

Leeds Gryphon Colours Awards 2026

Awards Criteria



Nominations are open to all Sport, Dance, Martial Arts and Outdoor clubs who receive Gryphon funding. Any non-Gryphon club is not eligible to apply for these awards. If you are not sure if you are eligible please email studentgroups@luu.ac.uk.

Please see each section below for more information on the awards.

The nomination form for all awards can be found [here](#) and below each award criteria.

- [Club Colours](#)
- [Full Colours](#)
- [The Gryphon Award](#)
- [White Rose Award](#)
- [Gryphon Leadership Award](#)
- [Mike Brook Award for Most Improved Team](#)
- [Chris Hatton Award for Most Improved Athlete](#)
- [Most Improved Club](#)
- [Mike Brook Award for Performance Coach of the Year](#)
- [Susan Jacklin Award for Club Coach of the Year](#)
- [Social Leagues Team of the Year](#)
- [James Burke Team of the Year Award](#)
- [Roberts Award for Most Outstanding Athlete](#)
- [The Inclusion Award](#)
- [Committee Member of the Year](#)
- [Club of the Year Award](#)

Club Colours (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet **one** of the following criteria:

- Non-committee member who has gone above and beyond for their Club(s) **off the field**

- Committee Member who has gone above and beyond, **exceeding** the requirements of their elected role within the Club(s).

[Nominate someone for a Club Colour](#)

Full Colours (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet **one** of the following criteria:

- National Level representation (1st Team Squad) E.g. Leeds Rugby, Yorkshire Cricket etc.
Must also represent the University.
- International Student Squad Selection E.g. English Universities
- 2+ Years in BUCS 1st Team playing at Tier 1 or above
- BUCS Individual Bronze, Silver or Gold
- Achieved a placing considered exceptional depending on the merits of the event e.g. Marathon
- Selection to International Training Squad

[Nominate someone for a full colour](#)

The Gryphon Award (250 words max)

The Gryphon award rewards those student-athletes who have achieved outstanding sporting performance whilst at the University.

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet **one** of the following criteria:

- Full International Selection (must also represent the University)
- Individual National Champion (if non-BUCS)

Unsuccessful nominees for this award will be considered for Full Colours.

[Nominate someone for the Gryphon Award](#)

White Rose Award (250 words max)

The White Rose Award rewards those who have made an exceptional contribution to Leeds Sport during their time at the University which includes Charity, Fundraising, Inclusion & Engagement.

This is awarded to committee members/institution staff only.

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet the following criteria:

- Nominees will have provided exceptional contribution to Leeds Sport in a **non playing capacity** during their time at the University, excelling in one of the following categories:
 - Charity
 - Fundraising
 - Inclusion
 - Engagement

Unsuccessful nominees for this award will be considered for Club Colours.

[Nominate someone for the White Rose Award](#)

Gryphon Leadership Award (250 words max)

This award celebrates the students who volunteer, coach, officiate and lead a number of key Leeds Sport programmes. Many of these programmes give our student body access to high quality sport and physical activity experiences at a range of different levels. They also provide a range of opportunities for the wider Leeds and international community to become physically active.

Eligible students are those that are members of the following Leeds Sport programmes:

- Coaching Scholars
- Netball Umpires Academy
- Social Sport Activators
- Gryphons in the Community
- Gryphons into Schools
- Coach Parker
- Get Out Get Active Volunteering
- Strength and Conditioning Internship
- Leeds Sport Content Creator
- Lifestyle and Wellbeing Support Volunteer
- Gryphons Abroad

Nominees must demonstrate the impact they have had on the individuals and groups they have worked with as well as the development they have shown through the roles they have undertaken. Individuals outside of these programmes will also be considered if their volunteering can be seen to have had a positive impact on University sport.

[Nominate someone for the Gryphon Leadership Award](#)

Mike Brook Award for Most Improved Team (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the team must meet **one** of the following criteria:

- Team (not Club) which has shown significant improvement in performance comparative to the previous season.

[Nominate for the Mike Brook Award for Most Improved Team](#)

Chris Hatton Award for Most Improved Athlete (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet the following criteria:

- Nominees will have had limited or no experience of their new chosen sport before arriving at the University

- Nominees will have excelled into a 1st Team Player/achieved an Individual Event placing

[Nominate someone for the Chris Hatton Award for Most Improved Athlete](#)

Most Improved Club (250 words max)

This award rewards a Club who has made significant improvements to benefit the overall experience of its members comparative to the previous year.

