

Alpine Shire Community Awards



Nomination Guidelines 2027

“ Every community has its local legends: the volunteers, mentors, leaders, and everyday champions who go above and beyond to make a difference.

The Alpine Shire Community Awards celebrate the people whose dedication, generosity, and community spirit help make our region a great place to live, work, and belong.

If you know someone who inspires others, lends a helping hand, or makes a positive impact in the Alpine Shire, now is your chance to recognise them.

**They won't nominate themselves, but you can.
Nominate a local legend today.**

”



ALPINE
SHIRE COUNCIL

Award categories

Alpine Volunteer of the Year *awarded in:*

- *Bright and District;*
- *Myrtleford and District; and*
- *Kiewa Valley*

Honours a dedicated volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to the Alpine Shire community through their time, passion, and commitment.

Alpine Young Achiever of the Year *awarded in:*

- *Bright and District;*
- *Myrtleford and District; and*
- *Kiewa Valley*

Celebrates a young person who is making a remarkable impact through their achievements, leadership, and contribution to the community.

Alpine Community Initiative of the Year *(one Shire-wide award)*

Celebrates a project or initiative that brings people together and makes a positive difference in the Alpine Shire community. Self nominations permitted.

Alpine Sports Volunteer of the Year *(one Shire-wide award)*

Recognises a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to sport in Alpine Shire through their dedication, leadership, and commitment to supporting athletes, clubs and the wider community.

Alpine Sporting Achievement Award *(one Shire-wide award)*

Recognises an individual or team that has achieved outstanding success in sport while demonstrating dedication, perseverance and pride in representing Alpine Shire. Self nominations permitted for teams.

Alpine Arts & Culture Award *(one Shire-wide award)*

Celebrates those who enrich Alpine Shire's creative and cultural life, helping our communities thrive through arts, heritage, and expression. Self nominations permitted for groups, organisations and events.

Alpine Unsung Hero Award *(one Shire-wide award)*

Recognises someone who quietly makes a big difference. This is an individual whose ongoing, selfless contributions often go unnoticed.

Nominations

Nominations open in **September 2026** and close on **Sunday 29 November 2026** About

nominations:

- Nominations are **open annually**.
- Nominations for individuals aged **17 years or under** must include **parent or guardian contact details**.
- **Unsuccessful nominations remain active for up to two years**, including the year of nomination and the following year.
- An award **may not be presented in a given year** if the nominations received do not meet the standard of previous recipients.

How to nominate

Online

Search 'Engage Alpine Community Awards'

Go to <https://engage.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/alpine-shire-community-awards>,

Or scan the QR code to find the online form



Paper



Pick up a printed copy of the form from a Customer Service Centre in Bright, Myrtleford or Mount Beauty, then post or email as per below or drop off your form in person in one of the marked nomination boxes.

Post

Alpine Shire Community Awards

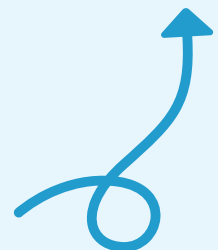
ATTN: Sara Matthews

PO Box 139, Bright VIC 3741

Email

info@alpineshire.vic.gov.au with the subject line:

Alpine Shire Community Awards nomination



SCAN HERE

Online nomination forms are the preferred method of nominating. If using paper forms, please ensure only copies of supporting documentation are included, do not use originals. Supporting documentation will not be returned.

Eligibility

The following eligibility requirements apply to all nominations:

- Individual nominees must be **residents of the Alpine Shire**, and groups must be **based in the Alpine Shire**.
Exception: A non-resident may be considered where they have made a significant contribution to the Alpine Shire community.
- Nominees for **Alpine Young Achiever of the Year** must be **aged between 12 and 25 years** as at **26 January** in the year the award is presented.
- Nominees under the age of 18 must include **parent or guardian contact details** for the nomination to be accepted.
- **Self-nominations are not accepted** for individual awards.
Self-nominations are permitted for Community Initiative, Sporting Achievement Award, and Arts & Culture awards.
- Individual nominations should be submitted **without the knowledge of the nominee**.
- **Awards will not be awarded posthumously.**
- **Previous award winners are not eligible for the same category** unless they can demonstrate a **significant new contribution** beyond the activities previously recognised.

A full list of past recipients is available on the Community Awards page of the Alpine Shire website.



Assessment Criteria

This is the criteria the selection panel will use to determine the award winners for each category. For the best chance of success, make sure you address as many as possible in your nomination.

