

## Volunteer of the Year – Example Nomination

*The Volunteer of the Year is not a coach and is unpaid. They are a volunteer who gives unconditional support to their sport or club, dedicating great time and effort, often 'behind the scenes'. They may undertake one or several roles within an organisation and are crucial to the smooth running of that organisation. With devotion and professionalism, they do not seek reward but their efforts over the past year mean they are more than deserving of this accolade. Supporting evidence must make reference to the level of commitment given by this person in both quality and quantity.'*

It's hard to know where to begin with a student like Megan, we often joke that one day she will rule the world, a fact which doesn't make it any less likely to happen.

Selfless, dedicated and desperately passionate with a work ethic that puts all around her to shame, in just 2 years Megan has single handedly created the most affordable and inclusive Polo club in Great Britain.

Recognising that Polo is a sport out of financial range for most, Megan set up his own clothing company, the only Polo apparel company in the world to be aimed at young on trend players, with ALL PROFITS returning into the University of Brighton Polo Club. With this lessons and chukkas are subsidised, transport paid for, competitions entered and organised and fundraising initiatives launched. The club runs weekly sessions for Beginners (18), Novices (12) and Intermediates (6) as well as regular taster sessions with a long waiting list! The club run so many sessions that they are having to operate out of two venues to cater for increased student interest and the development of members.

The club are reigning champions of the South Coast Varsity League, the South East Regional League, and the Southern Regional League, with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place at nationals last year.

The description 'single handedly' is apt, acting as President, Treasurer, Financing manager and Competitions Secretary in an effort to get the club off of the ground. Aware of a wider responsibility to the sporting culture of the University, she has been on our 'Sports Federation Representative Committee' for the last 2 years and regularly contributes a minimum of 20 hours of volunteering a week.

As if this wasn't enough, she masterminded, co-ordinated, published, sold and distributed a nude calendar in partnership with 11 other universities around the country, raising over £1000 for charity, increasing awareness about body positivity and winning the title of the UK's favourite Naked Student Calendar, all in addition to other fundraising and collecting and donating clothes for the homeless and dispossessed of Brighton.

Megan is one in a million and we are incredibly proud to have her as a member of the Panther family.

**Commented [BG1]:** The student qualified for 'Young Volunteer of the Year' too – make sure you are nominating for the right/most appropriate award

**Commented [BG2]:** Strong opening sentence that signals intent

**Commented [BG3]:** Clear break down of amount of time invested

**Commented [BG4]:** Broad reason for nomination, subsequently broken down into specific evidenced areas

**Commented [BG5]:** Context, making the achievement described more impactful

**Commented [BG6]:** Quantified evidence for above claims, adding gravitas

**Commented [BG7]:** This may be relevant as another example of club success, but floating on its own it is not clear how it is directly relevant to the criteria

**Commented [BG8]:** 'Crucial' to start up and development

**Commented [BG9]:** Underlining of the time and effort put in over a period of time. Showing a commitment to areas wider than just the club.

**Commented [BG10]:** Gives the nomination a 'national' element, rather than the student just having local impact

**Commented [BG11]:** A good finishing sentence that ties up the nomination on a positive note, the author could have highlighted their winning point here to make it even better

**Commented [BG12]:** Overall a fair bid, but it could have used more language that 'mirrored' the criteria to drive home relevancy