



World Rugby Awards Voting Criteria 2017

World Rugby Men's Player of the Year in association with MasterCard

The panel deliberates and selects the nominees based on who has performed to an exceptional standard throughout the year. Players, coaches, a panel of rugby media representatives from each region and fans are invited to vote on the nominees via #WorldRugbyAwards. The panel will then deliberate, informed by the player, coach, media and public votes to determine the winner.

World Rugby Women's Player of the Year

The panel deliberates and selects the nominees based on who has performed to an exceptional standard throughout the year. Players, coaches, a panel of rugby media representatives from each region and fans are invited to vote on the nominees via #WorldRugbyAwards. The panel will then deliberate, informed by the player, coach, media and public votes to determine the winner.

World Rugby Coach of the Year

This award is open to coaches of the men's and women's sevens and 15s disciplines. Panellists award three points for the coach who has performed the best during the year in their eyes and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine a winner.

World Rugby Team of the Year

This award is open to men's, women's, sevens and 15s teams. Panellists award three points for the team who has performed the best during the year in their eyes and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine a winner.

World Rugby Referee Award

This award is open to current and retired referees. Panellists award three points for the referee or retired referee whom they feel should be honoured for their refereeing services and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine a winner.

IRPA Try of the Year

Nominees are selected by IRPA and announced to the public and guests at the World Rugby Awards dinner who determine the winner.

World Rugby Breakthrough Player of the Year

This award is open to men's, women's, sevens and 15s players who have played no more than year of international rugby. Panellists award three points for the person whom they feel has burst onto the rugby scene in the past year and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine a shortlist and winner.

World Rugby Men's Sevens Player of the Year in association with HSBC

Panellists award three points for the player who has performed the best during the HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series season in their eyes and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine the nominees and a winner.

World Rugby Women's Sevens Player of the Year in association with HSBC

Panellists award three points for the player who has performed the best during the HSBC World Rugby Women's Sevens Series season in their eyes and then two points and one point. Points are collated to determine the nominees and a winner.

**Award for Character**

The Award for Character honours an individual, union or group who have shown an outstanding display of character which embodies the true values of rugby: integrity, respect, solidarity, passion and discipline.

Vernon Pugh Award for Distinguished Service

The Vernon Pugh Award for Distinguished Service honours an individual, union or group, male or female, who has given outstanding service to their country and contributed to the international game in as many as possible of the following areas: playing, coaching, management, training, administration, media and broadcast.

IRPA Special Merit

The IRPA Special Merit Award is presented to a player by fellow players in recognition of outstanding contribution to the professional game on and off the field.
