



AU Sport Blues Policy

The Blues is an important element to AU Sport as it allows AU Sport Clubs and the University community to unite together and celebrate the sporting and volunteering achievements of our members. At the University of Adelaide, four levels are awarded in accordance with criteria determined by each University sporting club and approved by the AU Sport Blues Committee:

A Blue:

Is awarded to students, who are full members of an AU Sport club and who have participated at a state or national level with distinction.

A Half Blue:

Is awarded to students, who are full members of an AU Sport club, for achievement at a high level. A Half Blue is also presented to Life Members of AU Sport.

Club Letters (for service and for competition):

Is awarded for significant service to a University sporting club (Service) and/or sporting achievement (Competition). Those who are not Adelaide University students, but are AU Sport club members, are able to be nominated for these two awards.

Additionally, since 2011, a **Service to University Sport award**, which recognises people who have given an outstanding and highly commendable contribution to AU Sport, or to Sport at the University of Adelaide over a significant period of time, has been presented. The Service Award is regarded as a higher award than Club Letters in the case of club-based service.

Honorary Life Membership of Adelaide University Sport, however, shall continue to be conferred upon any person who, in the opinion of the AU Sport Council following consideration of a recommendation from the AU Sport Board, has rendered long and single service to the AU Sport. It is regarded as a higher award than a Service Award.

Blues Committee

Although each affiliated club is responsible for setting its own standards, which must be achieved before a nomination for a Blue can be submitted to the Blues Committee for ratification, it is the role of the Blues Committee to determine if the nominee meets the standard set by the club and to approve the standards set by the club in accordance with general guidelines.

The Blues Committee shall consist of up to 10 Blues of the Association or other qualified persons, who shall be appointed by the AU Sport Council, together with the General Manager, who shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member. A quorum for a Blues Committee meeting shall be five. It meets at least twice a year.

Blues Guidelines

A document, 'The Blues Guidelines', shall be maintained and kept up-to-date with the processes involved and ALL Clubs current standards. It must be the first point of call when referring to the Blues and be available on the AU Sport website.

Nominations

There are two rounds for nominations each year – Round 1 in early May and Round 2 in early October.

Clubs are asked to discuss potential nominees, complete the appropriate application form and return all applications to the AU Sport office by the due date. All applications will then be reviewed, discussed and ratified by the Blues Committee.

A nomination must be:

- In a form approved by the Blues Committee
- Received by AU Sport within six months after the nominee has last competed for the club/participated in club activities
- Accompanied by a letter of support from the club/person(s) making the nomination

Common requirements for all clubs

The following is a list of common requirements for all AU Sport clubs with regard to their Blues Standards.

1. A requirement for nomination for an award common to all clubs is that the person nominated must be a financial member of the club, participates regularly in club activities and displays a high standard of sportsmanship.
2. For Blues and Half Blues nominations, nominees must:
 - Must be an Adelaide University student
 - Achieve appropriate standards within the last 12 months, except where special circumstances exist, which will be considered by the Blues Committee
3. For nominations for Club Letters, the nominees:
 - Can be an Associate/University member of AU Sport and/or an Adelaide University student involved in an AU Sport club.
4. For consistency, the following time periods are recommended:
Minimum length of time a nominee has to be a member of the club before one can be considered for an award -
Blue: No limit on time but they do need to be an active club member
Half Blue: No limit on time but they do need to be an active club member
Club Letters (Service): Students: 3 years/Non Students: 5 years
Club Letters (Competition): Students: 3 years/Non Students: 5 years
5. Only in special cases will the Blues Committee consider a nomination if the achievement of the club member falls outside the club's guidelines.

Unsporting Behaviour

None of the aforementioned awards, a Blue, Half Blue or Club Letters, may be awarded to a person who has acted in an unsporting manner to the detriment of the welfare of such person's club or the prejudice of the dignity and honour of AU Sport or the University.

Reviews

Clubs need to follow the process outlined in 'Blues Guidelines' to make any changes to their standards.

Each club is required to review their standards every 3 to 5 years and submit any changes to the Blues Committee for ratification between November and May of any year. Once approvals have been accepted, the new club standards must be added to the Blues Guidelines document and changes tracked.

The last major review of all Club Standards occurred in 2013 and was conducted by the Sport Development Officers, of AU Sport.

Blues recognition on club uniforms

Introduction

With the support of the Blues Committee, and in response to the ongoing need to raise the profile of the Blues awards amongst the AU Sport community, in particular students and graduates, the AU Sport Board has approved the following club policy statement in regard to recognising a Blues Award on an athlete's playing or sport/recreation attire.

Club policy statement

The recognition shall be 'subtle' in design, be blue in colour and not include the year of the award.

Due to the differing sport/recreation regulations across the AU Sport affiliated clubs, it is understood that a club may request slight variations to the style of recognition for integration into a club uniform or a club warm up uniform. The final design must be approved by the Board. Also, State Association approval may be required for some sports.

As the number of Blues for a club over time may be few in number, it is also understood that a club may wish to suggest designs for both Blue and Half Blue awardees, thus supporting the object of promoting the Blues awards to as wide an audience as possible.

The first "Blues recognised" uniform would be to the cost of AU Sport (maximum provision of \$100), but any future replacement would be to the club's cost. A past Blues awardee will be able to purchase a "Blues recognised" uniform/sports attire, however, it would be to the cost of the awardee/club.