

This guidance is designed to help you write a good nomination for the Tennis Scotland Awards 2025. There is no single way to write your nomination, and creativity is encouraged, but please read below before submitting. You will find top tips and examples of award-winning nominations.

### Top tips

- Use specific examples to illustrate how your nominee meets each of the criteria
- Explain what they have done to earn your nomination
- Describe as vividly and precisely as possible the difference the nominee's contribution has made. Whether you are nominating an individual or a club/venue think about the following:
  - How were things before they began?
  - How are they now?
  - What makes your nominee different from others doing the same thing?
- Show how the nominee has:
  - Contributed in a distinctive way to improve things for the benefit of others
  - Dedicated themselves to voluntary service and/or has made a significant impact in tennis
  - Shown innovation or creativity in delivering lasting results
- Show how your nominee has:
  - Earned the respect of their peers and become a role model
  - Produced sustained achievement through vision and hard work
- Try and avoid statements like “they've had a widespread effect” or “they're an excellent coach” without describing what they've done: describe what that effect has been and show why it has been important
- Include a clear, direct and specific statement of why the nominee deserves recognition
- Keep it simple – remember that longer doesn't necessarily mean better. When presenting your nominee, keep your explanations clear and to the point.

### Include nouns such as:

- Determination
- Drive
- Innovation
- Impact
- Ambassador
- Commitment
- Sustainability
- Creativity
- Respect
- Recognition
- Selflessness
- Performance

### Adjectives such as:

- Trusted
- Persuasive
- Resourceful
- Tenacious
- Dedicated
- Inspirational
- Passionate
- Enthusiastic
- Supportive
- Admired

### And phrases such as:

- Making a difference
- Going the extra mile
- Role model
- Overcoming obstacles
- Above and beyond

## Examples of award-winning nominations

### Lifetime Achievement

[Name] joined the club in [Year], and since then has taken on [xxx] role on the committee.

Before [Name], the club had around [XXX] members, but [Name] supported a project which saw the club double its membership. It now has [XXX] adult and junior teams, with an active club night and diverse coaching programme for all ages and abilities.

[Name] was the major driver behind securing a [£xxx] grant and gained loans and sponsorship to fund development. As a result, she leaves a legacy that means the club features floodlit courts and a sociable clubhouse.

A true advocate for getting the younger generation into tennis, she was responsible for starting up a coaching programme for local schools. This means primary school children can enjoy free coaching from qualified coaches. On top of this, she captains the ladies team.

### *Why is this a strong nomination?*

*This nominee has been volunteering over many years for the benefit of others. It's very clear that she is a key person at the club and the nomination also makes clear how many people have benefited from her work and the legacy she will leave behind.*

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### Volunteer of the Year

[Name] proved that where there's a will there's a way! Working closely with a small team of volunteers, the local council, schools, sponsors and businesses, [Name] coordinated fundraising initiatives for the whole community around [Club Name] to engage with.

[Name] also raised funds to deliver low-cost 'pay as you go' tennis. Thanks to a partnership established with [Tennis Club], the coaching sessions are priced at [£X] per person with all

equipment provided, resulting in new people taking up tennis. She has also liaised with the local press to drive awareness of the sessions so that more locals can get on court!

***Why is this a strong nomination?***

*This nominee has made a huge voluntary contribution over a 12-month period and has used her own initiative to do something that benefits a whole community and enables lots of people to play tennis.*

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**Coach of the Year**

[Name's] dedication to developing coach progression is unprecedented. Alongside his full-time role as head coach at [XXX], he set up and is now lead mentor for a coach development scheme which was designed to mentor young coaches through the start of their tennis career. He created and delivered a programme which benefits [Number] players each week.

Praised for his inclusivity, [Name] has had a great impact on grassroots tennis and, on top of this, has been recognised as one of the youngest coaches to become a qualified tutor.

***Why is this a strong nomination?***

*This nominee has gone above and beyond to develop a mentoring programme for young coaches. The numbers provided show the impact he has made at the grassroots level of the sport.*

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**Club of the Year**

After much hard work and incredible commitment from those around it, the [XX] court club has grown from [XX] members to a thriving total of over [XX] players and a weekly coaching programme for [XX] children. The driving force and inspiration for the club, [NAME] had a dream to build a tennis club that could service the whole community.

Over the past year they have delivered the following:

- Weekly lessons for primary schools
- A work experience programme for schools and colleges
- Regular competitive matchplay among members

They offer a weekly disability programme led by a coach every Thursday morning and the local council, sports centre and schools help to promote this. Their school partnerships and disability programme really helps raise the club's profile within the local community, and helps foster the community-feel that is at the heart of everything they do. The club and initiatives have allowed people to experience the sport over the past decade.

***Why is this a strong nomination?***

*This nominee has taken the initiative to do something to help the community. They identified a need and started something from scratch to make things better for others. The club has been very successful: the figures in the nomination make clear the level of the impact he has had.*

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### Competition of the Year

The tournament provides Grade [X] competitive tennis for Under 8s to Over 70s players on [X] courts.

Including coach education and events designed to promote participation and development, it has become a real Festival of Tennis.

Many players return year after year with their children and grandchildren to compete and there are entries from all parts of Britain.

### ***Why is this a strong nomination?***

*The nominee has created an event which caters to players of all ages and inspires return visits each year. As well as competitive action, it also uses the event as an opportunity to bring more people into the sport and improve coaching standards.*

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