



Sport BC Congratulates the Finalists and Winners Announced at the 58th Athlete of the Year Awards

Sport BC celebrated the 58th Annual Athlete of the Year Awards on Thursday, March 5, 2026. The event was hosted by CBC's Scott Russell, recognizing the province's best in amateur sport including athletes, coaches, teams, and officials for outstanding performances in their 2025 sport season.

"Congratulations to all the finalists of the 2025 Athlete of the Year Awards. This is the moment we celebrate your positive contribution to sport and community," says Anne Kang, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. "Your commitment inspires those around you and demonstrates the importance of sport in bringing people together to build a stronger, more inclusive future for everyone."

"The 58th Annual Athlete of the Year Awards celebrated sport in BC at all levels. We were inspired by the sport stories of all our finalists, winners, and the organizations they represent", shared Sport BC's President and CEO, Rob Newman. "We are proud to bring the amateur sport community together and thank our guests, sponsors, and friends in sport. I would like to personally thank the Province of B.C. and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport for being the lead supporter of the event."

Sport BC congratulates all the Athlete of the Year Awards' Recipients:

I-SPARC Female Athlete of the Year
Shalaya Valenzuela - Rugby

I-SPARC Male Athlete of the Year
Fynn McCarthy - Volleyball

Female Athlete with a Disability
Elise Froese - Wheelchair Basketball

Female Coach of the Year
Hilary Stellingwerff - Cross Country

Male Coach of the Year
Carlo Basso - Soccer



Male Athlete with a Disability
Thomas Venos – Wheelchair Tennis

High School Female Athlete of the Year
Adrianna Buitelaar – Athletics

High School Male Athlete of the Year
Elijah Black – Football

Junior Female Athlete of the Year
Elly Hoskin – Cycling - Mountain Bike

Junior Male Athlete of the Year
Praise Aniamaka – Athletics

Senior Female Athlete of the Year
Sophie de Goede – Rugby

Senior Male Athlete of the Year
Jackson Goldstone – Cycling - Mountain Bike (Downhill)

Youth Male Athlete of the Year
Lowan Le Bris – Judo

Youth Female Athlete of the Year
Lily Stroda – Athletics

Team of the Year
Duchess Park Sr Boys Volleyball

Masters Athlete of the Year
Shelly Stouffer – Golf

Official of the Year
Grace Barlow – Ice Hockey

Additional awards were presented including the Best of BC, Harry Jerome Comeback, Daryl Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award, Bobbie Steen, and two In Her Footsteps Honourees.



Best of BC

Vancouver Rise FC

Harry Jerome Comeback Award

Larissa Franklin – Softball

Daryl Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award

Terrie Moore – Multi-Sport/ SportAbility

BC Women and Sport Recognition Awards

- In Her Footsteps...Celebrating BC Women in Sport

Cathy Astofooroff - Snowboard

Savanna Smith – Lacrosse

- Bobbie Steen Legacy Foundation Award
Teagan Johnstone – Multi Sport

Thank you to our generous sponsors, your support made the 58th Annual Athlete of the Year Awards possible.



About Sport BC

Sport BC believes in the power of sport and is committed to building stronger communities through positive sport experiences. Our goal is to enhance and support sport participation in British Columbia ensuring



everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Through our KidSport BC, BC Amateur Sport Fund, and BC Women & Sport along with our services Sport BC Insurance, and Payroll and Group Benefits; Sport BC supports our sixty plus member organizations. Keep up to date @SportBC

Athlete of the Year Awards

Thursday, March 5, 2026

@SportBC

#SportBC58thAOY

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