Scholastic Esports
AWARDS

Collegiate Award Descriptions

Collegiate Award Categories

- ○ Director of the Year Award
- ○ Program of the Year Award
- ○ Student Club of the Year Award
- ○ Team of the Year Award
- ○ Student Leader Award
- ○ Coach of the Year Award
- ○ Educator of the Year Award
- ○ Production Team of the Year Award
- ○ Social Media Excellence Award
- ○ Game Changer Award
- ○ Research Excellence Award
- ○ Rising Star Award

Director of the Year Award

Description: This award recognizes an esports director who has shown exemplary leadership in managing a collegiate esports program. The Director of the Year has demonstrated a commitment to innovation, student success, and competitive excellence while supporting a positive and inclusive culture.

Criteria:

- Active as a director of an esports program in the 23/24 academic year.
- Significant achievements in program development, student engagement, and competitive performance.
- Strong emphasis on academic success and student development.
- Serves as a source of information and inspiration for peers.
- Displays professionalism and decorum at all times.
- The award class includes one two-year director and two four-year directors.

Program of the Year Award

Description: This award celebrates an esports program that has achieved outstanding success in both competitive performance and community building. It highlights excellence in inclusivity, competitive achievements, and academic development.

Criteria:

- Must be an active collegiate esports program in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated excellence in competitive achievements, student development, and community engagement.
- Strong emphasis on innovation and pushing the boundaries of what an esports program can be.
- The award class includes one two-year program and two four-year programs.

Student Club of the Year Award

Description: This award recognizes a student-led esports club that has demonstrated exceptional organizational skills, competitive success, and inclusivity, supporting a vibrant and supportive esports community at their school.

Criteria:

- Must be a student-led organization with active participation in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated strong leadership, competitive achievements, and community involvement.
- Focus on inclusivity, providing opportunities for diverse student participation.
- Shows sustainable growth and impact on the broader esports community.
- Open to multiple honorees.

Team of the Year Award

Description: This award honors a collegiate esports team that has demonstrated exceptional competitive prowess while pushing the boundaries of performance. The team exemplifies the highest standards of teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship, setting new benchmarks for excellence within collegiate esports.

Criteria:

- Must have been an active collegiate esports team in the 23/24 academic year.
- Proven success in high-level tournaments or league play, setting new performance standards.
- Models respect and integrity, promoting a positive competitive culture.

Student Leader Award

Description: This award recognizes a student who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in collegiate esports by taking initiative to drive positive change and create opportunities for growth and inclusion.

Criteria:

- Must be an enrolled student active in esports in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated leadership in organizing events and promoting collaboration.
- Strong focus on inclusivity and community engagement.
- Demonstrated ability to inspire peers and create positive change.

Coach of the Year Award

Description: This award honors a coach who exemplifies exceptional coaching expertise, serving as both a mentor to students and a leader guiding their team to competitive success. Through their dedication, the coach supports a positive, inclusive environment that nurtures teamwork, personal growth, and competitive achievement.

Criteria:

- Must have been an active coach for a collegiate esports team in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated success in competitive performance and player development.
- Strong commitment to player development both academically and within esports.
- Displays strong leadership and impactful mentorship.
- Open to multiple honorees.

Educator of the Year Award

Description: This award honors an educator who has made significant contributions to integrating esports in academia through teaching, mentorship, and curriculum development.

Criteria:

- Must have been actively teaching in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated impact on student learning and engagement.
- Strong focus on mentorship and academic development through esports.
- Leadership in creating inclusive and innovative learning environments.

Production Team of the Year Award

Description: This award celebrates a collegiate esports production team that has delivered outstanding broadcasts, live streams, or event coverage, exemplifying technical excellence and creativity.

Criteria:

- Must have been an active collegiate esports production team in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated excellence in event production, including technical execution and broadcast quality.
- Strong focus on teamwork and innovation.
- Impact on audience engagement and the esports ecosystem.

Social Media Excellence Award

Description: The Social Media Excellence Award honors a collegiate esports program, individual, or group of individuals that has used social media to promote esports in innovative and effective ways. This award recognizes exceptional use of digital platforms to build community and engage audiences.

Criteria:

- Must have been a collegiate esports program or social media manager actively managing an esports-related account in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated creativity and impact in growing an engaged audience through social media.
- Awarded to either a program, individual, or group of individuals based on social media management performance.

Game Changer Award (The Phil Alexander Award)

Description: This award honors a program, individual, or team that has worked to create a more inclusive and equitable environment in esports, championing diversity and providing opportunities for underrepresented groups.

Criteria:

- Must have been actively involved in promoting inclusivity in esports in the 23/24 academic year.
- Demonstrated impact in fostering diversity and equitable opportunities.
- Focus on sustainable and meaningful change.
- Contributions include outreach, mentorship, or other unique initiatives.
- Open to multiple honorees.

Research Excellence Award

Description: This award recognizes individuals or institutions that have made significant contributions to the scholarly understanding of esports through research.

Criteria:

- Must have been actively engaged in esports research in the 23/24 academic year.
- Contributions include published work, presentations, or scholarly projects.
- Research must have a measurable impact on the esports community.

Rising Star Award

Description:
The Rising Star Award is presented to an individual or team in collegiate esports who has demonstrated exceptional potential and promise. This award celebrates emerging talent and recognizes those who are poised to become future leaders in the esports community.

Criteria:

- Must be a student, individual, or team with demonstrated potential in scholastic esports.

- Evidence of significant achievements early in their esports journey, with a focus on leadership, competitive success, or community building.
- Strong emphasis on growth, ambition, and future potential.