

Coastguard Awards of Excellence

About the Coastguard Awards of Excellence

The Coastguard Awards of Excellence are an annual celebration of outstanding achievement by Coastguard volunteers across the many roles they undertake in serving both their community and the organisation at whole.

The awards are aspirational, providing an opportunity for acknowledgement at a Regional and National level as well as amongst peers. The awards recognise and applaud successful candidates as role models who exemplify the Coastguard values of respect, altruism, integrity, dedication, professionalism and co-operation.

Successful candidates are included in internal and external communications and their achievements represent the huge efforts, commitment and exemplary work of Coastguard throughout New Zealand.

Structure

1. Regional Awards

Coastguard regions seek nominations for the awards from their member units and volunteers and hold regional awards consistent with the national award categories and criteria. The awards celebrate the achievements of all nominees and the regional award ceremonies are usually held in conjunction with the regional annual general meetings.

Nominations for regional awards can be made by:

- I. Unit boards or committees
- II. Any current individual Coastguard volunteer or staff member

Ideally the unit board or committee should endorse a nominee from their unit but this is not essential.

Regions can provide assistance to units and volunteers to complete the relevant nomination forms.

Regional Managers will set a deadline for these nominations.

2. National Awards

Regional award winners in each category automatically go forward as regional nominees for the national awards which are presented at an awards presentation to coincide with the Coastguard New Zealand AGM.

Nominations for national awards are made by:

- I. Regional Manager or Regional Board

Coastguard New Zealand will set a deadline for these nominations, approximately a month prior to the Coastguard Conference.

Please note: Winners of the National Awards may be put forward as nominations for the New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR) Awards held in May each year.

Nominations

Nomination forms are attached and are also downloadable from

<http://web.coastguard.co.nz/coastguardorgnz-a17qm/pages/dc000326885be711940e00155d13e305.html>

Each nomination will be judged using the evidence provided in the nomination form so please include as much detail as possible so that the nomination can be judged fairly.

Timeframe

The awards will be presented for activity that takes place within the Coastguard financial year 1 July to 30 June.

Judging

Judging panels will have a minimum of three people at both Regional and National level appointed by respective boards with members of the panel drawn from the following backgrounds;

- i. Coastguard operational volunteers
- ii. Coastguard SAR partners
- iii. Other related third parties i.e. sponsors, suppliers etc.

Coastguard staff will support the judging panel, and may invite the panel to present awards at the relevant ceremony.

The judges will evaluate each nomination using the judging form to score the nominee using the evidence provided in the nomination form against each of the award criteria. The winner will be the nominee with the most points allocated by all judges.

Judges are asked to make comment on the relative merits of the winner in each category.

Award Categories and Criteria

Coastguard Community Relations Activity of the Year

The Coastguard Community Relations Activity of the Year award commends excellence in the areas of public relations, fundraising or community engagement activity by an individual or group.

Considerations for Selection

- How the activity showcases Coastguard's values and mission.
- How the activity is new to the unit, community and/or Coastguard.
- How the activity has benefited the community and Coastguard.
- The activity's objective(s) and measured achievement(s).
- The sustainability of the activity to ensure its continued success and contribution to the unit.
- What has been learnt from the activity and subsequent changes made.
- Documentation of the activity for future use and sharing with other Coastguard units.
- Who the activity targeted and the percentage received of the target group?
- The involvement of any other party.

Coastguard Unit Support Volunteer of the Year

The Coastguard Unit Support Volunteer of the Year award acknowledges excellence in supporting roles within units and regions such as board or committee roles, shore crew, training officers, secretaries and other non-operational volunteers.

Considerations for Selection

- The nominee is a current volunteer of Coastguard as evidenced by training and volunteer hours.
- Evidence of other roles at unit, regional or national level in relation to: care of equipment, infrastructure; or contribution to the skills development of other volunteers through training, mentoring, coaching; or participation in fundraising, public relations or public education activities.
- How the volunteer exemplifies the Coastguard values of respect, integrity, professionalism, altruism, dedication, co-operation in their contribution to Coastguard.
- How the volunteer contributes to the safety and wellbeing of fellow volunteers.
- An example of an incident, project or activity where the volunteer's contribution played a key result in the outcome.
- How the volunteer exemplifies team work and builds positive relationships with their peers.

Any other contributions that support the nomination.

Coastguard Communications and Incident Management Volunteer of the Year

The Coastguard Communications and Incident Management Volunteer of the Year award acknowledges excellence in the performance and commitment of Radio Operators and volunteers working in incident management or roles that support Search and Rescue and Coastguard operations.

