



Bradford Sports Awards 2018 - WINNERS

Sportsman of the Year – Mohammed Harris Akbar

Mohammed put on a show at the GB Boxing Championships in December, taking the 69k category title in emphatic fashion.

He was awarded a unanimous decision in his bout with Scotsman Stephen Newns in Sheffield, ending 2017 on a high in another demonstration that he is very much one to watch.

Mohammed was named Bradford's Young Male Sportsperson of the Year at each of the last two ceremonies and has this year been selected as a full-time podium athlete on Team GB Boxing.

Sportswoman of the Year – Katelyn Entwistle

The 2020 Olympics hopeful finished 2017 with four gold, three silver and three bronze medals from International Open Championships aged only 17.

She secured ranking placements at major events in Morocco, Croatia and Austria and achieved an overall world ranking of 61st out of 561 senior female athletes - the only Brit inside the top 100.

Disability Sportsperson of the Year – Steven Birkin

Steve was crowned British national champion and won gold in Austria not long after taking up taekwondo.

The retired British Forces veteran, who lost the majority of his vision a few years ago, showed a prowess for Para Taekwondo after discovering the sport in Baildon last year.

He took titles at the Harrogate Open, Vienna Open and became a British champion, also making it into the Great Britain Para Taekwondo Poomsae team.

Young Male Sportsperson of the Year – Harrison Green

Talented teenager Harrison won the Yorkshire boys age group and men's senior Double Mini Trampoline (DMT) Championships, then took gold in both British Championship qualifier events.

He was crowned British champion aged only 16, hitting the qualifying score for the World Age Group Championships after finishing the competition at the Echo Arena in Liverpool with his best ever halfout Pike Miller move, earning selection to represent Great Britain in Sofia last November.

Young Female Sportsperson of the Year - Holly Waxman

Holly went above and beyond last year, earning selection for the National Team Y Talent Squad.

The 15-year old-from Baildon had great success during her debut on the International Diving Circuit competing for the Junior GB Squad.

Holly won gold and silver for GB in the 7 Nations Youth Diving Meet, going on to take silver in a prestigious event in Dresden and a magnificent fourth at the Junior European Diving Championships.

Young Disability Sportsperson of the Year – Josh Pullen

Josh has amazing stamina, strength and technique for a cyclist aged only seven with left-side hemiplegia.

He completed a 20-mile bike ride with his Dad to raise money to compete in the Special Olympics National athletics competition, an event which he finished with a gold and silver medal.

A member of the Yorkshire and Humber Special Olympics cycling and athletics team, there is much more to come from Josh.

Coach of the Year – Mally McIver

Mally has consistently been an outstanding coach for Bradford College and England. He was part of the England coaching team at the European Championships in Antalya and was put forward for a 12-month trial as a coach with the GB Boxing team.

Mally has been nominated by GB Boxing to work with the UK Boxing Performance Foundation. He coaches disadvantaged and behaviourally-challenged youngsters, changing the lives of many young people in the Bradford area.

Volunteer of the Year – Mark Lightowler

Mark has played a big part in changing lives with his amazing work he does for Bradford Disability Football Club (BDFC).

A busy man running his own small business, Mark dedicates most of his time making a difference for people with disabilities.

Mark helped to set up BDFC with a £1000 grant from English Federation of Disabled Sport and has overseen the growth from a handful of members to around 100.

Sporting Highlight of the Year/Professional Club/Team of the Year – Bradford Bulls Women

The all-conquering Bradford Bulls women were in a class of their own as they pulled off an incredible treble and finished last season unbeaten.

The brilliant Bulls made history, winning the inaugural Super League Grand Final in October to complete a famous treble.

Mark Prescott's side thrashed Featherstone Rovers in the Challenge Cup final and beat the same opponents in the Grand Final after finishing top of the table in a stellar 2017.

Young Club/Team of the Year – Horizon Taekwondo

Horizon Taekwondo have been breaking records annually and the club finished third in the British National Champions last year.

Ranked third out of over 400 clubs in the United Kingdom, the club had 11 British National Champions in a magnificent 2017 and 360 belt-grade passes.

Two athletes from the club represented Great Britain last year and Horizon Taekwondo won six team trophies, also running the three largest tournaments in the UK.

Non-Professional Club/Team of the Year – Bradford Barracudas

Bradford Barracudas were unknown quantities when they arrived at the British Dragon Boat Association National Finals but made a name for themselves in Nottingham.

Despite being up against Premier League and Standard League clubs in their first competition, Barracudas reached three major finals and one minor showdown after arriving at the event to compete in the Scratch/Charity Class.

