



President's Awards 2025
Frequently Asked Questions

Honouring exceptional dedication and long-service to RDA.

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1. **Can I nominate someone who has volunteered for less than 30 years?**

No, the President's Award is specifically for volunteers who have contributed 30 years or more to RDA.

2. **What does it mean to have a nomination endorsed?**

An endorsement confirms that the nominee meets the award criteria. It must be provided by a Regional Chair or a National-Level volunteer. This ensures that nominations are valid and accurately reflect the nominee's contributions.

3. **Who should endorse my nomination?**

Nominations must be endorsed by the nominee's Regional Chair or a National-Level volunteer. If the nominee is a Regional Chair, the endorsement should come from the Chair of Regional Chairs or a National-Level volunteer.

4. **Why has the Microsoft Word nomination form changed for 2025?**

The 2025 nomination form has been updated with accessibility in mind, making the nomination process more inclusive. The new format ensures that the form is accessible for a wider range of individuals, including those with access needs.

In addition to the online submission option, we still offer a downloadable, typed Microsoft word form for those who prefer this method. Our goal is to make it as simple as possible for all nominators to submit their forms, ensuring that no deserving volunteer is overlooked due to barriers in the process.

5. **How will I know if my nomination has been successful?**

You will be informed by the National Office Volunteering Team after the judging panel reviews all submissions. The recipient, the nominator, and

the nominee's Regional Chair and Group Chair will be notified by December.

6. **When are the awards presented?**

The President's Award's are presented at events such as The National Championships, Royal visits, or the RDA AGM, depending on Her Royal Highness's schedule.

7. **Can a current RDA UK Board Trustee be nominated?**

No, serving members of the RDA UK Board of Trustees are not eligible for the award

8. **What happens if an award recipient is unable to attend the presentation by HRH?**

The President's Award must be presented within the same calendar year it is awarded. Due to the unpredictability of Royal Visits, we encourage recipients to accept the first available opportunity as there may not always be a second opportunity for HRH to present the award within the same calendar year.

9. **Can I submit a handwritten nomination form?**

No, nominations must be submitted through the online form or via a typed form sent by email or post to National Office.

10. **I've never made a nomination before—what support is available for me?**

If you need support with the nomination process, you can reach out your Regional Chair for guidance, or you can contact the Volunteering Team at volunteer@RDA.org.uk.

11. **Will I receive advance notice for the award presentation?**

We strive to provide as much advance notice as possible regarding

presentation opportunities with HRH. However, due to the nature of Royal Visits, some events may be confirmed at short notice. We will do our best to ensure recipients have ample time to plan.

12. **What if I face accessibility or travel challenges for receiving the award?**

If you have specific accessibility requirements or are facing financial hardship that affects your ability to attend the award presentation, please reach out to the Volunteering Team. We are committed to ensuring all recipients can attend and will provide support where possible.

13. **Can a group submit a joint nomination for a volunteer?**

Yes, groups can collaborate on a single nomination. However, the nomination form must be completed in full, with one individual listed as the primary contact, and still requires endorsement by the nominee's Regional Chair or a National-Level volunteer.

14. **What if a nominee has volunteered for multiple RDA groups—how should this be reflected?**

If the nominee has contributed to multiple RDA groups, their service at each group should be mentioned in the citation. Highlight their overall contribution and impact across the different groups.

15. **Is there a limit to how many nominations can be submitted per group?**

There is no formal limit on the number of nominations a group can submit. However, each nomination must meet the criteria, and only 12 President's Awards are granted annually.

16. **Can past recipients of the President's Award be nominated again?**

No, past recipients of the President's Award are not eligible for nomination a second time, as this award recognises lifetime achievement.

17. What happens if the nominee is unable to accept the award in person?

If a nominee cannot attend the award presentation due to personal circumstances, an alternative arrangement can be made, such as having a senior RDA representative present the award at a more accessible location or event.

18. What should I do if I'm unsure whether my nominee qualifies?

If you're unsure about a nominee's eligibility, you can reach out to your Regional Chair or the Volunteering Team for clarification. They will be able to guide you on whether the nominee meets the criteria before you submit the nomination.