

Sports Medicine /Return to Performance Specialist of the Year Award Criteria Sheet

Covering the Calendar Years 2025 and 2024

Unless otherwise stated, all activity must have been completed within the last two calendar years.

Name of Nominee: _____

Criteria	Value of Item	Points Awarded
Eligibility Requirements		
NSCA Membership	Verified – 1	
Consecutive membership for 2 years	Verified – 1	
NSCA Certification	Verified – 1	
Cover letter, resume or CV, and criteria worksheet received	Verified – 1	
Award Not Previously Received	Verified – 1	
Subtotal	All 5 points required	
General Criteria		
Applies to the additional certification		
NSCA CSCS, CSPS, NSCA-CPT, CPSS, and/or TSAC-F	1 pt ea. (3 pt. max)	
FNSCA	1 pt	
Non-NSCA Certifications/Licensure	1 pt ea. (2 pts max)	
Candidate has at least a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Science, Kinesiology, Athletic Training, or other industry-related discipline	1 pt	
Advanced degree (MS, DPT, DAT, DC, PhD, MD, DO)	1 pt (max)	
Subtotal	No Minimum	
NSCA Involvement- Lifetime (Within the last two years; Documentation Required)		
NSCA Board of Directors	2 pts	
NSCA Regional Coordinator	2 pts	
NSCA State Director	2 pts	
NSCA Committee Chair	2 pts	
NSCA Committee Member	2 pts	
SIG Chair/Executive Council	2 pts	
Senior, Associate, Assistant Editor for JSCR, SCJ, PTQ, TSAC Report, NSCA Coach	2 pts	

Subtotal	No Minimum	
Conference Attendance Within past 5 years unless noted* (Documentation Required)		
NSCA National Conference, Coaches Conference, Personal Training, TSAC Annual Training, International (*any)	3 pts ea. (max 6 points)	
NSCA Regional or State Clinic (*any)	2 pts ea. (max 4 points)	
Non-NSCA Educational Event (*any)	1 pt ea. (max 3 points)	
Subtotal	No Minimum	
Publications Specific to Sports Medicine/Return to Performance within past 2 years (Documentation Required)		
Author/Co-author for JSCR or SCJ (featured article)	1 pt ea.	
Authored or co-authored SCJ column	1 pt ea.	
Author/Co-author for PTQ/TSAC Report/NSCA Coach	1 pt ea.	
Author/Co-author/Editor NSCA book chapter(s)	1 pt ea.	
Author/Co-author for peer reviewed journal article (non-NSCA)	1 pt ea.	
Author/Co-author/Editor book chapter(s) (non-NSCA)	1 pt ea.	
Subtotal	No Minimum/ Max 3 pts	
Presentations Specific to Sports Medicine/Return to Performance within past 5 years (Documentation Required)		
NSCA National Conference, Coaches Conference, Personal Training, TSAC Annual Training, International Conference	2 pts ea. (4 points max)	
NSCA Regional or State Clinic	1 pts ea. (4 points max)	
Abstract presentation at NSCA National Conference	1 pt ea. (3 max)	
National Presentations (non-NSCA)	1 pt ea. (2 points max)	
Regional, State, Local Clinics (non-NSCA)	1 pt ea. (2 points max)	
Abstract presentation (non-NSCA)	1 pt ea. (2 max)	
Subtotal	No Minimum	
Miscellaneous Items Specific to Sports Medicine/Return to Performance within past 5 years unless noted* (Documentation Required)		
Professional or Community Service (Non-NSCA volunteer work at events, on boards, committees, etc.)	2 pts. each, (3 Max)	

Subtotal	No Minimum	
Strength of Letters (subjective points awarded by Sports Med/RTP SIG Executive Council)		
Strength of Nomination Letter 0- not acceptable 1- below average 2- average 3- above average 4- exceptional		
Strength of Recommendation/ Commendation Letters from Colleague, Athlete, Manager, Referring Medical Professional 0- not acceptable 1- below average 2- average 3- above average 4- exceptional	Two letters from different sources Letter 1: Letter 2:	
Subtotal	No Minimum	
Total Maximum Points		

Letter Scoring Criteria:

Not acceptable – no letter provided

Below average – form letter with minimal information

Average – Offers objective detail, no results or effect

Above Average – offers the objective details as well as the results or effects of the professional's contributions

Exceptional – Objective details, results or effects to the patient or facility, AND subjectively noted by the SIG leadership that the contribution is significant to elevating the industry at large