Active Lifestyle Award – Catherine McKendrick and Jodie Carter

Catherine has been inspirational in her approach and commitment to totally changing her lifestyle. Weighing 123 kilograms, Catherine was at risk of type two diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease as she struggled to motivate herself and be active while caring for her unwell father. She started walking for 45 minutes every day and managed to lose over 18kgs, now looking and feeling great as she benefits from a more active lifestyle.

Jodie has been inspiration in her approach and commitment to changing her whole lifestyle around. Giving birth affected Jodie's wellbeing and she gained a substantial amount of weight.

Jodie took on a bespoke exercise and action plan, exercising four or five days a week at Richard Dunn Sports Centre to lose almost three stone, inspiring fellow mothers to become more active, leading to a better lifestyle.

Active Workplace of the Year – University of Bradford Students Union

Ensuring staff have an active and healthy lifestyle is a key element of the University of Bradford Union of Students strategy.

Employees are encouraged to participate in sports and physical activity, with two weekly cycle, spin and running sessions organised by the union.

Weekly activities include equestrian, swimming, taekwondo, rugby union, football, yoga, wheelchair basketball and many more. Staff also annually take part in challenges such as the Coast to Coast bike ride.

Active School Award – Girlington Primary School

Children at Girlington Primary School participated in over 30 competitions within the Bradford School Games initiative, overcoming many barriers; winning two golds, three silvers and a couple of bronze medals. Pupils took part in the West Yorkshire finals in several sports, winning an array of medals.

The inclusive team, made up of hearing impaired, EAL and SEN pupils, won boccia silver in both the Bradford and WY School Games. A team of pupils, including 6 hearing impaired pupils, won bronze medals at the WY Panathlon.

Student/Club Team of the Year – Carlton Bolling Girls Cricket Team

The inspirational Carlton Bolling Girls Cricket team have achieved so much in a short space of time and there were yet more honours last year.

They were invited for a training session at Lord's after receiving a special recognition award at the England and Wales Cricket Board Chance to Shine Awards. The girls won the North of England finals and were runners-up in the national competition, having continued to break down many barriers.

Special Recognition Award – John Galt

Former world champion John gives up most of his time for charity work involving the use of dragonboats, commuting from Liverpool to Bradford five days a week at his own expense.

He has won every dragonboating honour in the sport going and coaches the Bradford Barracudas and The Kraken (Greater Manchester Police Force).

John has arranged a host of charity events including the annual Bradford Dragonboat festival and constantly put his hand in his pocket to help the clubs he coaches.

FULL LIST OF WINNERS AND 'HIGHLY COMMENDED'

Sportsman		Sportswoman		Disability Sportsperson	
Mohammed Harris Akbar	Winner	Katelyn Entwistle	Winner	Steven Birkin	Winner
Jonny Bairstow	Finalist	Amy Hardcastle	Finalist	Nathan O'Mara	Finalist
John Bateman	Finalist	Rebekah Tiler	Finalist	Farah Yasin	Finalist
Young Male Sportsperson		Young Female Sportsperson		Young Disability Sportsperson	
Harrison Green	Winner	Holly Waxman	Winner	Josh Pullen	Winner
Jamie Simpson-Kidd	Finalist	Hermione Roe	Finalist	Carter Roberts	Finalist
Jack Stanley	Finalist	Ellie Bowden	Finalist	T-Jay Wilson	Finalist
Coach		Volunteer		Student Club/Team	
Mally Mclver	Winner	Mark Lightowler	Winner	Carlton Bolling Girls Cricket Team	Winner
Joe Meszaroz	Finalist	Mandy Parker	Finalist	Bradford University Men's Football Club	Finalist
Mark Prescott	Finalist	Linda Bussey	Finalist	University of Bradford Men's Lacrosse Team	Finalist
Mr Z Jaffary	Finalist				
Young Club/Team		Club/Team		Club/Team - Non Professional	
Horizon Taekwondo	Winner	Bradford Bulls Women	Winner	Bradford Barracudas	Winner
City Of Bradford Esprit Diving Club	Finalist	Bradford City FC	Finalist	East Bradford Cycling Club	Finalist
Team Xtreme Cheer and Dance	Finalist			Phoenix FC Womens Football Team	Finalist

Active Lifestyle		Active Workplace		Active Schools	
Catherine McKendrick	Winner	University of Bradford Union of Students	Winner	Girlington Primary School	Winner
Jodie Carter	Winner	City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	Finalist	Baildon Church of England Primary School	Finalist
				Newhall Park Primary School	Finalist
Sporting Highlight		Special Recognition			
Bradford Bulls Women	Winner	John Galt	Winner		
Bradford Barracudas Dragonboat team	Finalist	Andy Watmuff	Finalist		
Bradford Disability Sport - Special Olympics National Summer Games Team	Finalist				