

Blues Selection at UWA Boat Club

1 BLUES SELECTION

1.1 Full Blue

Full blue nomination shall be reserved for UWA Boat Club rowers who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in the sport of rowing. This is normally for members of the club who have rowed at the world championships, received a medal rowing in a state crew or received a gold medal in a UniSport men's eight (Oxford and Cambridge Cup) or light-weight four (Sir Fred Schonell Trophy) or women's four (Lady Margaret Cup). In addition, individuals must provide some service to the Club through coaching or equivalent.

1.2 Half Blue

The minimum requirement for half blue nomination is a medal at the university games or in an A or B class state championship race and assistance to the general running of the Club (preferably a committee position).

1.3 Blues Committee

The Blues Committee will consist of 3 to 9 past recipients of a Half/Full Blue or Club Letter for the UWA Boat Club.

Nominations to the University for Full and Half blue will be decided by the Club's Blues Committee. Nominees who fulfil the above requirements to be nominated must receive a majority of the Blues Committee support to be nominated. If a nominee is suggested who has not achieved the above requirements the nomination can still be given so long as it is a unanimous decision.

2 Sports Awards

2.1 Club Letter

The club letter is an award that is held in the same esteem as a Full Blue and should be reserved for UWA Boat Club members who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in the sporting field equal to a Full Blue requirements or exceptional club service¹ to the UWA Boat Club for a period of 7 years.

This award is for Non-UWA students.

Rowing at the club for 7 years is not an entitlement to a club letter.

1 Club service is defined as service on the committee or services equivalent to service on the committee leading to nomination for club service award.

2.2 Club Service

Club service award is given to any UWA student who has been a club administrator and member for a period of at least 3 years, participating in the pennant competition and studying during those three years.

Service on the committee or services equivalent to service on the committee leading to nomination for the club service award will be deemed as adequate for any one year.

The three years need not be consecutive.

2.3 Nomination for Sports Awards

Nominations to the University for Club Letters and Club Service awards will be decided by the Club's Blues Committee. Nominees who fulfil the above requirements to be nominated must receive a majority of the Blues Committee support to be nominated.

All nominees must achieve the above requirements to be nominated.

3 Club Blazers

Club blazers are to be awarded to members of the boat club who have represented the UWA Boat Club in an exemplary manner, either on or off the water. The jackets are awarded at the annual dinner each year.

3.1 Selection Policy

All members can nominate elect to nominate themselves, or be nominated by a member of the committee, for a Boat Club Blazer. The committee, or selected sub-committee, will decide on the eligibility of the candidates.

All nominations must be endorsed by the Captain.

Once a candidate has been successful in their application they may be provided with the fabric for a blazer with the candidate required to have the suit tailored at their own expense.

3.2 Eligibility

The following are the minimum requirement for eligibility for a UWA Boat Club Blazer

- Racing Membership to the club for 5 years.
- Receiving of a Full or Half Blue from the University of WA
- Club Committee Service (or equivalent) in excess of 3 years
- Holding the position of Captain
- Holding the position of President
- Claiming Oarsman or Oarswoman of the year
- Exceptional performance for the Club (and being a member in excess of 2 years)

All nominations will be forward and heard irrespective of adherence to the above conditions. Adherence to the above conditions does not guarantee eligibility. Accompanying evidence regarding reason for selection should accompany the application.

3.3 Logos

All blazers will have the UWA Boat Club logo embroidered. The logo shall be the one indicated by the Boat Club committee and be identical. The only exception is the blazers awarded to club captains will have a "Captain" embroidered under the logo along with the year of captaincy.

Years of State and National Representation shall be indicated on the left of the crest and years of IV representation shall be indicated on the right as you look at the logo. Any year where the individual was in a winning crew shall be surrounded in a wreath.

Recipients of Full Blue shall have a navy blue ribbon and Half Blue recipients shall have a sky blue ribbon across the top of the pocket.

Recipients of a Club Service award shall have gold piping under the blues ribbon. Recipients of a Club Letter will have a Gold Ribbon across the top of the blues ribbon.

4 History

The term "Blues" originated in British Rowing and has been adopted by many universities to recognise elite athletes in sports at university. In 1836, the University of Cambridge Captain of Boats awarded the nine members of their eight, that was to face the University of Oxford in the The Boat Race, their light blue uniforms and thus started the awarding of a Blue. Oxford soon followed suit with their dark Blue uniforms. In subsequent years other sports at Cambridge that were deemed to be at an acceptable level (like Athletics and Cricket) also awarded Full Blues to their top Athletes, again with the Cambridge Captain of Boats deciding on the individual's merit. Eventually Cambridge started offering Half Blues to the top athletes competing for the university in sports that were deemed as "Half Blue" sports. Until recently the Captain of Boats decided and awarded all Male Blues, and the Female Captain of Boats awarded all Female Blues, but this has changed with a board deciding on the recipients.

Since 1921, UWA has followed the lead of this tradition and awarded Full and Half Blues to athletes in sport at UWA. Sports are not split into Full and Half Blue sports, but set up in a two tiered system that adjudicates the merit of individuals based on the club's tradition and requirements. Past recipients of Blues from the UWA Boat Club are asked to sit on the UWABC Blues Committee that eventually decides if the applicants are to receive a Blue and do rely on the Club's endorsement to receive one.