

University of Canterbury Blues Awards Criteria

Background

Since 1913 the University of Canterbury Students' Association has been recognising and awarding students who excel in their chosen sport. Boxing, Tennis, Rugby, Mountain Biking, Lifesaving, Hockey, Netball, Triathlon, Volleyball, Cycling and Orienteering are only some of the sports that are eligible for University of Canterbury Blues. Blues are awarded for achieving a high level of sporting and academic standards and as such are named after the traditional sporting competitions between two original 'Blues', Oxford and Cambridge.

In 2017, the UCSA in association with the University of Canterbury (UC) developed the traditional sports focused UC Blues event into an all-round awards night celebrating a broader scope of student success. The event now consists of Sports, Community Engagement and the Arts categories.

The Award of Blues

These standards provide a guide to the Blues Committee, club committees and individuals as to the level of achievement required for recognition.

Section A: Eligibility

To be eligible for a University of Canterbury Blues Award, students must;

- Be enrolled at or have graduated from the University of Canterbury during the 2016 academic year.
- Be a competing and active member of their UCSA affiliated club.
- Have paid required University fees.

In addition students must have *passed at least one third of a full-time course* at University.

Section B: Composition of the Blues Committee

There shall be three sub-committees of the University of Canterbury Students' Association. Their names and composition are as follows:

The University of Canterbury Students' Association Sports Blues Committee shall comprise of;

- An Events Coordinator of the University of Canterbury Students' Association.
- At least two UC Sport management staff.
- Past students of the University of Canterbury who shall be selected for their overall knowledge of sport.
- Two representatives to be elected by affiliated clubs.

The University of Canterbury Students' Association Arts Blues Committee shall comprise of;

- An Events Coordinator of the University of Canterbury Students' Association.
- UCSA Events and Communications Team Lead or delegate
- At least two UC College of Arts management staff.
- External industry representative
- One representative to be elected by the UCSA Events Coordinator.

The University of Canterbury Students' Association Community Blues Committee shall comprise of;

- An Events Coordinator of the University of Canterbury Students' Association.
- UCSA Advocacy and Welfare Manager or delegate
- The Director of the UC Community Engagement Hub or delegate
- The Director of UC Student Success or delegate
- Representative from the Canterbury District Police Force
- Representative from the Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Community Board

The Committee is to follow the associated rules and regulations

- Include both genders.
- Should a vacancy occur on the Blues Committee by resignation or otherwise, the Executive shall appoint a suitable person from the appropriate category to fill such a vacancy.
- The Events Coordinator shall be Chair of the Blues Committee.
- Quorum shall be five members of whom at least the Events Coordinator and one University of Canterbury staff member are present.
- If any member of the Committee is under consideration for a Blue they shall withdraw from the meeting while the nomination is being considered and voted on.
- Members of the Committee shall declare whether they are members of any club which has forwarded a Blues nomination.
- The deliberations on the awarding of Blues shall be in camera. No others shall be present while applications are being considered, and the release of the minutes of the deliberation (or any part thereof) is at the discretion of the Committee.
- The Blues Committee shall be appointed by the University of Canterbury Students' Association Events Coordinator.

The functions of the Blues Committee shall be:

1. To consider and vote upon each nominee submitted to it.
2. To call upon representatives of Clubs to supply any information that the Committee may desire to reach its decision; such representatives to be possessed of the fullest possible facts concerning their sport and its particular nominee(s).
3. To consult the standards set down when reaching their decisions.
4. To consider any other persons, to consult any other information or anything else considered necessary in the award of Blues.

The Committee shall meet once annually within 14 days of the date of close of nominations.

Section C: Nominations to Blues Committee

1. Nominations must be made in writing on the prescribed form with all sections completed. Electronic copies will be accepted.
2. Anyone may nominate a person for a Blue. Individuals are able to nominate themselves.
3. Nominations must be made before or on the close of nominations date. Nominations made after such date will not be considered by the Blues committee.
4. All nominations must include an action or profile picture of the nominee sent via email.
5. Should the Blues Committee consider that insufficient information is available; the nomination shall be referred back to the nominator. In the event of the lack of further information, the nomination shall lapse.

Section D: Approval of Sporting Blues

1. To achieve a Blue students must have demonstrated a level or standard of sporting achievement that the Blues Panel identify as being appropriate, see guidelines for individual sports.
2. Blues may be awarded for sports not included in the appendices, and athletes will be considered on their individual merits.
3. The Blues committee's decision is final.

