz run, proof of control in a sport designed to unseat riders.



Chf Tech Ian Savage - Powerkiting

Chf Tech Ian Savage has been the foundation of RAF Powerkiting for 17 years, transforming it from a niche pursuit into a recognised, structured sport. His influence reaches beyond the water. He has shaped governance, assured compliance with national safety standards, and created pathways for novices to become coaches. By focusing on development as well as competition, he has given RAF personnel the opportunity to progress from first lessons to national standard.



WO Frank Chapman - Athletics

WO Frank Chapman has been central to RAF Athletics for more than 30 years, combining personal excellence with leadership, coaching, and mentoring. Beginning as a hurdler and decathlete, he represented the RAF across multiple events, contributing points and strengthening teams at every level. His versatility and organisational skill soon saw him moving into leadership, where he managed teams and supported younger athletes. Frank's career reflects loyalty, service, and dedication.



RAF SPORTS LOTTERY

THE VITAL LIFELINE FOR RAF SPORT

DID YOU KNOW? Your membership helps to provide the majority of the much needed funding for sport in the RAF.

Show your support by joining or increasing your tickets today. Now hold up to **6** tickets and still only **£1** per ticket!

www.rafcf.org.uk/sports-lottery



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PRIZE

£10,000

2ND
PRIZE

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3RD
PRIZE

£2,000

4TH
PRIZE

£1,000

5TH
PRIZE

£500

PLUS
15xPRIZES

£100

   **RAFCentralFund**

BeGambleAware.org

The RAF Sports Lottery operates as a society lottery within the Royal Air Force Central Fund and is licensed and regulated by the Gambling Commission (www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk). The Royal Air Force Central Fund is a company registered in England and Wales 8555984. Charity registered in England and Wales 1152560. Charity registered in Scotland SC044299.

WITH THANKS



Proud supporter of
the 2025 RAF Sport Awards drinks reception.



Proud supporter of
the 2025 RAF Sport Awards trophies.

We would like to thank all supporters of RAF Sport for their contribution in enabling RAF personnel to access sport and physical activity throughout 2025.

