



# ACTIVE DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS

## Nomination Process

Programme Partner



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## About us

Active Disability Ireland believe that people with disabilities should have an equal opportunity to be active for life. We are committed to helping build a more inclusive society where collectively we can help to empower, encourage and support people with disabilities to be more active with whom they want, when they want, and where they want.

Over the past 19 years we have committed to supporting national policy and building an inclusive infrastructure across the sport sector. We are proud of the impact we, along with our partners, have made, but we know there is still much more that needs to be done to achieve our refreshed vision of:

**Creating an Ireland where people with disabilities have equal opportunities to be active.**

### Awards Overview

- Date: Wednesday June the 24th
- Location: Athlone Springs hotel
- Time of event: 12:00-14:30 (registration & refreshments from 11:15am)

**Topic:** Leading by Example

## The purpose of the awards

The Active Disability Service Awards is a coming together and celebration of the positive work conducted by disability services throughout Ireland. True inclusion and access to physical activity and wellbeing is not optional — it demands courage to challenge old norms, commitment to influence leaders and clubs, and a shift from access to genuine belonging.

The active disability service awards recognises those individuals and services who have shown leadership, commitment and courage to challenge the norm. The awards aim to champion the innovative physical activity, health promotion and community inclusion initiatives that have arisen from the service engaging with our 'Active Healthy Me' programme.

Our ceremony will highlight and discuss the importance of physical activity & sport participation, health promotion and community inclusion for people with disabilities in alignment with the HSE 'New directions policy' and Active Disability Ireland's vision of 'an Ireland where people with disabilities have equal opportunities to be active.'



This slightly later date than previous years allows us the opportunity to launch our webinar series encompassing our theme of “leading by example” which champions best practice, highlights past achievements, inspires others, build confidence and guide as many day services as possible to apply through sharing of stories and the development of a community of best practice.

## Nomination process

**Opening date for submission** Monday, 02.03.2026

**Closing date for submission** Friday, 01.05.2026 at 17:00

**Finalist notification (shortlist)** Monday, 25.05.2026

**Award Ceremony** Wednesday, 24.06.2026

# Categories

## Initiative Categories

Award Category	Description
Best Physical Activity Initiative	This award recognises the successful delivery and impact of an outstanding initiative that encourages physical activity and active healthy lifestyles for service users.
Best Outdoor Activity Initiative	This award recognises the successful delivery and impact of an outstanding outdoor activity initiative that encourages physical activity and active healthy lifestyles for service users.
Best Community Engagement Initiative	This award recognises an outstanding initiative that is delivered in collaboration between a disability service and local sports partnership/local community club. It recognises the connection between the service and the community and the impact on enhancing opportunities for service users to be active and healthy.
Best Healthy Lifestyle Initiative	This award recognises an outstanding initiative that was developed in response to the teachings in Active Healthy Me around healthy eating and hydration.

# Categories

## People Categories

Award Category	Description
Active Champion (Male)	This award recognises an outstanding service user who regularly participates in physical activity and inspires others to live a healthy lifestyle
Active Champion (Female)	This award recognises an outstanding service user who regularly participates in physical activity and inspires others to live a healthy lifestyle
Best Active Healthy Me Leader	This award recognises an outstanding staff member who showed commitment to deliver Active Healthy Me and to encourage physical activity and active healthy lifestyles for their service users during & after the programme.
Best Disability Organisation Senior Management	This award recognises a management team that shows leadership, innovation and commitment to enhancing the health and wellbeing of their service users. Healthy lifestyle choices are embedded into the culture of the organisation and is reflected in operational planning and policy making.

## Eligibility Criteria

- HSE funded disability service.
- Enrolled in the Active Healthy Me programme with at least one completed module.
- Deliver physical activity, health promotion and community inclusion initiatives.





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