The following will be taken into consideration;

- Sportsmanship and general character and conduct of the nominee alongside the enthusiasm, interest and involvement for the sport in a University context.
- The general standard of each sport at the University that year and the number of Blues awarded for that particular sport in the past.
- Neither representation of the University at a New Zealand Universities Tournament nor the award of Blues in previous years shall in itself mean the automatic award of a University of Canterbury Blue.
- The Committee will consider adequate reasons (injury, illness, absence from Christchurch etc.) when considering requirements.
- For sports that do not immediately fit the standards of achievement, the current Blues Panel can determine the equivalent standard.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue by the Blues Panel.
- Sports will be considered as defined by Sport New Zealand.

- Representation of a University of Canterbury club within the chosen discipline.

Section E: Approval of Community Engagement Blues

1. To achieve a Blue students must have demonstrated a level or standard of service that the Blues Panel identify as being appropriate.
2. All nominees will be considered on their individual merits.
3. The Blues committee's decision is final.

The following will be taken into consideration;

- How the student has demonstrated a significant contribution to their community- either at a local, regional, national or international level.
- The value and benefit of their contributions at these levels
- Demonstrate leadership and initiative in setting direction, supporting others and bringing about change.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue by the Blues Panel.
- Nominees who have previously received a Blues Award will have to demonstrate they have improved on their previous achievement or contribution to be considered for another Blues Award.
- Club and Student Association executives are not normally expected to receive a Blue for their contribution in such roles. Blues will only be awarded to club and student association executives in exceptional circumstances and will require clear and strong evidence that they have achieved at a very high level and well beyond the normal requirements of the role.

Section F: Approval of Arts Blues

1. To achieve a Blue students must have achieved external success in their chosen field which may include (but is not limited to) dance, dramatic and cultural performance, artworks, architecture, design, film or media, writing, music, song, debating or oration.
2. Blues in Arts are awarded for achievements at an international or national level.
3. All Nominees will be considered on their individual merits.
4. The Blues committee's decision is final.

The following will be taken into consideration;

- General character and conduct of the nominee alongside the enthusiasm, interest and involvement in their selected field in a University context.

- The general standard of the Arts at the University that year and the number of Blues awarded in the past.
- Nominees who have previously received a Blues Award will have to demonstrate they have improved on their previous achievement or contribution to be considered for another Blues Award.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue by the Blues Panel.

Section G: Appeals

1. Any person may appeal in writing to the Blues Committee against a person or persons not being recommended for a Blue. Such an appeal shall be in the form of a nomination accompanied by any new supporting evidence as to the qualifications of the individual(s) and shall be signed by the members of the committee concerned.

Section H: General

1. Records shall be kept by the University of Canterbury Students' Association. A record of the name of the recipient and the sport in which the award is made shall be entered.
2. In the case of any contingencies arising that are not provided for in these regulations the Blues Committee shall have full power to decide until such time as the regulations may be amended to cover such contingencies.
3. Should any person who has been awarded a Blue commit an act, which may bring discredit to the University, or the University of Canterbury Students' Association, or belittle the honour of the Award, the Blues Committee may revoke the award.

Sports Awards

To achieve a Blue, students must have demonstrated a level or standard of achievement that the Blues Panel identify as being appropriate, please see below for individual sport guidelines.

The following is a list of guidelines to be used by the University of Canterbury Blues Panel as a guide for awarding University of Canterbury Blues Awards.

- These standards should also be used to guide club committees in nominating members for Blues.
- Reaching these standards does not automatically ensure the recommendation of a Blue and the committee reserves its right to judge each application on its merits. The committee's decision will be final.
- Athletes who have achieved in sports that are not included in this list will be considered on their individual merits.
- Representing New Zealand at World University Games will also be taken into consideration.

AFL

Athletes must have been:

- a. Selected as a member of a Senior Provincial Representative team.
- b. Selected in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Athletics

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Within the first 5 places for senior men, or 5 places for senior women, or 3 places for junior men and women;
- b. In the NZ Cross Country, Mountain Running or Road Running championships; within the first 5 places for senior men and women, or 3 places for junior men and women, in any NZ Track and Field Championship event;
- c. Attain selection in a NZ team chosen by Athletics New Zealand.

Badminton

Athletes must have been:

- a. Selected as a member of a Senior Provincial Representative team.
- b. Selected in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Basketball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a National League Team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand Senior Team;
- c. Selection in Junior Tall Blacks or Junior Tall Ferns.

BMX

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. National Champs (Elite 20, U19, U20 and Elite Cruiser and U19 Cruiser (Elite 20 should be given higher precedence).

Bowls

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a provincial representative team; or
- b. Selection to represent New Zealand (age group or senior);
- c. Top 3 at the national championships.