Category

Criteria

Alpine Volunteer of the Year

Recognises an individual who has made an outstanding voluntary contribution to the Alpine Shire community, strengthening connection, wellbeing, and quality of life for others.

Community Impact (30%)

- ☐ Has the nominee made a clear, positive difference to individuals or the community?
- ☐ Have they improved quality of life, wellbeing, or connection between people?
- ☐ Can you provide examples of outcomes or impact?

Level of Contribution & Involvement (25%)

- ☐ Are they actively involved in one or more community areas?
- ☐ Do they go above and beyond what is expected?
- ☐ Can you describe the extent of their involvement?

Commitment to Volunteering (15%)

- ☐ Are all contributions made voluntarily (unpaid)?
- ☐ Have they demonstrated consistent effort over time?
- ☐ How long have they been contributing?

Leadership & Role Modelling (15%)

- ☐ Do they inspire or positively influence others?
- ☐ Do they encourage participation, generosity, or community spirit?
- ☐ Are they seen as a role model?

Sustainability of Contribution (15%)

- ☐ Does their work have lasting or ongoing benefits?
- ☐ Have they created something that continues to impact the community?

Category

Criteria

Alpine Young Achiever of the Year

Recognises a young person who has made an outstanding contribution to Alpine Shire and demonstrates leadership, excellence, and positive influence within the community.

Eligibility

- ☐ Is the nominee aged between 12–25 on 26 January 2027?

Community Contribution & Involvement (30%)

- ☐ Are they actively involved in community life?
- ☐ Have they made a positive contribution to others or initiatives?

Achievement & Excellence (25%)

- ☐ Have they shown excellence in their chosen field?
- ☐ Are there recognisable achievements or strong effort/success?

Leadership & Initiative (20%)

- ☐ Do they show leadership or initiative?
- ☐ Have they led or contributed ideas, projects, or solutions?

Role Model for Young People (15%)

- ☐ Are they a positive influence on peers?
- ☐ Do they demonstrate integrity, responsibility, and strong values?

Commitment & Potential (10%)

- ☐ Do they show ongoing dedication?
- ☐ Do they demonstrate future leadership potential?



Category

Criteria

Alpine Community initiative of the Year

Recognises a project or initiative that strengthens community connection, participation, and local identity within Alpine Shire.

Community Impact (30%)

- ☐ Has the initiative delivered measurable positive outcomes?
- ☐ Has it improved participation, wellbeing, or access?

Alignment to Community Needs (20%)

- ☐ Does it address a real local issue, challenge, or opportunity?
- ☐ Does it reflect values like connection, resilience, or inclusion?

Collaboration & Engagement (20%)

- ☐ Are partnerships involved (groups, volunteers, businesses)?
- ☐ Does it engage a broad range of community members?

Innovation & Creativity (15%)

- ☐ Does the initiative use new or creative approaches?

Sustainability (15%)

- ☐ Is there potential for long-term or ongoing impact?



Category

Criteria

Alpine Sports Volunteer of the Year

Recognises a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to sport through their commitment, leadership, and service to the community.

Nominations are open to individuals.

Contribution to Community Sport (30%)

- ☐ Does the nominee make a significant contribution to a sporting club, organisation or activity?
- ☐ Do they support the growth and success of local sport?

Leadership & Service (25%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate leadership, mentoring, coaching, officiating, administration, or event support?
- ☐ Are they a positive influence on participants and fellow volunteers?

Community Impact (20%)

- ☐ Do they strengthen community connection and participation through sport?
- ☐ Do they help create a positive sporting experience for others?

Commitment & Dedication (15%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate an ongoing involvement and reliability?
- ☐ Do they contribute significant time and effort on a voluntary basis?

Role Modelling (10%)

- ☐ Do they act as a positive example of sportsmanship, teamwork, and community spirit?



Category

Criteria

Alpine Sporting Achievement Award

Recognises and individual or team that has achieved outstanding sporting success while demonstrating dedication, perseverance and excellence.

Sporting Achievement (35%)

- ☐ Has the nominee achieved outstanding results or performance in their chosen sport?
- ☐ Do they demonstrate a high level of skill, dedication, and commitment?

Representation & Recognition (25%)

- ☐ Have they represented their club, community, region, state, or country?
- ☐ Do they bring positive recognition to Alpine Shire through their achievements?

Commitment & Perseverance (20%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate consistent effort, determination, and resilience in pursuing their goals?
- ☐ Have they shown dedication to training, competition, and personal development?

Sportsmanship & Leadership (10%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate integrity, respect, and positive behaviour on and off the field?
- ☐ Do they act as a role model for others within the sporting community?

