

REQUEST FOR PRESS RELEASE

From: Willie Young	Dept: Community Services Tel. No: 4121	
Reason for release (<i>name of event, launch, occasion, etc.</i>): Sports Volunteer Awards 2009		
Date: Friday 5 th June 2009	Time: 1230hrs to 1500hrs	Venue: Council Chambers, Kilmory

Please return completed forms to:
aileen.maclennan@argyll-bute.gov.uk
cc lynda.syed@argyll-bute.gov.uk

REQUEST FOR PRESS RELEASE

Details of event *(please give as much information as possible):*

The third annual Sports Volunteer Awards take place as part of Volunteer Week on Friday 5th June 2009. The event is a partnership between the Volunteer Centre and Argyll and Bute Council and recognizes the valued work that volunteers contribute to community life in Argyll and Bute.

The Sports Volunteer Awards have three categories – Adult, Junior and Club/Organisation. Nominations have been received from across Argyll and Bute for people and sports organizations who have 'gone the extra mile' and made a positive contribution to their local or wider community.

Winners for 2009 are –

Sports Coach of the Year – Duncan Aitken for his contribution to the development of Rugby in his home club, Mid Argyll over the past 30 years as a player, coach and official. Duncan played a pivotal role in the Pathway Programme that has seen under 15 to under 18 youth players encouraged with extra coaching to the extent that they have enjoyed National success this year.

Sports Administrator of the Year – Fiona Irwin for her work with the Kintyre Jogscotland group 'Wee Toon Runners' which boasts over 100 regular joggers. Fiona's enthusiasm and bubbly character encourages others and has had the effect of persuading 12 others to become Jog leaders within the group.

Junior Volunteer of the Year – Katherine McNaughton for her contribution to the development of swimming on Islay. Katherine has been a volunteer helper at Islay and Jura Dolphins Swimming Club since the age of 14 and has gained teaching qualifications in swimming to help others. She regularly mentors younger swimmers and teaches for the local swimming pool. Katherine is involved in organizing and running competitions and is 'a role model' for both junior and senior members of the club.

Sports Club/Organisation of the Year – Oban Saints AFC runs teams in a wide number of age groups from under 8's to adults as well as veterans and ladies teams. The club have been awarded the SFA Quality Mark for their work and organization and are regularly held up as a model for others to follow. The club sets very high standards and this is reflected in the popularity of the club within the Oban and wider Argyll community where they draw their membership. The club also run very successful annual tournaments involving Premier League clubs as well as youth teams.

Area Sports Volunteer Awards 2009

The judges also decided the Area winners of Adult and Junior Sports Volunteer Awards and these will be presented at the August round of Council Area Committees. The winners were;

Bute and Cowal

Adult Sports Volunteer – Catriona Perlich, Tighnabruich for athletics, tennis and Active Schools

Junior Sports Volunteer – Craig Murray, Bute for football, primary schools and Active Schools

Helensburgh and Lomond

Adult Sports Volunteer – Sam Gemmill, Helensburgh for 20 years dedication to football administration

Junior Sports Volunteer – Natasha McLean, Helensburgh for help with out of school hours sports clubs

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay

Adult Sports Volunteer – George Bruce, Lochgilphead for 20 years service to Soccer Centre and great attitude

Junior Sports Volunteer – Katherine McNaughton, Islay for swimming coaching and mentoring

Oban, Lorn and the Islands

Adult Sports Volunteer – Murray Hamilton, Oban for boys/girls rugby teams and personal coaching achievements

Junior Sports Volunteer – Robert Alexander, Oban contributions to shinty and football coaching and teams.

The Sports Volunteer Awards are nominated by members of the public, sports organizations, Sports Development staff and Active Schools who value the contribution the winners and nominees have made to the development of sport in Argyll and Bute over the past year. Argyll and Bute has an estimated 24% of the population involved in sports volunteering, 10% higher than the rest of Scotland (SportsScotland Adult Participation in Sport, 2008).

Please return completed forms to:

aileen.maclennan@argyll-bute.gov.uk

cc lynda.syed@argyll-bute.gov.uk

REQUEST FOR PRESS RELEASE

Politician or other person to be quoted:

Douglas Philand, Spokesperson for Sport

Photograph to go with release?

Caption for photograph:

Notes:

Please return completed forms to:
aileen.maclennan@argyll-bute.gov.uk
cc lynda.syed@argyll-bute.gov.uk