

Sports Colours Nominations FAQ & Tips

Q. Do I have to be a committee member or President to make nominations?

No, any full sport club member can submit nominations. However the best approach is for one person to submit a full and accurate nomination and this often sits best with a club committee member.

Q. Is it impressive to have more than one nomination for a club or individual?

It is **much** better to have one nomination that thoroughly addresses the criteria for an award than several that are of medium to poor quality.

Q. Can first year students qualify for Colours awards?

Yes. If they have only been a participating member for one year, provided they have gone above and beyond that expected of a regular member (e.g. taken on a committee position, dedicated participation at volunteering events, responsible for developments or innovations etc.) they would have contributed 1 years exemplary service, qualifying them for at least a Commendation.

Q. Can achievements and/or contributions by one student for/to more than one club count towards one award? Yes.

Q. Can students nominate themselves? Yes.

Q. If in doubt about the level of award a person qualifies for, what award should I nominate them for?

Nominate them for the highest award you think they could qualify for. If they do not meet the criteria for that award, the Colours panel will award them a lower award or no award.

Q. How many people can I nominate for an award?

There is no limit to the number of people or clubs you can nominate. However, be reminded that colours awards are for those who have gone above and beyond; this is not something that every member of your club will have achieved.

Q. Can I nominate people who are not in my club, or clubs that I am not a member of? Yes.

Q. I am exceeding the word limit in the comments box. Can I submit another nomination with more information?

No. The purpose of the word limit is to make nominations as succinct as possible. If you are reaching the word limit, consider the key points you wish to make and edit accordingly until you are within it.

Q. If a club is nominated for more than one award, will information be drawn from all the nominations?

No. The panel can only consider nominations on an award by award basis. So if a particular club is nominated for Volunteering Club of the Year and Friends Cup the panel have to consider the club's nominations for each award separately. This prevents clubs getting an advantage if they nominate themselves for more than one award (i.e. having 400 words contribute towards one award rather than the 200 limit per nomination).

Q. If an individual is nominated for more than one award, will information be drawn from all the nominations? A. Yes and No. Yes, when considering nominations for Commendation, Colours and Centenary Colours because individuals can only be awarded one tier of colours per year. No, for all other individual awards: Caps, Sports Personality of the Year, Sportsman, Sportswoman and Honorary Life Membership.

Nomination Examples

Commendation

Good nomination:

1st year dedicated - Attended almost all trainings and played all games - Attend many socials.

2nd year exemplary - Helped organise club's new charity fundraising event. Responsibilities included x, y, z.

Attends all trainings, games and socials.

(Panel would conclude: 1 year of exemplary service. Criteria has been met for a commendation).

Weak nomination:

- Worked really hard this season

- Top scorer, well liked and helped with events

(Panel has little idea of how long this person has been a member and whether they just turned up to events or was actually key in their organisation. Panel would conclude: 1 year of dedicated service, criteria not met for commendation).

Colours

Good nomination:

1st year exemplary - Attended almost all trainings, games and socials. - Attended 3 volunteering events - Took on Novice Captain committee position in 1st year they were a member. Made huge effort to meet needs of members and motivate others.

2nd year exemplary - Attended almost all trainings, games and socials. - Key motivator of other team members and highly respected - Went beyond that expected of a regular member: volunteered to coach team when appointed coach did not turn up twice. (Panel concludes: 2 years exemplary. Criteria for colours met.)

Weak nomination:

2 years exemplary service. - Club would not have done so well without them. - Plays games all the time. - Helped at charity events. (Panel concludes: 2 years exemplary only stated. No good supporting examples. Unclear when they helped at charity events. Unclear what role they had at charity events, may have just turned up. Can only conclude 1 years dedicated at best. Criteria not met for any colours awards).

Centenary

Good example: *1st year exemplary - Very dedicated to volunteering events: attended all 5. Had lots of enthusiasm. - Quickly become key player. Moved from 4th team to 2nd team in one year. - Attended all trainings without fail.*

2nd year exemplary - Treasurer: successfully attained £1000 sponsorship, continuing support from the same company as last year. - Makes themselves available for all 2nd team games. Turns up without fail to all training sessions.

3rd year exemplary - Captain: led team to successful season topping last year. 3rd in table up from 5th in table last season. - Organised entry into tournaments club has not previously played in, diversifying activities for members.

(Panel concludes: 3 years exemplary. Criteria for Centenary met).

Weak nomination: *Vice President: organised new alumni dinner event. Attracted 20 alumni and helped improve alumni-current club member relations. Played all 1st team games this season.*

Inspiring defender. Also organised new playing kit and hoodies for all team members (60+ members). - Coach: gained level 1 qualification over the summer and coached 3rd team this year. 3rd team improved standings in league tables to 2nd. Plays 1st team games when not coaching 3rd team.

(Panel concludes: 2 years exemplary. No mention of a 3rd year of exemplary service. Criteria meets that for colours, not centenary. Colours awarded).

Tips

- Do not assume the panel will know the meaning behind acronyms, terms specific to one or a few sports or the prestige of particular events and tournaments.
- Assume the panel do not know the first thing about the person or club you are nominating. A lot of the time they don't! Additionally, panel members and the supervising staff member cannot contribute information additional to that on the nomination as this would give certain clubs and individuals an advantage over others.
- Consider the criteria carefully. Address each of the requirements stated with bullet points.
- While addressing the criteria make it clear what year or for how long the club/individual did something.
- Check the Sports Roll of Honour from the previous year so that you don't nominate someone for colours they have already received.
- Mentioning volunteering or new developments by an individual for a club is a good way to push beyond dedicated service to exemplary service.
- If in doubt about the level of award an individual qualifies for, nominate them for a higher award.
- Include supportive examples of activities at each nomination and try to be specific in the details provided avoiding general comments.