

Leader Awards – Criteria

These criteria outline how we evaluate individual award nominees across each category¹.

Emerging Recreation Leader

These criteria recognise an aspiring leader who shows strong potential and impact in our sector.

When responding to this criterion, consider:

- Demonstrates leadership (x1.5 weighting)
- Ongoing professional development
- Paid contribution to the sector
- Unpaid or voluntary contribution
- Relevant qualifications and recognition
- Innovation in their mahi
- Impact of their work (x1.5 weighting).

Community, Recreation, Parks and Aquatics Leader of the Year

These criteria focus on established leaders who show professionalism, influence, and results.

When responding to this criterion, consider:

- Demonstrates effective leadership – how they lead and support others (x1.5 weighting)
- Ongoing professional development
- Paid contribution to the sector
- Unpaid or voluntary contribution
- Relevant qualifications and recognition
- Innovation in their mahi
- Impact of their leadership – what they've achieved and enabled (x1.5 weighting)
- Perceived mana.

¹ The Young Amenity Horticulturalist of the Year and National Pool Lifeguard competition have their own set of criteria.

Senior Leader Awards

- Ian Galloway – Services to Parks
- Paul Stuart - Services to Facilities
- Mark Mitchell - Services to wider Recreation Industry

These criteria recognise senior leaders who have shaped the recreation sector over many years.

When responding to this criterion, consider:

- Paid contribution to the sector
- Unpaid contribution (x1.5 weighting)
- Contribution to the wider sector
- Length of service
- Relevant qualifications and recognition
- Innovation in their mahi
- Impact over time
- Output of opinion or thought leadership (x1.5 weighting)
- Perceived mana.

Fellowship Awards

These criteria recognise Recreation Aotearoa members who demonstrate an outstanding and sustained contribution to Recreation Aotearoa and to the advancement of the recreation industry.

Fellowship nominations should come from their respective Regional Committee.

When responding to this criterion, consider:

- Leadership / mentorship within sector, region, industry
- Landmark projects / initiatives the nominee has contributed to
- Length of Recreation Aotearoa membership
- Relevant qualifications and recognition
- Perceived mana.