Community Connection (10%)

- ☐ Do they contribute positively to the local sporting community through mentoring, volunteering, or supporting others?



Category

Criteria

Alpine Arts & Culture Award

Celebrates individuals or groups who enrich Alpine Shire's cultural life, creativity, and local identity.

Nominations are open to individuals, events and groups.

Contribution to Cultural Life (30%)

- ☐ Has the nominee enriched arts, culture, heritage, or storytelling?
- ☐ Do they enhance community vibrancy?

Community Engagement (25%)

- ☐ Do they involve or inspire community participation?

Creativity & Innovation (20%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate originality or creative excellence?

Preservation of Local Identity (15%)

- ☐ Do they strengthen local identity, stories, or Alpine character?

Impact & Reach (10%)

- ☐ Do they influence the wider community or region?



Category

Criteria

Alpine Unsung Hero Award

Recognises an individual who makes a significant but often unrecognised contribution to the community through quiet, consistent efforts.

Dedication & Commitment (35%)

- ☐ Has the nominee contributed consistently over a long period?
- ☐ Do they contribute without seeking recognition?

Community Impact (25%)

- ☐ Have they made a meaningful difference to others?

Selflessness (20%)

- ☐ Do they demonstrate humility and a focus on helping others?

Contribution to Community Wellbeing (10%)

- ☐ Do they promote kindness, care, inclusion, or resilience?

Behind-the-Scenes Impact (10%)

- ☐ Do they play an important role that often goes unnoticed?



Selection / Judging

The selection panel will consist of the following: **Mayor, Deputy Mayor, other Councillor, Chief Executive Officer** and **Manager Customer Experience**. Substitutes may be made where certain individuals are unavailable.

All nominations will be kept **confidential** and will only be available to the panel and the Event Operations Officer as secretary.

All nominations must be made on the **official Alpine Shire Community Award nomination form** and can only be judged against submitted detail outlined in the nomination form.

The decision of the Alpine Shire Council is **final**, and no further correspondence will be entered into with respect to the decision.



Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
<i>When do nominations open and close?</i>	Nominations open in September 2026 and close on Sunday 29 November 2026 .
<i>Who can be nominated?</i>	Individuals, community groups/organisations, sporting and special interest clubs, event organisers may be nominated. Eligibility and assessment criteria for each category can be found in these Guidelines.
<i>How do I submit a nomination?</i>	Nominations must be submitted using the official 2027 Nomination Form. The form is available on the Community Awards page on Engage Alpine (https://engage.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/alpine-shire-community-awards) or contact a Alpine Shire Customer Service Centre for a printed copy. Nominations must be received by 11.59pm on Sunday 29 November 2026 to be eligible.
<i>What information should I include with a nomination?</i>	For individual nominations you will need to have the name and contact details of your nominee, along with information to support their nomination. If you do not know the full residential or postal address, just include the town name. For any nominee under 18 years, please include the contact details for their parent or guardian. For group nominations, you will need the name and contact details for a representative (such as the event organiser or club president), along with information to support the nomination. Information to support the nomination could include: • letters of support or recommendations from others • media articles or social media posts • relevant biographical information • photographs • information about their programs or projects • evidence of citations, commendations or other awards

Question	Answer
<i>How are the winners decided?</i>	A selection panel made up of Alpine Shire Councillors and Executive staff will determine the award winners each year.
<i>What happens if my nomination is successful?</i>	All successful nominees will be informed in January and invited to attend their nearest Alpine Shire community celebration to receive their award. Nominees will not be told the identity of their nominator/s. Nominators will not be advised of the success or otherwise of their nomination prior to the award presentations.
<i>What happens if my nomination is unsuccessful?</i>	Unsuccessful nominations that meet eligibility criteria will remain active for two (2) years. For example, an unsuccessful nomination received for the 2027 awards will also be eligible for the 2028 awards. After the two-year period has passed any unsuccessful nominations will be discarded. Unsuccessful nominees will not be informed of their nomination. Nominators will not be advised of the success or otherwise of their nomination.
<i>When are the awards presented?</i>	The awards are announced on Tuesday 26 January 2027 , at each of our community celebrations in Bright, Mount Beauty, Myrtleford, Harrietville and Mudgegonga. The event location at which each presentation is made is determined by the preference of the successful nominee.

Contact

Sara Matthews - Event Operations Officer



Email

info@alpineshire.vic.gov.au

Phone

03 5755 0555

In person

Alpine Shire Council offices, 2-6 Churchill Ave, Bright