

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Virtus Awards recognise outstanding achievement, service and contribution in sport for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
- 1.2. They will normally be held during the period of the General Assembly though may be held at an alternative time and date at the discretion of the Governing Board
- 1.3. This standing order sets out the procedures by which the Awards will be given including the identification of winners.

2. AWARDS CATEGORIES

- 2.1. Awards will be offered in the following categories:
 - 2.1.1. Best Male Athlete
 - 2.1.2. Best Female Athlete
 - 2.1.3. Best Team
 - 2.1.4. Unsung Hero (recognising the role of volunteers)
 - 2.1.5. Hall of Fame (recognising exceptional achievement)
- 2.2. Additional categories may only be added if agreed by a majority of the Governing Board
- 2.3. Awards may only be named after an individual when that person is deemed to have made an exceptional and long-standing impact on the organisation and sport for athletes with an intellectual impairment. Such applications will be considered by the Board and ratified by a motion to a General Assembly.
- 2.4. Award categories may include a sponsor name, where such a sponsor exists, in line with the Sponsorship policy.

3. NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS PANEL

- 3.1. Approximately six months before the Awards, Virtus will invite nominations providing the details for each award category, the means of submission and the deadline.
- 3.2. A judging panel will be arranged comprising three Board members and 2 co-opted members. Panel members will be expected to abstain if a category includes an athlete from their own nation or where they have any they conflict of interest.
- 3.3. Winners will remain confidential until such time as the award ceremony.

4. AWARDS CEREMONY

- 4.1. The format of the ceremony will be determined in consultation between Virtus and the organising committee and will be sympathetic to the budget available.
- 4.2. Award winners will be invited to attend the ceremony. Although Virtus will make every effort to subsidise the cost of this, it may not be possible to do this on all occasions or in full.