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CLUB awards 2026

ENTRY GUIDE & ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

'The Oscars of the Club Industry'

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The Club Awards celebrate the people, passion, and pride that make UK clubs truly special.

For more than three decades, these Awards have remained the definitive celebration of the UK's club sector, recognising the spirit, dedication, and commitment that make clubs the beating heart of local communities, from awe-inspiring sports clubs to vibrant community hubs. The Club Awards shine a spotlight on the achievements and community spirit that define Clubland across the UK.

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TIMELINE

Entry
Deadline

FRIDAY
14th AUGUST

Judging
Completed

MONDAY
7th SEPTEMBER

Finalists
Announced

MONDAY
14th SEPTEMBER

Award & Gala
Dinner

2 Complimentary Tickets
for category finalists

WEDNESDAY
25th NOVEMBER

Press
Announcement

THURSDAY
26th NOVEMBER

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How to Enter

Check out the categories and the Judging Criteria. What makes your club stand out? Choose the best categories for your club and club people. Unsure? Just select 'Let the Judges Decide'.

STEP 1

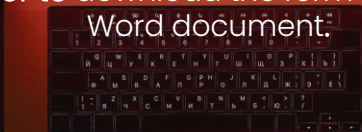
Getting Started

Check the entry form and choose the best categories for your club. Unsure? Select 'Let the Judges Decide' — and don't forget the **Individual Awards** celebrating true club spirit and dedication.

STEP 2

Entry Form

Make your entry stand out! Showcase what makes your club special. Include facts, links, quotes, or even a short video. Click here to enter online or to download the form as a Word document.



STEP 3

Sit Back!

We'll contact you if your club is **shortlisted**. The judges will then confirm your **Finalist categories** and invite you to the **Awards Gala Dinner** with two complimentary tickets.

Good luck!



NIGHT TO REMEMBER

From the drinks reception to the Gala dinner and from the trophies to the dance floor vibes, the club awards are where memories are made.

With a renowned after-show party, and a classic early-morning breakfast butty, this is the celebration of Clubland in its entirety.

This is a unique opportunity to meet and greet your fellow clubs from all-across the UK

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Last year's Club Awards was an amazing night out for our team, and the amount of brilliant and successful people in attendance is a real testament to the work and importance of all UK clubs and the central part they play in all of our communities.

The Oatlands

'Alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much'. This quote was by Helen Keller, and it's so true.

Christchurch Conservative Club

An exceptional event, recognising those who keep our Clubs alive.

RAFA Club

The Club Awards are a fantastic celebration of grassroots clubs and the volunteers who keep them going. They shine a well-deserved spotlight on the commitment, passion, and community spirit that makes clubs so important across the UK.

john.gamble6@btinternet.com

Real People. Real Passion. Real Pride.

A great tribute to people, to be able to thank them for all their hard work and to celebrate their value with such a big night out.

West Bridgeford Tennis Club

The Awards are a fantastic way to celebrate the hard work that we put in as a team and are really rewarding towards the end of each year.

Coombs Wood Sports & Social Club

A wonderful event that created a great buzz in our little sports club.

Basingstoke RFC

It is great to spend time with other Club leaders and network with people from around the country, it is great to see people's challenges are similar and learn from how they overcome them.

Warley Rugby Club

The Club Awards is a fantastic way of recognising and celebrating all that's good within clubs situated up and down the country.

Bondhay Golf Club

The Club Awards recognise all clubs, including Grass Roots Clubs like ours, where Stars of the Future get created.

Wednesbury Rugby Club

It's great to see clubs and people recognised at a national awards ceremony like this one.

Cowplain Social Club

The Awards are a great way to show how your club works for the community.

Sheerness East Working Men's Club

The buzz the Club Awards sent through the club was fantastic for staff and members, and especially the dedicated members of the committee.

Denbigh Hall Sports & Social Club

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BAR MANAGER/STEWARD OF THE YEAR

Celebrating the heart behind the bar. Recognising those who deliver an efficient, lively, and welcoming bar experience that keeps members returning time and again. Excellence in service, drinks knowledge, and innovative promotions will also be celebrated.

BOWLS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Applauding Bowls Clubs that live and breathe the sport — inspiring all ages to get involved, investing in their facilities, and keeping the bowls community thriving. A vibrant programme, true teamwork, and a warm welcome make all the difference.

BEST BUSINESS INITIATIVE

Recognising clubs with forward-thinking strategies that embrace fresh ideas and creative thinking, introducing initiatives that boost membership, improve experiences, and help build club business.

CAMRA CLUB OF THE YEAR

In association with Club Mirror

Recognising clubs that showcase an outstanding commitment to cask ale — through excellent cellarmanship and training, a diverse range of guest ales, and a passion for promoting real ale to members and guests alike.

Please note: This award runs to a separate schedule, with regional CAMRA representatives putting regional winners through to the final rounds.

MEET THE JUDGES

CATERING CLUB OF THE YEAR

Honouring clubs that provide the perfect dining experience tailored to their members, from everyday favourites and hearty fare to fine dining. This award celebrates clubs that serve up the tried and tested taste, service, and value to deliver meals members love.

CHARITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

One of the toughest categories for our judges. Clubs without exception make a huge difference through tireless fundraising support. This Award recognises clubs that put charity as a priority, from helping distressed members to fundraising for good causes.

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CIU CLUB OF THE YEAR

Honouring clubs that treasure their past while building their future — the true spirit of the CIU. Recognising clubs that uphold the core community values of the CIU while also driving towards a secure and thriving future.

COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR

Behind every great club is a great committee. This category celebrates teams who work together, make smart decisions, and keep their clubs thriving for generations to come. Exceptional teamwork, forward thinking, and dedication.

COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Honouring clubs that serve as the heart of their communities, creating a welcoming space for everyone and connecting people of all ages and backgrounds. Because strong communities start right here.

COMMUNITY HEROES

Presented to selfless club people who make a genuine difference in their local communities. This award honours individuals whose kindness, dedication, and community spirit go far beyond the call of duty — the true unsung heroes of club life.

CRICKET CLUB OF THE YEAR

From the first ball to the final over, celebrating cricket clubs that go the extra mile. Applauding clubs that show true passion for cricket and their community, fostering participation, investing in facilities, and creating opportunities.

DARTS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Recognising clubs that champion the sport of darts. From junior throwers to lifelong players, growing the game, nurturing talent, and building community spirit one bullseye at a time.

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ENTERTAINMENT CLUB OF THE YEAR

Honouring clubs that keep members entertained through creative, high-quality events — from live music and comedy nights to family fun days and social activities.

FAMILY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Celebrating clubs that create a true family atmosphere, welcoming all ages and providing events, activities, and facilities that bring generations together.

FOOTBALL CLUB OF THE YEAR

Recognising clubs that live and breathe football, building inclusive, welcoming communities on and off the pitch through passion, teamwork, and dedication.

GOLF CLUB OF THE YEAR

Celebrating clubs that blend tradition with innovation, offering great facilities, vibrant membership programmes, and a welcoming atmosphere. Excellence both on and off the course.

LONG SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD

Honouring long-standing dedication, loyalty, and service to their club, this award applauds those whose commitment and passion continue to inspire others.

MANAGER/SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Leading with purpose and passion, this award recognises those who inspire teams, grow membership, and keep their clubs at the heart of the community.

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REFURBISHMENT AWARD

Celebrating clubs that continue to reinvest in their future, creating fresh, welcoming spaces for members to enjoy for years to come, balancing comfort, quality, and welcoming spaces.

RUGBY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Celebrating the clubs that give it their all, building the rugby spirit through teamwork, passion, and pride. From grassroots to glory, recognising clubs that embody the true heart of rugby.

SOCIAL MEDIA CLUB OF THE YEAR

Recognising the use of social media to effectively to engage members, promote activities, and showcase the spirit of their club community.

SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB OF THE YEAR

Celebrating clubs that bring people together through both sport and social connection. From match days to social nights, finalists in this category know how to keep everyone involved, on and off the field.

SPORTS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Recognising clubs that provide outstanding facilities and programmes catering for all ages and abilities. This award celebrates those that promote active participation, strong teamwork, and community engagement.

TENNIS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Serving up excellence, this award celebrates clubs that keep the courts buzzing – inspiring players of every age, growing membership, and creating a fun, welcoming community for all.

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TURNAROUND CLUB OF THE YEAR

This award celebrates clubs that have turned challenges into success stories, proving what's possible with teamwork, vision, and community spirit – change, growth, and determination.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD

The heartbeat of every great club, recognising volunteers who give their time, energy, and love to make a difference. This award is a thank you to those who go above and beyond, time and time again.

WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

Recognising clubs that use their online presence to engage members, promote events, and showcase the spirit of their community.

YOUNG AMBASSADOR AWARD

The future of club life is bright. Celebrating young individuals who bring fresh ideas, boundless energy, and a true passion for keeping club culture alive and thriving. (Age: 16 -30).

100 CLUB

Celebrating clubs that have reached their incredible century milestone – 100 years and beyond. Becoming a member of the 100 Club honours heritage, dedication, and the enduring spirit of clubs that continue to bring generations together.

KING OF CLUBS

The Ultimate Accolade. Honouring clubs that exemplify excellence, dedication, and the true spirit of “going the extra mile” for their members and the communities they serve. This prestigious award recognises those clubs whose passion and commitment inspire others and strengthen the very heart of club life. All entrants are automatically considered for this distinguished honour.

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Sean Belton
CMD
NEC, CIU



James Blacklee
Technical
Director, Studio44



Nathan Clarke
NEC, CIU



Mandy Crockford
NEC, CIU



Glenn Doyle
NEC, CIU



Kevin Edwards
CMD ACM
NEC, CIU



Mark Fergusson
CMD ACM
NEC, CIU



Sean Ferris
Managing Director,
Club Mirror



Geoff Fisher
NEC, CIU



David Foster
Designer, KitMag



Stephen Foster
CMD ACM
NEC, CIU



Kenneth D Green
CMD ACM
General Secretary, CIU

Our panel of friendly judges are looking forward to your entry With extensive knowledge and expertise across their respective fields, they honour the finest in UK Clubland, from the smallest social club to awe-inspiring sports clubs, showcasing what truly sets clubs apart

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Phil Gregg
Clubs Coordinator,
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Consultant, Club Mirror



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CMD
NEC CIU

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Club Awards 2026

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ENTRY DEADLINE

14th August, 2026

READY TO ENTER?

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GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU FROM
OUR CLUB-SUPPORTING PARTNERS!

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WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Enquiries/Tickets

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Sponsorships/Club suppliers

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General Event Information

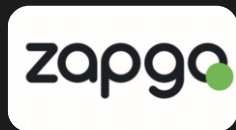
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