



## GAUTENG PROVINCE

SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### STATEMENT

To: All Media

Attention: News and Sport Editors

Date: 01 September 2021

#### **The Gauteng Sport Awards make a welcome return for 2020/21**

Sport personality of the Year; Sports Woman of the Year; Disabled Sport Team of the Year; and Sport Journalist of the Year are just but some of 19 categories announced in the upcoming Gauteng Sport Awards scheduled for later in October this year.

The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the prestigious awards was launched earlier on SABC's Sport @ 10 programme, officially opening the 16-day nomination period.

Starting today, 01 September until 17 September 2021, Gauteng public and sporting bodies can nominate Gauteng based top performing athletes, teams and officials in the 19 categories. Nominees can only be nominated for their performance or achievement during the period between 01 August 2020 and 05 September 2021.

Nominees who make it through into the list of finalists will be announced by the beginning of October with the main event scheduled for later in 31 October 2021.

The 19 categories announced include the most admired being the Sport Personality of The Year which will be decided by public SMS vote. The Lifetime Achievement Award will be decided by the MEC. This year also sees the inclusion of a new 'Online Category' for programmes implemented through online platforms as necessitated by the existing Covid-19 environment.

Says MEC Mbali Hlophe; "We are opening up the nomination process to the people of Gauteng to identify the province's top sporting talent which has lived up to our ambition as the 'Home of Champions'. With many athletes based in Gauteng, the awards make a welcome return as an important feature in the sporting calendar of our province.

“They (awards) look at the performance of athletes in both domestic and international platforms. Despite the general disappointment with the Olympics, we have however seen excellence by others in international stages including the ongoing Paralympics and the recent World Under 20 athletic Championships. We have also seen more of this in individual and team sport including in Wheelchair tennis, Cycling; Motorsport, Women’s cricket; and many others in various sport including football”, says MEC Hlophe.

With the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic having affected the implementation of normal sport programme, adjudicators and administrators will have work cut out for them to find Gauteng’s top talent amid the ongoing volatile environment which has also seen fans being closed out from the action.

The independent adjudication panel consists of experienced individuals within sport, media and academia.

The awards are organised by the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation supported by the provincial Gauteng Sport Confederation.

### **The Categories:**

- Sport Personality of the Year
- Sportsman of the Year
- Sportswoman of the Year
- Sports Team of the Year
- Disabled Sportswoman of the Year
- Disabled Sportsman of the Year
- Disabled Sport Team of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Most Promising athlete of the Year
- Technical Official of Year
- Sport Federation of the Year
- Administrator of the Year
- Amayanga-yanga athlete of the year
- Sport Fan of the Year
- Community based Sport and Recreation programme of the year
- Online sport or recreation programme implemented (include e-gaming) (new)
- Community Sport media of the Year
- Sports Journalist of the year (This includes print media, radio and television)
- Life Time Achievement Award (chosen by MEC)

**Ends//**

**Issued by the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation.**

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