Boxing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Ranked in the top 3 in New Zealand in their class; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior)

Canoe Polo

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Canoe/ Kayaking

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Chess

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Competitive Aerobics

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the GymSports New Zealand National Championships;
- b. Selected by GymSports NZ to represent New Zealand in an International event.

Cricket

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Croquet

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection for International Competition in the following:
 - i. MacRobertson Shield Test Series (four yearly)
 - ii. Trans Tasman Open Test (two yearly)
 - iii. World Croquet Championship (two yearly)
- b. To have had significant results (won) any of the following events:
 - i. NZCC Open Championship
 - ii. NZCC Invitation
 - iii. Premier Silver Badge events
 - iv. NZCC Men's & Women's Championship
 - v. North & South Island Championships
 - vi. Gold & Silver Mallets
 - vii. English Silver & Bronze Medals

Cycling

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

Road

- a. A top 3 placing in Elite U19 or top 5 placing in Elite U23 or Senior
- a. Club National Champs (Senior Men & Women, U23 Men, U19 Men & Women)

Track

- a. Selection for National Championships (Elite grade, age groups starting from U19);
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Debating

A debater must achieve, in the same year, at least two of the following:

- a. Finalist Officers Cup, Bledisloe Medal or Beattie Cup;
- b. Finalist Joint Scroll, NZU Prepared Debating Tournament;
- c. Finalist at NZ BP Championships;
- d. Finalist at Australian Women's and/or making top 10 individuals speakers at Australs;
- e. Breaking team at Worlds and/or place in the top 10% of individual speakers at Worlds;
- f. Member of NZU Impromptu Team (not reserves);
- g. Member of NZU Prepared Team (not reserves);
- h. Member of NZ Debating Team;
- i. Finalist NZ Prepared Debating Tournament;
- j. Finalist NZ Impromptu Debating Tournament

Equestrian

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative to compete in an international event (age group or senior).

Fencing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top 3 at the New Zealand Championships;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team to compete in an international event.

Football

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a National League team; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Golf

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team at a national event (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Hockey

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Ice Hockey

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Judo, Karate & Kickboxing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected to represent New Zealand at an international event; or
- b. Finalist at National Champs.

Mountain Biking

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top 5 in National Championships (XC Elite Men & Women, U23 Men & Women); or
- b. Top 10 men or Top 5 women at Downhill Nationals (Elite Class); or
- c. Top 20 at an Enduro World Series (EWS) event; or
- d. Selection in the New Zealand team to represent at World Champs

Multisport

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 5 placing in a recognised elite Multi Sport event;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior)

Netball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team;
- b. A member of an ANZ Championship team; or
- c. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior)

Orienteering

Athletes must have gained:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team to compete in an international event;
- b. Top 3 NZ Open Championships (long and short course);
- c. Top 30 senior at World Championships;
- d. Top 25 junior at World Championships.

Rowing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior).

Rugby League

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Rugby Union

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the provincial senior representative team (Men's or Women's);
- b. A member of a Super rugby franchise team (senior); or
- c. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Rugby Sevens

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. A member of a provincial open grade representative team; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Shooting

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Skating

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand team to compete in an International event.

Snow Sports

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 5 placing in the National Championships;
- b. Competed for New Zealand in an International event.

Softball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of the regional senior representative team (men's or women's); or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Squash

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A1 or high A2 ranking;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group or senior).

Surf Lifesaving

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top Three at New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships;
- b. Top two at the SLSNZ Swim Championships;
- c. Member of the Surf Life Saving New Zealand High Performance Squad; or
- d. Recognised Overseas Performance.

Surfing

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Top Three at New Zealand Surf Championships;
- b. Recognised Overseas Performance.

Swimming

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Medal at a pinnacle event (Olympic Games, World Champs, and Commonwealth Games);
- b. Finalist at a pinnacle event;
- c. Team selection at a pinnacle event;
- d. Medal at a major international event (World Short-course Champs, World Uni Games, Pan-Pacific Champs;
- e. Finalist at a major international event;
- f. Team selection at a major international event;
- g. Medal at NZ Open or Summer SC Champs

Table Tennis

Athletes must have achieved the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in the National Championships; or
- b. Selection for a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Taekwon-do

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection for a NZ team to either a World or International Taekwondo Federation (WTF) (ITF) competition;
- b. Achieve a top four placing at a WTF/ITF competition; or
- c. WTF/ITF Athlete Ranking.

Tennis

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A ranking in the top 10 seniors for New Zealand
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team.

Touch Rugby

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A member of a provincial open grade representative team; or
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior).

Triathlon & Duathlon

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 5 placing in a recognised elite Multi Sport event;
- b. Attain selection in a NZ U23 elite or reserve at World Championships.

