
50TH YEAR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTORS

To recognise the many people who have shaped Territory Rugby over the past 50 years, nominees should meet one or more of the following broad criteria.

These criteria are intentionally simple and flexible, celebrating individuals who have made a meaningful impact on or off the field.

Nominations are open to any person, couple, family or group of people who have significantly impacted the game on or off the field through leadership, long-term service, development, governance, community building, or support of rugby in the Northern Territory.

Nominations will be called for by the NT Rugby Union Board and assessed by a sub-group that includes current and former Board members. Sub-group recommendations will be ratified by the Board and announced at the Eric Johnston Medal presentation night on 22 March 2026.

Selection Criteria

Nominees may be recognised for:

1. Outstanding On-Field Contribution

Individuals who have:

- Excelled as players at club, representative or national levels, or
- Made a significant impact during their era through skill, leadership, or influence on the game.

2. Significant Off-Field Contribution

Individuals who have contributed meaningfully to the administration or operation of rugby, such as:

- Governance or committee roles
- Club or union administration
- Long-term volunteering or support roles
- Coaching or referee development
- Match official service
- Team management or operational support

3. Long-Term Dedication or Service

People who have:

- Supported Territory Rugby consistently over many years, or
- Maintained a sustained commitment that shaped clubs, competitions or the broader community.

4. Positive Influence on the Rugby Community

Individuals who have:

- Demonstrated exceptional leadership, mentorship or support
- Created a positive environment for players, teams and volunteers
- Helped grow participation, especially in juniors, women's rugby or remote/regional areas

5. Legacy and Impact

Those who have left a lasting impression on Territory Rugby, through:

- Player pathways or development
- Cultural influence or tradition-building
- Community connection or program growth
- Contribution that elevated the reputation, professionalism or reach of NT Rugby