

## **Awards celebrate volunteering, coaching and young sporting success**

The achievements of Millfield's Brodie Williams were celebrated on Friday 19 October 2018 at the Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership annual awards held at The Cooper Associates Cricket Ground, Taunton. More than 160 people of all ages and abilities attended the awards ceremony, organised by [Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership](#) (SASP) to highlight the achievements and successes of inspirational volunteers, outstanding coaches, talented athletes and high quality and friendly clubs from across the County. Jane Knowles, SASP CEO, gave a warm welcome to proceedings before introducing Ben McGrail, West Country Correspondent for ITV, who by popular demand, was the host for the evening.

TS5C sponsored swimmer Brodie Williams became the British Senior 200m Backstroke Champion at the British Swimming Championships 2018 in Edinburgh in 02:00.29.

This year saw over 80 entries for Somerset awards across 12 categories, all of which highlighted the fantastic achievement in the County promoting sports and activity development. Jane Knowles said; 'as a County Sports Partnership it is important to recognise the tireless efforts of those involved in sport and activity. Volunteers are the backbone of community sport and without them sport cannot function. Great coaches not only support athletes to realise their potential but help to create an important lifelong love of sport and physical activity'.

Winners on the evening included Dawn Self, Sally Lukins, Jodene Hall and Rhianne Cooper from Somerset Striders Running Club who won the Get Somerset Award. They have created a supportive community that people feel proud to be a part of, one with no judgements, a welcoming atmosphere and which makes getting active fun, without any pressure. The club says, "We seem to have the knack of making our runners challenge themselves. From not being able to run for 30 seconds to completing a marathon, we literally get Sedgemoor Striding!"

The Sports Performer of the Year Award went to Sam Cobb (age 15) who has been busy on a world stage at events under the Modern Pentathlon umbrella including Triathle, Biathle and Laser Run. Last year Sam competed at the UK National Championships, the European Championships and the World Championships – medalling everywhere and helping GB to secure many gold medals in the process. Sam is also a county runner for Somerset both in athletics and cross country and is a very successful rider and member of a local Pony Club, as well as being a member of the U15 England Performance hockey squad.

The winners of the Somerset Activity & Sport Awards 2018 are:

Young Coach of the Year - Curtis Bradley of Huish Tigers Football Club

Children's Coach of the Year (sponsored by Taunton School) - Hannah Hughes of Taunton Deane Cricket Club

Participation Coach of the Year - Stuart Disney of Mendip Golf Club

Young Volunteer of the Year (sponsored by Albert Goodman) - Abbi Rose Wheaton of Chard Hockey Club

Club Volunteer of the Year - Lorraine Warren of Staplegrove Cricket Club

Club of the Year (sponsored by the Rotary Club of Taunton Vale) - Ilminster Bowling & Tennis Club

Get Somerset Active (sponsored by Sedgemoor Lifeline) - Dawn Self, Sally Lukins, Jodene Hall and Rhianne Cooper of Sedgemoor Striders

Contribution to School or College Sport (sponsored by Richard Huish College) - Tatworth Primary School

Active Workplace (sponsored by The Terrace) - Jodie Williamson of Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust









This Girl Can (sponsored by King's College) - Maria Nichols from Bridgwater YMCA

Sports Performer of the Year (sponsored by Bridgwater & Taunton College (Team BTC) - Sam Cobb GB Pentathlon

TS5C Young Sports Person of the Year Winners - Brodie Williams, Corey Walkes, Jessica Cooksey and Joe Nelson

SASP would like to congratulate all its winners, the people who were shortlisted and all nominees, as well as its many sponsors for supporting this event. If you would like any further information on supporting the 2019 Somerset Activity and Sports Awards, please contact Laura Carter on [enquiries@sasp.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sasp.co.uk) / 01823 653990.

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