Ultimate

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selected in a New Zealand team (senior).

Volleyball / Beach Volleyball

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (senior); or
- b. Top 3 New Zealand ranking.

Waterpolo

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior)

Yachting (inc. Board Sailing)

Athletes must have achieved at least one of the following:

- a. A top 3 placing in a National Championship event;
- b. Selection in a New Zealand representative team (age group, development or senior);
or
- c. A top 5 New Zealand ranking in their class

Sportsperson of the Year

The most prestigious sports award presented is the Sportsperson of the Year. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have performed outstandingly at their sport during the year in question.

Also taken into consideration is the following;

- Shown willingness to assist in University Club activities during the season, and have contributed toward the development of the club (e.g.) coaching, administration, leadership or other ways; and
- Have shown enthusiasm and diligence at all times, both in competition and training.

Outstanding Contribution to University Sport

The Criteria will be based on:

- Length of service to University/Tertiary sports development (although not essential).
- Positions he or she has held within the UCSA Club and during which years (executive, administrator, coach, official, event manager etc.).
- How the nominee has influenced;
 - Club Growth – membership and volunteer numbers, financial situation and capital acquisitions.
 - Club Development – competitive successes, activities at the university and within the Christchurch community, business relationships and sponsorships, and organisational improvements.
- Qualifications achieved on both Coaching and Administration.
- Other circumstances, such as personal contribution to student sport above and beyond duty.

The award recipient need not be a student, but has contributed to student sport.

Team of the year

Celebrating an outstanding performance by a team in the year passed. Criteria will be based on the following;

- Any University of Canterbury, UCSA affiliated sports club can be nominated
- Team must consist of 2 or more members
- Achievements and level of competition will be assessed

Coach of the year

Coach of the year is awarded to the coach who has inspired athletes to achieve outstanding results in the year passed.

- This person must be coaching a University of Canterbury, UCSA affiliated sports club.
- Coaching qualifications, achievements and level of competition will be taken into consideration.
- What team and /or individual they coach.

Being nominated for this award still qualifies the candidate for Outstanding Contribution to University Sport.

Official of the year

Referee/umpire/judge who has had the greatest contribution to their chosen sport in the year passed.

- This person must be a current University of Canterbury student. Level of officiating, and qualifications will be taken into account.

Being nominated for this award still qualifies the candidate for Outstanding Contribution to University Sport.

Community Engagement Awards

Outstanding Achievement in Community Engagement

The most prestigious Community award presented is the Outstanding Achievement in Community Engagement Award. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have attained an outstanding level of achievement during the year in question.

The Criteria will be based on:

- How the student has demonstrated a significant contribution to their community, either at a local, regional, national or international level.
- The value and benefit of their contributions at these levels.
- How responsive the nominee's contribution is to existing community needs.
- How sustainable is the nominees project or projects and can it meet the needs of the community long into the future
- Other circumstances, such as what has the nominee been prepared to give up in order to contribute to Community Engagement

Outstanding Contribution to the Canterbury Community

The Outstanding Contribution to the Canterbury Community Award recognises a student's contribution in improving any area or aspect of the local community by offering support to a disadvantaged group or by volunteering with a community project (for example, fundraising, a new volunteering initiative or activities that educate or train other volunteers).

Outstanding Contribution to Sustainability

The Outstanding Contribution to Sustainability Award is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel has gone above and beyond to bring about sustainability change, either at a local, regional, national or international level.

Arts Awards

Outstanding Achievement in the Arts

The most prestigious Arts award presented is the Outstanding Achievement in the Arts Award. It is awarded to the student or students who in the opinion of the panel have performed outstandingly in the field of Arts during the year in question.

Successful nominees will have achieved external success in their chosen field which may include (but is not limited to) dance, dramatic and cultural performance, artworks, architecture, design, film or media, writing, music, song, debating or oration. Students have shown diligence and commitment in their area.

Blues in Arts are awarded for achievements at an international or national level.

Recognised Sports

AFL	Mountain Biking
Athletics	Netball
Badminton	Orienteering
Basketball	Rowing
BMX	Rugby League
Bowls	Rugby Union
Boxing	Rugby Sevens
Canoe Polo	Shooting
Chess	Skating
Competitive Aerobics	Snow Sports
Cricket	Softball
Croquet	Squash
Cycling	Surf Lifesaving
Debating	Surfing
Equestrian	Swimming
Fencing	Table Tennis
Football	Taekwon-do
Futsal	Tennis
Golf	Touch Rugby
Hockey	Triathlon & Duathlon
Ice Hockey	Ultimate Frisbee
Judo	Volleyball
Karate	Waterpolo
Kickboxing	Yachting
Motorsport	