To qualify for this award, the club must give evidence of improvements made and the impact this has had on its members. Examples include:

- Club development; increasing membership numbers and managing this accordingly, ensuring the sustainability of the club e.g. financial security and professionalising processes
- Social; inclusivity, accessibility, culture and reputation, increased events and activities and support for members
- Engagement; with Leeds sport, the community, charity, alumni, GIAG, other clubs etc.

[Nominate for Most Improved Club](#)

Mike Brook Award for Performance Coach of the Year (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the coach will be assessed on the following criteria:

- How their influence has added positively to the playing performance of the club

[Nominate someone for the Mike Brook Award for Performance Coach of the Year](#)

Susan Jacklin Award for Club Coach of the Year (250 words max)

This award is open to all coaches including student coaches. To qualify for this award, the coach will be assessed on the following criteria:

- How their influence has added positively to the overall experience of club members
- How they have supported clubs members in a non-playing capacity e.g. provided welfare support, nutritional information or personal development

[Nominate someone for the Susan Jacklin Award for Club Coach of the Year](#)

Social Leagues Team of the Year (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the team must give evidence of the following:

- Strong, dedicated captain who has led by example
- Consistently conducted themselves appropriately on and off the pitch/court (Followed league rules, conducted memberships/team checks, meeting financial deadlines, respected officials, sportsmanship)
- Commitment

- Anything above and beyond e.g. additional fixtures or events, socials, taken part in relevant training or courses

[Nominate for Social Leagues Team of the Year](#)

James Burke Team of the Year Award (250 words max)

To qualify for this award, the team must meet the following criteria:

- The team must have excelled in their sport at the University and become one of the top performing teams in the country

[Nominate for James Burke Team of the Year](#)

Roberts Award for Most Outstanding Athlete (250 words max)

Previous winners include the Brownlee brothers and more recent winners include Max Burgin from Athletics, who broke the European U20 800m record.

To qualify for this award, the nominee must meet one of the following criteria:

- Full International Selection and Representation
- One of the top Individual Performers in the country for their sport

[Nominate someone for the Roberts Award for Most Outstanding Athlete](#)

The Inclusion Award (250 words max)

This award will reward clubs who have made a particular effort to remove barriers to inclusion throughout the year.

Nominees must demonstrate the following:

- Show how you promote inclusivity into your regular activities
- Show how you engaged students above and beyond the core membership of your group
- Show how you created an environment that was safe and inclusive to all, particularly liberation categories.

Strands of liberation include: race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or nationality.

[Nominate for the Inclusion Award](#)

Committee Member of the Year (1000 words max)

This award rewards an elected committee member who has made a **significant improvement** in the running, organisation and development of their club and has gone above and beyond, exceeding the requirements of their elected role within the club(s).

To qualify for this award, the nominee must have introduced something new which has significantly improved the club, or made significant developments to something that already exists, in at least one of the following categories:

- **Management & Administration** – introduced or developed areas such as governance, health & safety, memberships and processes e.g. finance and communication
- **Performance** - significantly developed or introduced ways to improve player recruitment and retention, coaching infrastructure, on pitch success and player development and pathways
- **Club Development & Sustainability** – introduced or significantly developed income generation/sponsorship and financial sustainability, empowered members and enabled personal development, wider promotions and advertising e.g website and social media
- **Social** – significantly developed or introduced new ways to improve inclusiveness, accessibility, culture and reputation within the club. Has created or developed events, activities and offered support for members
- **Engagement** – key representative for the club, ensuring the club has been engaged and well represented within Leeds sport, LUU, the community, charity, alumni, GIAG, other societies etc.

[Nominate someone for Committee Member of the Year](#)

Club of the Year Award (1000 words max)

This award is open to all clubs who can demonstrate that they provided an exceptional experience for its members and have developed their club in a positive way.

The club must give evidence of how they have excelled in areas such as:

- **Management & Administration** - including committee roles & responsibilities, governance, health & safety, memberships, professionalising processes e.g. financial and communication
- **Performance** - player recruitment and retention, coaching infrastructure, on pitch success and player development and pathways
- **Club Development & Sustainability** - income generation/sponsorship and financial sustainability, wider promotions and advertising e.g website and social media, and empowering members and enabling personal development
- **Social** - Inclusiveness, Accessibility, Culture and Reputation. Events and activities and support for members
- **Engagement** - with Leeds sport, the community, charity, alumni, GIAG, other clubs etc.

Additional supporting documents/evidence are welcome e.g. club development plans.

We invite clubs to submit a video nomination (maximum 2 minutes long) evidencing why they should be considered for this award. Please send these submissions to studentgroups@luu.ac.uk along with a written supporting statement.

[Nominate for Club of the Year](#)