

## 2025 SP Sports Awards Officially Launched

Port Moresby

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

South Pacific Brewery in partnership with the PNG Olympic Committee (PNGOC) and PNG Sports Foundation (PNGSF) is pleased to announce that the 2025 SP Sports Awards was officially launched today (Tuesday 25th February) in Port Moresby.

This year's SP Sports Awards, now entering its 33rd edition, will feature 13 categories under the theme, "Legends of Sports: 50 Years of Excellence and Inspiration".

The awards will honour and celebrate Papua New Guinea's outstanding athletes for their achievements in both international and domestic competitions throughout 2024, and also recognize individuals who made a significant impact in their communities through sports last year.

SP Brewery Corporate Affairs Manager John Nilkare highlighted the nomination process and the increase in nominations in 2024.

"The online nomination has proven to be successful resulting in a significant increase compared to previous years. Last year, we received a total of 223 submissions during the nomination period, of which 209 were through our online nomination."

"Nominations can be submitted through the online portal, via mail, or by hand-delivering entries to the PNG Olympic Committee office," he added.

The Categories:

1. Male Athlete of the Year
2. Female Athlete of the Year
3. Carbine Club: Team of the Year
4. Brands Pacific: National Performance of the Year
5. Community Sports Initiative
6. Coca-Cola Europacific Partners PNG: Junior Male Athlete of the Year
7. Coca-Cola Europacific Partners PNG: Junior Female Athlete of the Year
8. CPL: Para-Athlete of the Year
9. Trukai Industries Ltd: Sports Official of the Year
10. Trukai Industries Ltd: Sports Media of the Year
11. Sports Photo of the Year
12. People's Choice Award
13. The Biannual Stan Joyce Award, which recognizes organizations that provide outstanding support through their continued partnership with sport in PNG

PNG Olympic Committee President Emma Waiwai said the theme is a tribute to Papua New Guinea's 50th independence with a focus on the progress of sports.

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“This year’s theme holds special significance as we celebrate Papua New Guinea’s 50th anniversary. We reflect on the journey of our sporting legends, whose contributions have inspired generations and elevated PNG’s presence on the international stage.”

“Let’s commit to making sports a shining example of what’s possible when people from all backgrounds come together in the spirit of competition and camaraderie. Let’s celebrate the rich variety of humanity that sports bring together, and in doing so, creating a more inclusive and energetic sporting community for everyone,” Micah James, PNG Sports Foundation Executive Director added.

Since its inception in 1992, the SP Sports Awards remains a significant platform in Papua New Guinea that recognizes and inspires athletes to reach new heights.



Caption: (R-L) SP Brewery Corporate Affairs Manager John Nilkare, PNG Olympic Committee President Emma Waiwai and PNG Sports Foundation Executive Director Micah James during the official launching of the 2025 SP Sports Awards.

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