The Start Playing Stay Playing Excellence Awards aim to acknowledge achievements in the sport and active recreation industry including individuals, groups or organisations going above and beyond to increase and enhance sport and active recreation opportunities for women and girls in Queensland.

There are three award categories:

**INCLUSION, INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION**

The winner of each category will be considered for the overall Minister’s Start Playing Stay Playing Excellence Award.

**Who can be nominated?**

Organisations and individuals can be nominated under any of the three awards categories, except for:

- professional athletes (e.g. national league teams) and/or Queensland Academy of Sport athletes for athletic achievements; or
- Australian Government and Queensland Government entities however, staff within these entities can be nominated.

**Are all initiatives or achievements eligible for nomination?**

Nominated initiatives or achievements should be ongoing or completed within the last two years of the closing date, and must be for initiatives or achievements that are beyond the nominee’s core/everyday business. Athletic achievements by professional athletes are ineligible.

Initiatives delivered outside of Queensland state boundaries are not eligible for nomination.

**Criteria**

Nominations should clearly demonstrate how initiatives, individuals, teams or organisations have delivered specific outcomes, including evidence of increasing or enhancing women and girls participation. All nominations must address the relevant category criteria set out in the right column.

**Inclusion**

To recognise individuals, groups or organisations that have gone above and beyond to include female participants who experience barriers to participation such as access, socio-economic, disability or other such barriers.

Nominations in this category must demonstrate how the organisation, group or individual has successfully delivered an initiative or tailored existing service delivery to actively break down barriers to participation and have increased or enhanced participation for the female participants in need.

**Innovation**

To recognise individuals, groups or organisations that have implemented a new and innovative initiative to increase or enhance women and girls’ participation.

Nominations in this category must demonstrate how the organisation, group or individual has successfully developed a new and creative method or initiative that encourages or enhances women and girls’ participation, for example through technology, promotion and/or programing.

**Inspiration**

To recognise individuals or teams and/or groups who have achieved a significant goal (not limited to athletic achievement). This may include achievements by women who work or volunteer in the sport and recreation industry.

The 2018 Inspiration category will be dedicated solely to the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to celebrate the 2018 NAIDOC Week theme “Because of her, we can!” which celebrates the invaluable contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made and continue to make to our community.

Nominations in this category must demonstrate how an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individual, team or group has achieved a significant goal/achievement that is inspirational for women and girls, in a sport or active recreation context.
How to enter?
Visit www.qld.gov.au/spsp and complete an online entry form. Forms are also available to download for postal submissions.

Select the appropriate award category nomination form and answer the category-specific questions. A nomination can only be entered under one category. Should multiple nominations be received for an initiative or achievement, the nominations will be considered as one nomination in the assessment process.

Individuals cannot nominate themselves and an individual cannot be nominated by an immediate family member. An organisation or an employee of an organisation can, however, nominate their own organisation.

Examples
• Sue Smith cannot nominate herself for her sporting achievements in the Inspiration category. However, someone who was inspired by Sue’s achievements (provided they are not an immediate family member) can nominate Sue for an award.
• John Smith, who is President of the local cricket club, can nominate the club for an award.

Do I need references or consent forms?
If you are submitting a nomination for an organisation or individual, a consent form signed by the nominee (delegate of the organisation or the individual) will need to be attached to the nomination form. The consent form can be downloaded from www.qld.gov.au/spsp.

Two written references, including contact details for verification, must be provided as part of the nomination. Immediate family members of an individual nominee cannot be a referee.

Please note that information and photos provided, including the nomination form, will not be returned.

What is the reward?
Each category winner will receive an award and $1,000 prize money to support their initiative and/or ongoing commitment to getting women and girls active for life.

The winner of the annual Minister’s Start Playing Stay Playing Excellence Award will receive an additional $2,000 prize money.

How will my nomination be assessed?
Nominations for each award category will be assessed comparatively and on merit by a judging panel. The references and photos will contribute to the assessment.

More information
If you have any queries about the program, please contact:
Start Playing Stay Playing Excellence Awards Team
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Key dates
• Nominations Open: 10 July 2018
• Nominations Close: 6 August 2018
• Winners announced: September/October 2018