



# 2024 LETR COUNCIL ATHLETE AWARD

## *Nomination Pack*

## HINTS AND TIPS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE NOMINATION

Each year, the Selection Committee receives a number of nominations of Special Olympics athletes to be considered for the LETR International Executive Council Award.

It is unlikely that members of the Selection Committee know or have had extensive interactions with your nominee and you should not assume that to be the case. The nominations are judged primarily on the content of the Nomination Form along with any References supplied.

It is therefore extremely important that every effort is made in the Nomination Form to address the selection criteria and highlight the nominee's strengths and accomplishments.

### GENERAL ADVICE

- Be specific about accomplishments – talk about results and the level of contribution that the nominee had in achieving those results.
- Highlight roles and positions held by the nominee – this can include roles within the LETR movement, Special Olympics movement or other community based organisations.
- The question and answer panels in the nomination form have been created as tables – do not think that you are limited to the size of the box – keep typing - the table will expand automatically. If you have two or three good examples, include them.
- Read the question and respond to it – try and stay focussed on what is being asked for.
- Use the final question (any information you believe the selection committee should know about the nominee) to close the deal – summarise the nominee's achievements – reinforce the strongest examples – tell the selection committee why YOUR NOMINEE should be one of the three to receive an award.

*1. How many years has the nominee been involved with Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run?*

There is no need to over the top here – but spell out how long the nominee has been involved with both movements

*2. Provide detailed examples that demonstrate the nominee's contributions made at the local, state, provincial and/or community level with the Law Enforcement Torch Run.*

The nominee has long held a respect for the Law Enforcement community and through Special Olympics has been able to connect two things very important to him. He was the top athlete fundraiser for [event name] for the nine years it was held in [location]. He has worked closely with his local Law Enforcement agency to promote and celebrate the partnership between Special Olympics, law enforcement and the community by speaking regularly over the past five years at civic and community events.

He recently spoke to the [state] Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police on what Special Olympics does for him, and how the Law Enforcement community continues to make a difference to Special Olympics athletes everywhere. His presentation was impactful and well received, primarily because it was obvious to those in attendance that he believed in and understood the benefits of this relationship.

*3. How has the nominee assisted in the recruitment of officers and fellow athletes and what have they done to raise awareness and funds for the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Please be specific and highlight activities, positions held, and accomplishments supported by examples as necessary.*

The nominee has a gift of connecting with people. Because of her dad's position at the [location] Sheriff's Department, the nominee grew up in a law enforcement family. For the past four years, the nominee has been the athlete ambassador to the LETR state committee – this has been a natural fit for her.

In addition to meeting with new police departments, she has made a point to connect with other Law Enforcement families who have a child with a disability and may be eligible to compete in Special Olympics. For example, the nominee and her family attend many Torch Run events where they meet new families who are just getting involved with their local Special Olympics program. She has taken the opportunity to get new families and athletes involved in the program, and also connect the Law Enforcement family member to the Torch Run program. This builds an even deeper connection between Special Olympics and the Torch Run.

*4. List any other information you believe the selection committee should know about the nominee.*

Summarise what you have said in response to questions 2 and 3

Reinforce the key points

Close with a strong statement of support for the nominee