Considerations for Selection

- Nominees are current volunteers of Coastguard as evidenced by training and volunteer hours.
- Holds a current Coastguard communications or incident management qualification.
- Evidence of other roles at unit, regional or national level in relation to: care of equipment, infrastructure; or contribution to the skills development of other volunteers through training, mentoring, coaching; or participation in fundraising, public relations or public education activities.
- How the volunteer exemplifies the Coastguard values of respect, integrity, professionalism, altruism, dedication, co-operation in their contribution to Coastguard.
- How the volunteer contributes to the safety and wellbeing of fellow volunteers.
- An example of an incident, project or activity where the volunteer's contribution played a key result in the outcome.
- How the volunteer exemplifies team work and builds positive relationships with their peers.
- Any other contributions that support the nomination.

Coastguard Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year

The Coastguard Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year award commends a volunteer crew member of a rescue vessel who exemplifies the commitment, skills and dedication required to contribute to the successful operation of a rescue vessel.

Considerations for Selection

- The Volunteer is a current crew member as evidenced by operational and training hours for the past twelve months.
- Holds a current Industry Specific Certificate (ISC), Operational Certificate or higher.
- Evidence of participation in training activities in the past twelve months towards the achievement of ISC or other qualification or skills maintenance activities e.g. MOSS safety drills.
- Evidence of other roles at a unit, regional or national level in relation to: care of vessel, equipment, infrastructure; or contribution to the skills development of other volunteers through training, mentoring, coaching; or participation in fundraising, public relations or public education activities.
- How the volunteer exemplifies the Coastguard values of respect, integrity, professionalism, altruism, dedication, co-operation in their contribution to Coastguard.
- How the volunteer contributes to the safety and wellbeing of fellow volunteers.
- An example of an incident, project or activity where the volunteer's contribution played a key result in the outcome.
- How the volunteer exemplifies team work and builds positive relationships with their peers.
- Any other contributions that support the nomination.

Coastguard Rescue of the Year

The Coastguard Rescue of the Year award commends a rescue crew who have undertaken a search and rescue (SAR) or Coastguard operation that exemplifies the purpose of Coastguard.

A rescue crew includes the vessel and/or aircraft crew as well as the incident management and communications team members involved in the operation.

Considerations for Selection

- Nominees are current volunteers with Coastguard.
- Rescue crew is made up of volunteers who have completed at minimum an Industry Specific Certificate (ISC), Operational Certificate or equivalent for Air Patrol, Incident Management Team or Communications
- The rescue showed the use of risk evaluation and management.
- Search area determination and search technique execution.
- Collaboration between IMT and vessel/aircraft crews and/or SAR partners.
- Evidence of debrief and identification of learning for future improvement of performance.
- Evidence of crew resource management by the Master or others.
- Evidence of communication between the vessel/aircraft and IMT.
- Evidence of care for victims, bodies, and/or people rescued.
- Evidence of forward planning for next search area, relief crew or other considerations for next operational period(s).

Coastguard Unit of the Year

The Coastguard Unit of the Year award commends a Coastguard unit that has achieved excellence in all aspects of its management and operational activities.

Considerations for Selection

The nomination should include evidence of the following

- A management structure and it's achievements for the year
- Forward planning for the future development of the unit in line with overarching Coastguard strategy and the achievement of Coastguard's mission to save lives at sea.
- The development of policy or procedures, the implementation and maintenance of such.
- Good financial management and oversight of such.
- Care for the wellbeing of volunteers and their families.
- Commitment to the health and safety of volunteers, risk identification and mitigation, management.
- Effective delivery of training to volunteers.
- Promotion of Coastguard to the community/community engagement.
- Effective and efficient response to SAR and Coastguard operations.
- Public relations/Media exposure.
- Promotion of boating safety and education.
- Links to SAR partners and other relevant organisations.
- Meeting legal or other requirements such as Charities Register, publication of annual report.
- Relationships with fellow units.
- Contribution at Regional level.
- Evidence of succession planning within the unit.

Coastguard Volunteer of the Year

The Coastguard Volunteer of the Year is the supreme Coastguard award and commends an individual who has demonstrated the upmost in excellence in their commitment to the work they do in Coastguard.

The Volunteer of the Year is evaluated through the judging of the individual volunteer categories that cover each area of expertise at both regional and national level.

Considerations for selection:

- Nominees have made an outstanding contribution in their sphere of involvement with Coastguard to our organisation and their community.
- Their actions consistently show a level of commitment to Coastguard, its mission and values
- Respected by their peers and show leadership